

Lucton News

FROM THE HEADS
PREP SCHOOL
MIDDLE SCHOOL
BOARDING NEWS
SPORT
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Nov 13th 2020
Issue 10



Photo courtesy of Camilla
Watkins

From the Heads



hear the roar of passing traffic. In our hectic lives, and even when we are having to cope with unusual pressures, it is always good to have a moment of reflection, and to remember with gratitude the hardships and sacrifices that others have made on our behalf.

John Goode & Elmien Niblett



In another busy week at Lucton, for us the highlight of the week was finding time to pause for a touching act of remembrance on Wednesday.

While we could not conduct the service as usual under the present circumstances, it was a delight to gather the whole school community together, even if it had to be outdoors and only for a short time.

As usual, however, our cadets, including the banner party, were smart and perfectly drilled; a credit to themselves and the School. The silence

was impeccably and touchingly observed, and a particular pleasure was not to



Prep School



**Puppets, puppets everywhere!
Well, hanging on display in the
entrance foyer.**

The puppets are part of our autumn term Book Fair competition, where the children were asked to make a puppet of their favourite character.

Year 2 opened the Book Fair during their Friday assembly, dressed as various characters from a book. They told us why books are so wonderful before performing Charlie Cook's Favourite Book, by Julia Donaldson, which involved a bear, a pirate, a policeman, a robber, a dragon, a frog and, what seemed like, a grumpy mother! Well done, Year 2, this was brilliant.

The Book Fair has been a great success; thank you for supporting us. Not only was it lovely to see the children excitedly looking through the books, but you will also be pleased to know that everything you bought goes towards free books and resources for us. So, before we tally everything up we would like to say a great big THANK YOU, from all of us to you!

It was our Remembrance Parade and ceremony on Wednesday. This year, it was slightly longer for the Prep School as the recitation of the fallen was read out to all of us at the memorial gates, rather than in the Memorial Hall, as usual.

Everyone stood silently and attentively with the younger ones fascinated by the students in their CCF uniform, and by the banner party marching up to the gates. However, I think that the silence was the most affecting for them. When we got back there was definitely a quietness surrounding the children, and not the usual chatter and boisterousness.

Meanwhile, the Nativity has been cast and we have had the first run-through! Every year we have a different take on what is often referred to as the Oldest Story. This year, it is Born in a Barn. Well, He was, wasn't He? Being a barn, we have quite a few barnyard animals involved. Although

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I am sad that we won't be featuring a lobster (think Love Actually).

As ever there has been lots of learning too. We have all been learning about different festivals in RS, particularly Diwali which is this weekend, and Year 1 have been learning about mythical creatures. Year 2 have moved on the Great Fire of London, whilst Year 3 are

looking at Escher and trying to reproduce something similar. Year 4 have moved beyond the Spartans and are now approaching Alexander the Great, and last but not least, Year 5 are continuing with their design of biscuit packaging to reflect their own biscuits creations.

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School



Year 4 go hiking!

A beautiful day was requested from the weather gods. It was duly delivered and so Year 4 set off for Carding Mill Valley on Thursday, 5th November.

The mission being to acquaint themselves with map reading in the real world and appreciate the landscape and all its features. In the land of the Church Stretton hills it was difficult to imagine a more beautiful day.

Simply being outdoors and exercising in such glorious surroundings was clearly a hit for everyone. The local hill fort of Bodbury Ring was first on the list and became probably the most scenic lunch spot ever. This was followed by a traverse across the fort and then up to Haddon Hill, where wild horses were there to meet us. We continued on and found our way to the infamous Dr Mott's road but not before we had re-enacted a decision-making scenario and group discussion on first aid and route selection. Bolstered by the necessary

sweet ration, we continued on and followed the water down and eventually back to base where there was still time to cross the river and balancing on the tree branches above the water.

Year 4, your enthusiasm and behaviour were terrific, and you have inspired me to plan next term's escapade! Mr Rogers also usefully put our walking statistics into perspective; we had scaled the equivalent of three Eiffel towers and covered a distance of 6km. Bravo!

Mr Warren, Prep School

Book Fair

The Prep School teachers have had the very difficult task of judging the winners of our Book Fair competition.

We were so impressed by the effort that the children had gone to and would like to say a huge well done to everyone who took part. The winners of the puppet competition were:

Nursery - The Gruffalo by Alfie

Year R - The Tiger Who Came to Tea by Isabelle

Year 1 - Meg by Cordelia

Year 2D - Black Beauty by Dylan

Year 2H - Cheeky Little Kitten by Dominika

Year 3 - Fantastic Mr Fox by Charlotte

Year 4R - The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop by Emily

Year 4W - Magic Molly by Grace

Year 5W - The Very Hungry Caterpillar (and butterfly) by Emi

Year 6C - The Ice Monster by Rebecca

Don't forget to have a look at all of the fabulous puppets in the window display, when you next visit the Prep School!

Ms Dyer, Prep School

Middle School



This week, our Head Boy, Arthur Chilman and Head Girl, Hannah Wilson have been visiting the Middle School forms to sell poppies, stickers, bracelets and other items to wear on this week's Remembrance Day.

Over the week, the pair have managed to raise an impressive £62.00 for the Poppy Appeal. Many thanks to Miss Cockburn for arranging this.



Achievement certificates

On the Friday before half term, Mrs Niblett and I were delighted to award achievement certificates to the Middle School in a special assembly.

The certificates were awarded to twenty Middle School pupils who managed to achieve 50 merits or more during the first half of term.

The students achieved these merits for a wide variety of reasons, including completing homework to an excellent standard, kindness or helpfulness to others, for helping their teachers or for participation in sport.

We look forward to rewarding

more students for their impressive merit totals at the end of term!

Mrs Bassett, Head of Middle School

Lucton Development Plan

I would like to inform all parents that you will soon receive an email from Survey Monkey asking you to rank a number of priorities in order for the trustees to begin formulating a development plan.

As always, we would really appreciate your feedback. The survey will be one per family.

Mrs Goode, Head of Senior School

Boarding News

After a restful half term, we are back to school life with great gusto!

This week has been action-packed. Last Friday, our boarding family had a lovely evening barbeque, along with a huge bonfire and some spectacular fireworks to celebrate Guy Fawkes Night.

For many of our overseas boarders, this was the first

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time they had heard of this part of British history. We all had a wonderful time, and were very lucky that we had a crisp, clear autumn night to watch the firework display.

Due to the current lockdown, we will not be able to go out and about at weekends, at least for the next few weeks; however, we will still be busy at weekends. Many of our boarders go to help in the stables, and there are plenty of opportunities for sport and physical activity, thanks to our sports hall, gym and playing fields. We will also open the swimming pool for an extended time.

For the less actively inclined, we have plans for some lovely creative projects. We are sure, though, that as the end of a busy term begins to come into view, many students will simply want to use the weekend to relax and recharge. Having said this, no doubt Year 11 and Year 13 students also want to get in a bit of extra academic work with important exams looming!

On Wednesday many boarders took part in the Remembrance Day parade as part of the School CCF. This is an important day, and all of the students looked so smart in their uniform - I felt very proud

indeed.

With the holiday approaching, I would kindly request that you start to submit your plans for end of term travel and for the students' return in January. Receiving plans early means we are able to assist as many students as possible with their transport to airports and stations. As ever, if a student has plans to go home or visit over the weekend, early notice is also much appreciated, either by telephone, or email: boardinghouse@luctonschool.org

Mrs Webb-Rogers, Head of Boarding

Sport

As preparations for the Lucton Park Run gather speed, many pupils have this week pounded their way around the pitches, the far field or the village by way of practice for the big event.

It was good to see positive running activity on what was an overcast, slightly windy Wednesday afternoon.

A stint of team training followed; some rugby with Mr Cowley for the Middle School boys as they honed their catching, passing, and running skills, and with Mr Cheshire for Years 9 and 10. Mr Pepper and Mr Leonard put the Year 11 boys through their paces as they honed their football skills,



while Mr Goode and Mr Wolstenholme controlled match play.

Sticky underfoot conditions greeted the Senior girls as Years 9 and 10 worked on cradling and passing when

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playing lacrosse, while Year 11 played hockey.

I hit the road around Lucton village with the Sixth Form girls, who impressed with their Kenyan-style running format, before zipping onto the netball court for an exciting session with the Middle School girls, who worked on invading space tactics, before playing some competitive matches.

Mrs Connop, Head of Sport

Senior Badminton

This week we held a senior school doubles tournament, in the format of an all-play-all over 5 rounds.

The players were seeded according to their performance in the previous week's singles matches, and the teams decided on the basis of having an equal spread of ability. Half way through the tournament there was a three way tie for first place, and then a tie between Jorge/Rachel and Liwen/Leo going into the last round. This one went down to the wire with Liwen and Leo emerging victorious. A well deserved third place went to Noah and Hamish.

Mr Richmond



Sixth Form Badminton

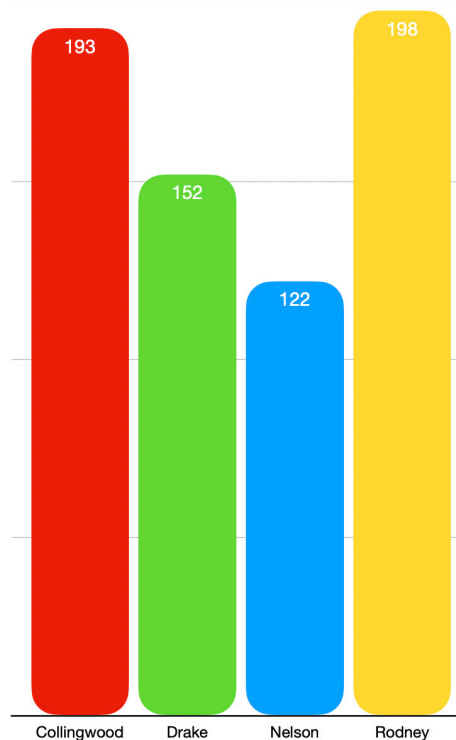
During the Sixth Form badminton session on Wednesday afternoon, the students greatly enjoyed playing in a mini-league.

There were high levels of performance from all involved in a keenly fought competition, with many close matches. Among the boys, Angus Y and Angus and Forbes W played especially well. Meanwhile, Grace, Amelia-Sky, Johanna, and Felicity showed a lot of skill and tenacity in their play. In the absence of fixtures against other schools, the students clearly enjoyed the competitive element in this week's session and they all gave a really good account of themselves, playing in a friendly but determined spirit, with no quarter given or asked. Well done to all involved!

Mr Goode, Graduate Assistant

House Merit Totals

***Numbers accurate 13th November 2020**



Collingwood's recent run of success has come to an end; well done, Rodney! Will Collingwood regain top spot or will Drake or Nelson emulate Rodney and put in a successful challenge? Watch this space!



THE FRIENDS OF
LUCTON SCHOOL

COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2020

Entry to Four Fantastic Festive Draws over
Four Weeks!

FRIDAY, 20TH NOVEMBER
FRIDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER
FRIDAY, 4TH DECEMBER
THURSDAY, 10TH DECEMBER

Tickets on sale soon

Entry will include all the draws