

An emotional end to the term

For me, this is not only an end to another term and another academic year, but the end to 17 privileged years as Head at Lucton School.

Even without the dramatic nature of this last term, it would have been special and so different for me and right up to the end, Lucton's pupils and staff have impressed me yet again with their resilience, creativity and generosity of spirit.

Remote teaching and learning created fresh challenges for all, together with teaching key-worker children throughout the last term, including the Easter holiday and half term. We have also just said goodbye to some overseas boarders, who have been with us since January. As I am sure it has been for many, I have found this to be a surreal time and thoughts of my leaving you have mostly been pushed aside with the daily challenges and it has just finally arrived as a bit of a shock.

We had a socially-distanced, outside-gathering of staff at the end of the day, when emotional thanks and goodbyes were expressed, not just to me, but to other leaving staff, Mr and Mrs Muckalt, after 7 years at Lucton, and also to Miss Roper and Miss Parker-Hill. It was a very special occasion. Floreat Luctona!

Mrs Thorne



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Prep School News

Well this has certainly been a term to remember. More for the fact of what we managed to do rather than what we didn't manage to do. I have to say that reacting to a global pandemic wasn't in any of my leadership courses! And it really isn't true that you can't teach old (or oldish) new tricks. Who knew that we could adapt to TEAMS and that Zoom was a thing (and that Zoom is 20 years old!). We have managed to have our end of year play: Treachery at Traitors' Quay (quite apposite as it was World War II and Keep Calm and Carry on was the finale) albeit with a mixture of at school and at home or, in the case of Poppy and Harry, in a car!

We managed to have a remote Prep prize giving which we are editing and sending out to the prize winners. We managed to keep in touch with Open the Book (who are aiming to return in September). Once more pupils returned to school, we increased our PE to include athletics and even had a complete round-robin to include: discus, shot putt, hurdles, long jump and triple jump and even javelin.



We managed to open and the children have been wonderful in adapting to the rigorous cleaning routine, so much so, that we (almost) don't have to remind them. Now that we have had the news that schools can reopen fully in September, we expect these children to train the others!

We managed to have an end of term 'Moving on Up' presentation. This has been traditional for Year 5 for the last 10 years and, although rather shortened, we could still do something for them. We even managed to have our first visit to the dining hall since March 20th! Someone



asked which dining hall we were going to. I'd forgotten how noisy it can be at lunchtimes! And we will be back there in September as well.

So, we reach the end of term and are busy looking forward to the new academic year with all the fun an autumn term has and, as we progress through the summer and through autumn, I am sure that there will be changes to what we can and cannot do. In the meantime, make sure that you keep up with your reading and I hope that you will be able to meet up with friends.



Boarding House News

And so we come to the end of another term. Over the last few months the boarding house has carried on, not quite as normal, but with a gallant group of boarders that have remained with us throughout this period of lockdown. It has been a challenging time for everyone, but the boarders have kept us entertained, and their attitude to and acceptance of the situation has been admirable. We have enjoyed many games on the field, barbeques and films. They have engaged with their studies and learnt new skills. As this term ends, we now find that we have to say goodbye to a number of our boarders. To our Year 13s, Mike, Jakub, Fergus, Henry, Harold, Kazuki, Ben, Jack, Nabil, Harriet, Catherine, Michelle and Leslie, we wish a fond farewell and every success for the future. Throughout their time in boarding they have been real ambassadors and role models to the younger boarding members. We are in no doubt that they will do well as they head off to university and to the other adventures that lie in their paths. It is also with sadness that we must say

goodbye to Mr and Mrs Muckalt, along with Ellie, Will, George, Henry and Pip. They have made the boarding house what it is today and for the last seven years have cared for and nurtured countless boarders. They have treated every boarder as an extension to their own family, and it has been their unrelenting passion and love for the boarders that has created the feeling of family and unity in the house. They will be sorely missed, but we wish them all the best for their new life in Yorkshire and they will always be welcome back at Lucton whenever they wish to visit.

We also say goodbye to Miss Roper, who has been brilliant looking after the boarders in School Cottage. She has been full of fun and our younger boarders will really miss her next year.

The whole boarding house team wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday, and we look forward to when we open the boarding house doors next term. Floreat Luctona.

This year's Grads (Emily, Callum, Josh & Megan), who were an integral part of the boarding community were also in school yesterday to say their goodbyes.





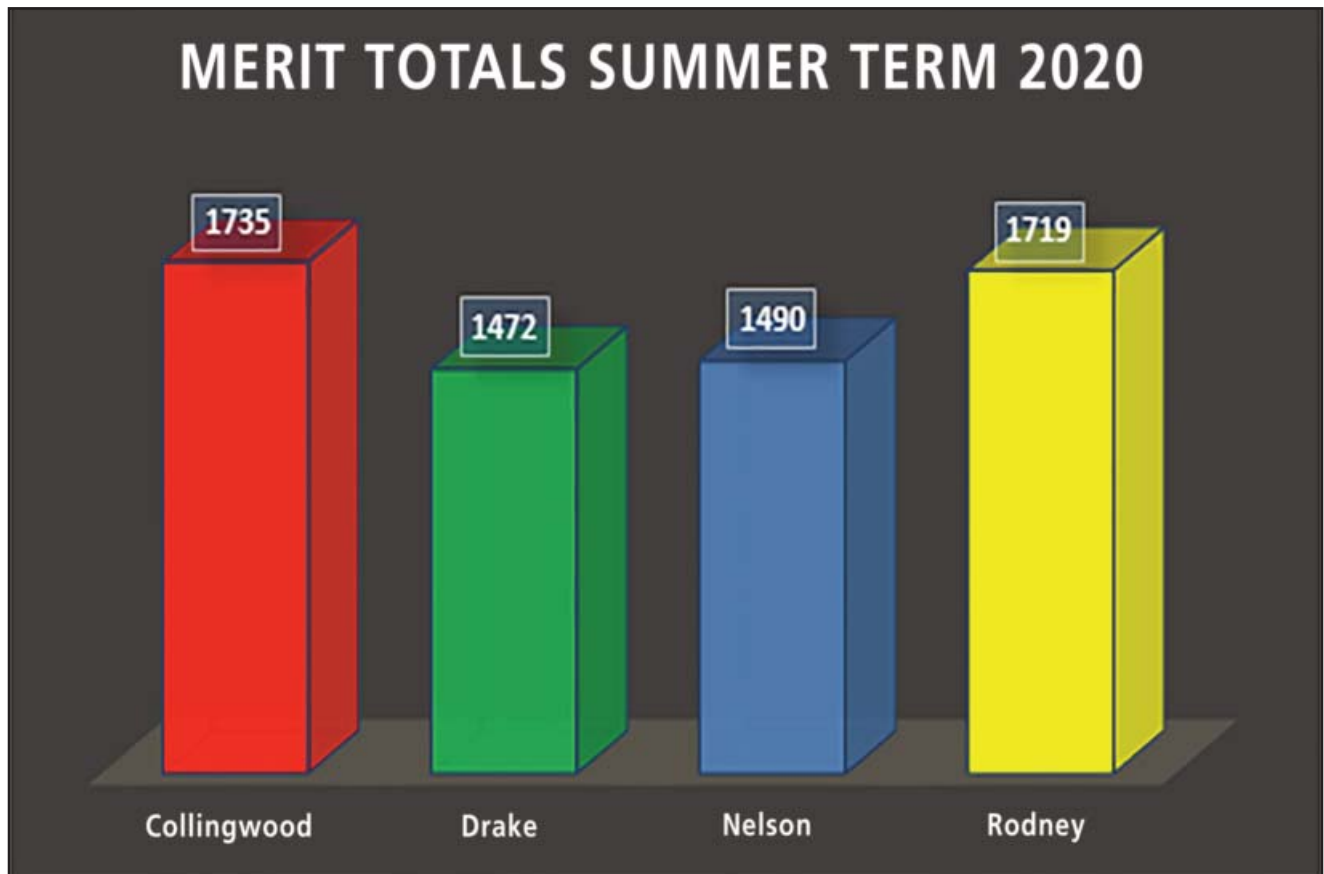
Miss Roper and 'goodbye' photo with Year 6.

Form Quiz

Many thanks to Mr Wolstenholme for keeping this going through the lockdown. Here are the answers to last week's Quiz.

Last week's answers:

1. Russia.
2. 118.
3. Silverstone.
4. Red.
5. Naples.
6. Music composition.
7. 4.
8. Denmark.
9. Portugese.
10. Red.



More musical success

Just before lockdown we had our second ABRSM practical session of the year. Not only did we have many internal candidates, but we host external candidates' exams, meaning on this occasion we had two examiners!

The following students passed their exams:

Emily-Grace Stevens, Grade 2 Singing, Pass
Alex Wood, Grade 1 Piano, pass

Lois Wenczek, Grade 1 clarinet, pass
Maggie Eaton, Grade 1 bassoon, distinction
Oliver Digwood, Grade 2 B flat Cornet, pass

Frayja Hughes, Grade 2 Singing, pass

Ava Coleman, Grade 3 singing, pass

Darcy Clarke, Grade 1 violin, pass

Maggie Eaton, Grade 2 piano, pass

Evie Cooper-Wright, grade 3 piano, pass

Rebecca Lawer, prep test, piano, pass

Well done to all!



A 1st for Ellie-Mae

This week, Mrs Thorne was delighted to have a visit from Ellie-Mae Davies-Buften, a previous Head Girl, who has just completed her degree in Clinical Psychology at Bangor and we are not surprised to hear that she achieved a 1st!

Ellie-Mae's plans now include finding a year's work in her field before returning to Bangor to undertake a doctorate in Clinical Psychology.

Congratulations from all of us at the school and good luck for the future!



Lucton Nursery

Transition Class pupils have completed their Nursery years and we held a Graduation Day with mortar boards that they had made and certificates presented by Mrs Thorne. Most of the class will be joining Miss Fower in Reception this September.



Earlier in the week, the Transition Class were making the most of some good weather in the woods.



Equestrian News

This week was inspection week for Lucton's Equestrian Centre, with the vet inspection and scrutiny of all our policies and procedures. Miss Coates was very busy, but at the end of the day, she had a huge smile on her face!

End of term day out

Although there were a few showers, the weather was pretty good on Saturday for the first Lucton School Equestrian Team get together since lockdown! It was a real treat to be out again and both kids and ponies were very excited as we made our way to The Isle Estate Farm Ride in Shrewsbury. Despite there being 25 of us in total with 15 riders and 10 on foot, to ensure we adhered to social distancing rules, they had to ride round in small groups of two or three doing the 6 mile ride with lots of jumps along the way. At the end we finished by having a 'socially distanced' picnic. It was a lovely day out and so nice to see everyone again before the end of term. We are all looking forward

to getting back to some kind of normality if possible in September and start competing again. Have a great summer!

Andrea L



An update on Thomas Burns

Firstly we as a family were very saddened by the news of Mrs Thorne's departure from the school. Without Mrs Thorne's support and enthusiasm for Thomas to progress with his shooting, we might not be where we are today.

Secondly, Thomas and I have been in negotiations with Zoil Guns of Italy and their British importers, Edgar Brothers, for Thomas to become a contracted Zoil Clay shooter. After a few months of negotiations and Thomas trying their guns, a deal has been struck.

It is a fantastic 5 year contract for

Thomas to shoot for Team Zoli Guns Italy. It means that Thomas has full financial support and backing of one of the world's leading shotgun manufacturers. For Thomas to progress to a higher level it is a Brilliant opportunity. It is in football terms like signing for Manchester United or one of the top teams.

Thomas "IS" one of Europe's Top Junior Clay Shooters and the School and Mrs Thorne should be proud of what Thomas has gone on to achieve. The school has played a big part in Thomas' educational richness and as part of a team in Thomas' success.

From the photo, you can see the smile on his face that says it all.

David Burns



Karate grading by Zoom

Lockdown has not stopped everything in its tracks. Here is a photo of Jackson, who has been undertaking lessons via zoom throughout lockdown and graded via zoom a couple of weeks ago for his orange belt – green belt next, we hope!



Thank you from Hope House

As part of the Year 1 space topic each child was asked to make a model and research a different planet or space phenomenon. Tadhg was asked to research Mars. He decided to make his model of the Red Planet as a red velvet cake!

Afterwards, he sold slices of cake from his 'Kitchen Window Café' and raised £39 and donated it to the Hope House children's charity.

Tadhg received a lovely Thank You postcard from Hope House.



Year 6 Indoor Athletics Challenge

Year 6 finished the term with an indoor athletics challenge. Competing over 9 events all of the class worked hard, supported each other, learned to time, record and analyse results.

It was a terrific event. Pupils scored points if they were in the top 9 for the events and the results were as follows:

1st Theo

2nd Henry H

3rd Tom B

4th Hugo

5th Archie

6th Harriet

7th Oliver

8th Freya

9th Zach

A great end to term, well done all!

Floreat Luctona!



LUCTON

VIRTUAL OPEN DAY

Mon 13 July

To register for login:
01568 782000 or email:
admissions@luctonschool.org