

Lucton News

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Nov 27th 2020
Issue 12



Prep School



Last week, I did an assembly on the idea of Service: service in the community, a service to others and, so on.

I pointed out examples in the public eye and then examples from us, showing that Harvest was service to others and that even buying cupcakes for Children in Need, could be seen as a service, too. The children pointed out to us that picking up litter could be seen as a service to our community, as could opening doors. All in all, the idea certainly galvanised them and I haven't seen much in the way of litter on the playground at all. Excellent!

We also celebrated Jackson gaining his green stripe in Karate, along with a lot of bronze and silver certificates for merits.

Merits contribute towards the House Cup, each week, and are earned for good work, manners, service, good ideas, knowledge, for all sorts of reasons. When we gain up to 30 merits, we achieve star badges, after that, 40 = Bronze, 50 = Silver, 60 = Gold and 7 = Platinum plus a £5 book token. Samuel in 4W has already reached his and has been challenged to reach 100 by the end of term!

Once the children realised it was Mufti on Thursday it became their primary focus, along with, of course, maths, English, history, sport, swimming, French, music, art, drama, etc. - but really, it was "What am I going to wear on Thursday?". Some chose costumes: a polar bear, a dragon, some army personnel, the odd knight

along with the princesses, to rescue from a crocodile! Whilst the children may be counting down until the end of term, the teachers are working out how much more they can fit in, in such a short time. It is always a busy time of year and we love it!

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School



Autumn walk at Queenswood

What a lovely autumn walk the Reception class had last week!

They went to Queenswood where there were places to run, treasures to find, mud to squelch in, trees to hide behind, and of course the Gruffalo! A wonderful morning in the fresh air.

Mrs Fower, Reception



LAMDA exams

Huge congratulations to all of the Speech & Drama students who took their exams last week.

It was an astonishing achievement that the session was able to go ahead and the students threw themselves into the spirit of it, with admirable gusto. The Middle and Senior School pupils enjoyed the surroundings of the Queen Anne flat to perform their scenes, and the examiners, on all three days, were impressed with the student's behaviour, appearance and above all, performance standard.

We await results, which will be early in the new year. Thank you for all your support in encouraging and practising with your son or daughter at home, it really makes a big difference!

Mrs Sharman

Forest School

Mud, mud, glorious mud
Nothing quite like it for..well,
for making gargoyles obviously.

In mythology, gargoyles were supposed to frighten away evil spirits. These may well frighten you as well!

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School



Sixth Form

It has been a whirlwind few weeks since we returned from half term, and I can scarcely believe we are now turning our attention towards Christmas.

Indeed, we've been a little ahead of the game in the Sixth Form this year and have already ordered, collected, and put up our Christmas trees in both the Y12 and Y13 Study Rooms.

The calendar is already looking rather full: Christmas lunches, Christmas Jumper day, Reverse Advent, Sixth Form dinner and, of course, Secret Santa. In amongst all of the festive cheer, students have been knuckling down as they finalise personal statements and choose university

courses. For the Year 12s there is the interim exams to think about, and a chance to showcase just how far they have come in such a short space of time.

In all, this is a time of year where both the tension and focus increase, as students keep a pace with their studies, in preparation for upcoming exams. It is, in many ways, like the calm before a storm, where everyone gets serious, preparing to weather-proof their homes, I feel. Good habits set in place now will help no end, and the end of term festivities will, therefore, feel all the more satisfying. Aside from their studies, it has been a pleasure to see so much going on. Whether

running, swimming, riding or playing individual or team sports, there is always a sporting interest to pursue.

Meanwhile, I had a sneak peek at the recordings the Music Department have been making for our Christmas service, and it is not to be missed. I've also been shown a draft copy of the first-ever Sixth Form Magazine; keep an eye out for that.

Finally, there are already rumours of a rematch in the staff vs Sixth Form football match, though I'm reminded of the importance of quitting whilst ahead!

Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form

CCF

Although the majority of the summer term was spent in lockdown, a number of cadets kept themselves busy by working towards their Bronze DofE Award; learning new skills, volunteering and keeping fit.

After completing their expedition earlier this term, many of them had enough evidence to earn their award. Therefore, part of Friday's CCF time was given over to a small presentation ceremony, where certificates were presented to

successful students by one of our Heads, Mrs Niblett. Congratulations to all those who have achieved their Bronze award.

Many more students are close to completion of both the Bronze and Silver award. With a little hard work during the Christmas break, these students may be in a position to receive their awards early in the New Year. Good luck and keep up the hard work!

WO2 Rich Brown, SSI, Lucton School CCF Contingent



Boarding

It's been a busy week in the boarding houses!

The good weather at the weekend meant that some of our younger boarders could get some fresh air on Saturday afternoon, with a run around in the grounds, before settling down to a quiz with a well-earned hot chocolate later on. Eno came top of the brain boxes, demonstrating a particularly excellent general knowledge of science (especially dinosaurs!) and film.

On Saturday evening, we were all entertained by the artistic talent on show in our Boarding House "Open Mic Night". The boarders had been busily rehearsing all week,

and there was a plethora of acts, with everyone keen to take part. Mr Rogers kicked off proceedings (any excuse to pull out his guitar and make some noise!), quickly followed by our youngest boarder, Elfine, singing "Let It Go" like a true Disney princess.

There were also some fantastic solo performances from School Cottagers Eno and Chloe, an "interesting" performance from the boys on Warwick corridor and some amazing piano recitals from Johanna and John. In fact, every corridor submitted an entry or two. We were thrilled by the enthusiasm, sheer talent and good humour of our boarders.

The stand out performances of the evening were a real surprise; the quietest, shyest of our boarders, Aries, Rachel, and Zoe amazed us all with their beautiful piano and guitar performances. Lockdown may be frustrating, but there is still fun to be had!

Please could you inform us as soon as possible of travel plans for the end of term, and also for the return to Lucton in January. With the end of term approaching fast, we really do need this information as a matter of urgency. Thank you to those parents who have already let us know their arrangements.

Mrs Webb-Rogers, Head of Boarding

Library News

Students and staff from Middle School to Sixth Form were invited to the library to create a disguise for a gingerbread figure from their favourite character in literature.

After an intense round of voting the following students were presented with their awards.

Middle School: Isabelle M, Year 6, with Maleficent, Stefaniia S, Year 6, with Black Beauty.
Senior School: Hamish G, Year

8, with Katniss Everdeen from The Hunger Games. Miss Quick with Peter Rabbit, and Mrs Mathie with her double whammy of Miss Havisham and Pip from Great Expectations.

Miss Quick



Sport



As the tropical maritime air and early morning rain started to disappear, the weather took on a sharper, brighter aspect as we all trundled out onto the sports field.

Today, was a day of strategy, with many year groups focusing on either defensive or attacking moves to invade space and create winning opportunities. It was really good to see all year groups benefiting from these extra skill and fitness sessions.

On the rugby field, the Year 9 and 10 boys were enthused by Mr Cheshire's, dynamic invasion games, as they had to make quick responses to counter-attacks of varied sizes. Meanwhile, the Middle School focused on off-loading

and space to maintain a strong attacking formation. Mr Cowley was particularly pleased with their attitude and progress.

Year 11 boys and some of the Sixth Form were put through their paces in football, and a tight match ensued. Mr Leonard's blue team just managed to contain Mr Pepper's non-bib team. Some stylish goals from Angus W (2) and Will W, and Jamie's excellent edge of the box curved ball over the defender and keeper, helped the blue team to a close 5-4 win.

The Sixth Form and Year 11 girls did a few warm-up loops of the school before heading out for a short road run. After several weeks of training, improved fitness levels are

really beginning to show! This was followed by some hotly-contested netball matches, where the theme of the day was teamwork, spatial awareness and match analysis. With Molly in command, excellent leadership skills helped focus the black team, who after being down 5-3 at half time, rallied to sneak an 8-6 win over the green team. Alex R, who has made great strides on the netball court this term, was voted player of the match for the blacks and Lola for the green team.

At the same time the Sixth Form girls who train on a Monday, tested the resolve and skill of a combined Year 10 and 11 team. The red team (Year 10 and 11) began at pace, with some strong attacking play from Jess W (player of the match), Jess C, Olivia and Amber. Undaunted the yellow team, under Annie's calm, dynamic leadership narrowed the gap, to a 7-7 draw at half time.

As the teams re-positioned, the yellow's made a tactical move as Faith went to GD and Amelia to C. Despite strong defending from the reds, with Seren, Trinia, and Yara all making great interceptions, the yellow team forged ahead, as Felicity (GK) used her height to make good tips.

(Continued over)

With improved team work down the court, Annie (player of the match) and Megan went on a goal-scoring roll. Although the yellow team won 17-10, both teams impressed with their competitive play.

The Year 8 and 9 girls focused on cross-country running and hockey, with drills, goal scoring and spatial awareness the theme of the day on a tacky pitch!

With Miss Wilkinson in the swimming pool for a Year 11 GCSE PE swimming assessment, the Year 6 and 7 girls were put through their running paces by Miss Cockburn and Miss Shaw, before an entertaining session of dance to round off the afternoon.

As usual, Sports Hall was a



hive of activity as Mr Richmond and Mr Goode helped our badminton players improve their match play.

Looking ahead to next Wednesday, all pupils in the Sixth Form and Year 11 will test their endurance around

our cross-country course, the Year 9 and 10 will take part in round 2 of the Swim League and there may even be a tournament or two!

Mrs Connop, Head of Sport

Equestrian

Jake's Blog

Another week goes by and we've really enjoyed being taught by Mrs Harwood for the last couple of weeks!

We look forward to welcoming her back very soon, when we hope to offer clinics to some of you on your own ponies. The weather, as per normal, has been a bit topsy turvey, and we hate having to ride when it's cold and wet; however, we have to keep our riders happy and learning new things!

The highlight this week has been Charlie Brown teaching Tammy to canter after she only began riding this term - Charlie tells me that she's doing well. Ted has claimed Fall of the Year after his pony decided he should jump the jump without her; he did a complete summersault in the air before landing on his back!

We are looking forward to the Prep School Christmas show jumping next Thursday which will involve fancy dress, show

jumping both on horses and space hoppers, and loads of Tinsel - If you have any spare please can you give it to Mrs Rogers so we can decorate ourselves!

Jake



The Friends of Lucton

Well Lucton, what can I say? You did yourselves proud last week with the Countdown to Christmas raffle! In a little under three days you managed to raise over £1,000.

The first draw took place on Friday morning in the Prep School assembly, and the next three will take place in the run up to the end of term.

There is still time to get involved and enter the draws and there will be a bumper draw on the last day of term, which is definitely not to be missed!

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Wenzcek, Mrs Furniss, and Lois - our fabulous badge maker. They have been the driving force

behind the draws and worked extremely hard, last week, getting everything up and running. Thank you all very much, and congratulations to this week's Christmas Raffle winner Bea, Year 2! Plans for the Reflection Garden are starting to get underway. Thank you to all those who have volunteered their

services, or time, to create the garden. If you would be willing to donate your time or services to the project, please do get in touch.

Jade Stock, Chair of The Friends of Lucton

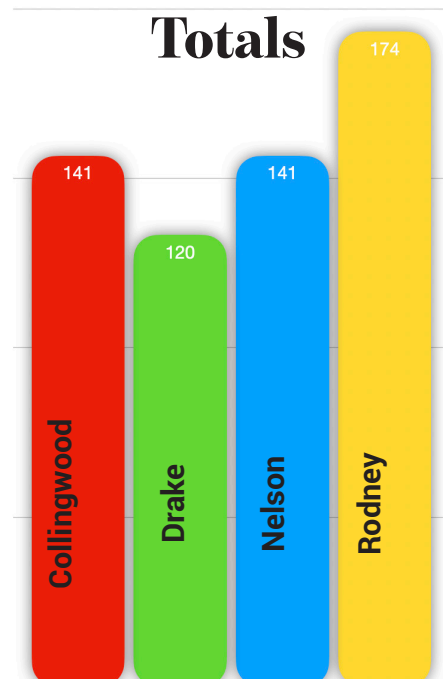


Oh! Christmas Tree

Many of you will now have noticed our fantastic Christmas Tree in the Dining Hall. Many thanks to Mrs Yates and Mr Gilmour for their hard work!



House Merit Totals



*Numbers accurate 27th November 2020