

Lucton News

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Issue 2



Prep School News



The term has well and truly started now. The children are mastering routines; especially Year 3 and Reception, who have moved up whole stages on the education journey; they are nearly 'old hands'! Children are so resilient and adaptable as long as they are happy and know what is going on.

The classrooms are busy, with Reception not only settling into school, but straight into their topic work 'Ourselves', reciting their numbers to 20, writing their names or reading books, as well as negotiating the playground –

with aplomb I might add.

Year 1 are realising that there might not be as much play as there was in Reception. Now, those funny squiggles are really numbers that link to quantity and can be added and subtracted; Science shows how animals can be grouped according to their diet, as well as into mammals amphibians and so on.

Year 2 are now at the top of Key Stage 1. In an infant school they would be at the top of the school. Multiplication and division come into play. Sentences

are becoming more complex and they will start to use PowerPoint to create presentations.

I have already alluded to Year 3, who now have an extra lesson in the timetable, drama, and appear to have a lot more subject-specific lessons: history, geography, art and so on, rather than being grouped under 'Topic'.

Year 4 are feeling much more confident as they are in the 'Middle Year'.

(Continued over)

Meanwhile, they get to learn about the Spartans, Matisse and even how to read the contour lines on a map.

As for Year 5, they are at the top of the school and are 'in charge'. They are standing for election to House Captains and will have the Head Boy and Girl for the school. They will also be expected to show the younger ones how to behave and will be chosen to look after the library or sort out the line-up. Lessons continue and they are now doing

long multiplication and long division, linking complex paragraphs or writing about the conquest of Britain by Claudius.

Music lessons all round, assemblies, sport, swimming along with the extras of: ballet, horse riding, Pony Club... oh the list goes on! We are even practising for our Harvest Festival. Yes, we are back!

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School



Sixth Form

It's been a fantastic start here in the Sixth Form, with students keen to get involved in all aspects of life at Lucton. I already see Sixth Formers throwing themselves into both their academic studies and extra-curricular activities. Whether on the netball courts or at a desk in one of the study areas, we've all been impressed by their willingness to get stuck in!

We've already had two Stars of the Week, Alex Dawes and Johanna Weber, in our Sixth Form assembly,

although it was difficult to select just two from among the many nominations. It was also a pleasure seeing Mr. Goode and Mrs. Niblett hand out the Senior Prefect badges at the aforementioned assembly, with Angus and Forbes Wilson, and Emily Watts spearheading the team as Head Boys and Head Girl.

Indeed, the whole group seems to have gelled really well, and I'm sure that the

Oaker Wood experience will only add to that on Friday (more on that next week!). We could not have hoped for a better start, and I can say that the Sixth Form tutors have been very impressed with how they have taken the hurdles thrown up by Covid in their stride. More of the same moving forwards will put us all in a very strong position!

Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form



Student Focus



Alex, Year 10

I was keen to study in the UK as it would improve my English and I felt that the school system there would be a nice change. I first discovered Lucton when I met

a representative at a fair in Moscow; it sounded great and so my mother and I decided to visit the school and we were really impressed. I decided that it was definitely for me.

It's very different to studying in Russia. In Moscow, I didn't have as much choice in my subjects and the school day was shorter; we would finish around lunchtime, so a lot of extra work had to happen at home; whereas here the school day is longer so we have more support from teachers. There's also a lot more variety in sports here. In Russia you can choose one sport or another, but here you have a chance to try all of

them.

I have been here for a year and I remember when I first started it was scary! I was in a different country with a different language and I felt very out of my comfort zone; but I soon made friends with the boarders and now I feel a lot more confident and I'm really enjoying myself.

I really like the school atmosphere; I get on well with students and teachers and I like that the building is so old! I also really enjoy the boarding house; having my own room and not having to share is great!



Emily, Year 13

I joined Lucton in Year 12 having attended Wigmore High School. Originally I had considered several local sixth forms but I wasn't particularly impressed. A friend of mine at the time was studying at Lucton and recommended that I consider it.

Lucton has a real sense of community, which was one of the deciding factors for me; I didn't want to be lost in the crowd and I felt that this was something that could easily happen in a larger college. There is a really friendly and welcoming atmosphere here too; everybody knows one another which is great and it's very diverse; I've made friends with students from all over the world.

The classes are considerably smaller than I was used to in high school, and so I find it easier to contribute in class and also to get support when I need it. I feel like my teachers really understand who I am.

I really enjoy being able to play sport, and being a

smaller school you always get a place in the first team! I've also joined the RAF Cadets which is fantastic and I have had the chance to take part in lots of interesting experiences including flying which was great.

I am studying psychology English literature, and history, and I hope to go to university next year, although I haven't decided exactly where yet. I am really enjoying my time here; I've grown in confidence and I hope that being involved with the RAF cadets, completing the Duke of Edinburgh gold award, and becoming Head Girl will make my application stand out.

Message from Matron

For those who do not know our School Matron, Lulu. She has been an integral part of the Lucton School team for 27 years! She is, therefore, our longest serving member of staff.

A few reminders;

In line with our Covid Policy, please could all parents take note that should their children display any of the following symptoms they must not attend school, but must remain at home for 14 days:

- a high temperature;
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours;
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste differently to normal.

We advise that should a child develop any of these symptoms, his or her parent should ring 111 to arrange a test as a matter of urgency, and inform the school.

Please could parents whose children need an inhaler ensure that a spare is handed in to Lulu.

It is the parents' responsibility, please, to update the school about any new medical conditions, including allergies.

We know 'tis the season for colds and other bugs, but we particularly ask that any students with symptoms of D & V remain off school for 48 hours after symptoms have finished to avoid passing on their illness to others in the school community



Boarding

The past week has been a busy one in the boarding houses. Students seem to have settled well into the routines of school and it really feels as though our new boarders have always been here!

We all enjoyed a trip to Hereford on Saturday. School Cottage went to the cinema to watch "100% Wolf" while the older students took advantage of the opportunity to eat out and ransack the shops, a most enjoyable day was had by all.

On Sunday we had a birthday brunch for Solange, who was deafened by a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday". This was followed in the afternoon by a

fun swim in the pool for all of the boarders (with extra loud music!) and birthday cake, courtesy of Miss Shaw. Some of our older boarders also did a bit of baking on Sunday afternoon, though the resulting chocolate cake didn't last long – it really was delicious, girls!

Although we have only been back for a short time, our thoughts are already focussed on the future and we would please ask that parents inform us of your children's travel arrangements and half term plans as soon as possible, and no later than 9th October. There are no plans to keep the boarding houses open over half term; we advise, therefore that in a time

of uncertainty over quarantine regulations, overseas boarders should arrange to stay with their UK-based guardians.

A new way you can keep in touch with what's happening in boarding is by following our new twitter account @Lucton-boarding

Mrs. T Webb Rogers, Head of Boarding



Wellbeing

We are aware of a real and particularly nasty viral post going round on TikTok.

The company are dealing with the situation and it should be cleared within the next few days. You may wish to temporarily prevent use of Tik Tok until this is resolved.

The advice in this situation is to:

- Remain calm and non-judgemental.
- Talk to your child/children about what they would do if

they see nasty content and who they would talk to.

- Be curious, find out where they have seen this content? Can it be blocked?
- Report unsuitable content to CEOP

Don't treat 'online' different to real life, to children online is real life. In the same way that we would talk about their day at school, their friends etc. we should have regular discussions about what they are doing online and what to do if something is concerning or upsetting.

Support is available via organisations such as Childline and Papyrus. If you would like to contact me for more advice please do so.

Mrs Goode, Head of Senior School

**Thought for the week:
"Notice the things you
do well today, however
small."**

Sport



On a warm and sunny Wednesday, all pupils from Year 6 upwards had an enjoyable and competitive sports afternoon.

The Middle School girls continued to develop basic netball skills. Excellent team work and leadership by Hannah W, Philippa, Sophie and Scarlett was evident in a friendly, but competitive tournament, which was won by the Red Team. Players of the match were awarded, with Isla (Black Team) the outright winner with three votes, followed by Hannah (Blue Team), Sophie D (Red Team) and Eno (Yellow Team) with two votes each.

The Middle School boys worked on some basic cricket skills which finished with a series of games, in which Arthur and James excelled with a 50 run partnership. Fitness training and some revisiting of basic lacrosse skills was the key emphasis for the Senior School girls, whilst

the boys had a competitive football tournament, with Kian's team winning the deciding game. Nathan won a hotly contested player of the match award, with Dami in second place. Grant, Joel, Archie, Charlie, and Ellis all also secured a vote.

Fortunately, the weather allowed last week's postponed mixed Sixth Form rounders tournament to go ahead, with Harry's team winning all three matches. Keira's team just pipped Aoibh's team into second place, with Aaron's team a close fourth. Faith and Annie had a good work out, scoring six and four rounders apiece, whilst Matthew was also on form with five. The afternoon was rounded off with a quick 20 good balls, mixed Year 11 rounders match. There was good team spirit, an excellent catch from Catherine, and Malachy, whose bowling proved difficult to hit, was equally impressive with a display of acrobatic skills, a fine

dive and somersault. Not surprisingly, then, Malachy's team won by 1 1/2 rounders!

The early morning Monday swim squad sessions have resumed and Ben was really pleased to see 15 keen early risers at 6.45 pm for an hours session in the pool. As with all sport, there is no gain without some pain!

Success for Aoibh

After weeks of anticipation and many miles of pounding the street on the bike and on her feet, and in a lake or river (the only available swimming space) Aoibh took part in the Ellesmere Triathlon, winning by an emphatic 8 minutes.

Mrs Connop, Head of Sport



Jake's Blog

We've really enjoyed teaching you all again this week and we have all been very good! Hopefully Miss Coates will also let us start jumping next week.

We seem to have had loads of inspections recently and this time it was our Pony Club one. We passed with flying colours! We hope that some of you will join the Lucton School Pony Club and benefit from the weekly stable management lessons and the monthly subsidised ridden rally. If you do, you will be joining one of the largest youth organisations in the world!

Well done to Amy-Rose, Rebecca, Livia, and Emily Grace, who passed E and D tests during the last ridden rally day!

We also ran on-line sessions with our members during lockdown and many got badges, including native breeds badge and bird watching. Well done to all!



Jake

