

Lucton News

FROM THE HEADS
PREP SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
BOARDING
RUN TO SHANGHAI
TERM DATES

March 5th 2021
Issue 22



From the Heads



One cannot help but notice the common themes running through this newsletter.

Firstly, we are very excited about the return to school on Monday. We cannot wait to hear the chatter and shrieks of laughter throughout the campus once again, and the return to a sense of normality.

Then, of course, there is the feeling of gratitude and pride. Our sincere thanks go to staff, students and parents for their hard work and support in keeping the school open for the children of critical workers and for the remote teaching and learning.

As we are writing this, there is

a continuous stream of cars driving in, bringing students from Year 7 upwards for their Lateral Flow Test. Testing so many students today will ensure that we can get back into teaching straight away on Monday.

We would like to thank our excellent LFT team, under the capable leadership of Richard Brown, for the professional and efficient way in which they have conducted today's testing, and indeed all the testing in the school since January. Please note that further testing will take place in school until everyone has been issued with their home testing kits.

We look forward to a more normal period between now and the end of term, but do appreciate that some, quite understandably, may be nervous about getting back into routines and other issues. Mrs Goode has sent out some helpful guidance on how to deal with the return to school, and both parents and students are welcome to raise any concerns they have with us, the Heads of the School and, of course, Form Tutors. In the meantime, can we say once again how delighted we will be to welcome everyone back on Monday!

**Heads of Lucton
Elmien Niblett and John Goode**

Prep School



Not long now until our students return.

It will be great to have everyone in and to move away from online teaching; whilst its delivery has been a success, it simply isn't as creative for the teachers and children. On the plus side, it has certainly forced us to raise our technological game though, and I have to admit to some frissons of joy as I master sharing a document, PowerPoint, or video through TEAMS!

In the meantime, what have we been up to? The theme of

last week's rather gremlin-ridden Friday assembly was Dreams. In this case, dreams of what we might like to do or achieve in the future. Despite life throwing the occasional curve ball, it is important to never forget your dreams. Remember: aim high and see where you land.

This week served as a really big lead up to World Book Day, on Thursday. There was a considerable amount of excitement and chatter about what costume to wear, and that was just amongst the staff! All absolutely great fun with fabulous costumes all

round, and the children at home joined in as well! All were sent home with a book token which can be used online or any bookshop that has a Post Office (WHSmith springs to mind) or even a supermarket that sells books as well.

Looking forward to next week, we see the launch of the annual Book Bingo. Last year, between us, we read well over 1200 books – I wonder how many we can read this year? We cannot stress enough the importance of reading so I hope that everything we do to promote it will plant seeds that

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will flower later.

We have been walking a kilometre every day this week for Red Nose Day. We would usually send out sponsorship forms and so forth; however, we have had to change the approach this year, for obvious reasons. If you would like to donate monies to the Red Nose cause please follow this link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Lucton-Prep-School>

A huge thank you to those who have already donated and we hope that more of you will contribute in the coming days. The children have already walked at least 10km each and we will be increasing this as everyone returns. Nursery have been joining in as well.

It is not all fun and games though, serious learning has also been happening, as I am sure you will be glad to hear! Decimal fractions and place value; what is the red number worth as a fraction in 45.764? Can you spot an adverb from an adjective and do you know the difference between an ellipsis and a parenthesis? What about atomic movement in solids, liquids, and gases and where do you stand on the importance of the Battle of Lake Trasimene? Who was the better nurse, Mary Seacole or Florence Nightingale? Does this ring any bells "L'arc-en-ciel"? Or Salut, Salut? And then there is the skill of wax transfer for symmetrical drawings and the use of glass tiles in mosaics.



As you can see we have definitely been in the learning frame of mind, which makes the digressions even more enjoyable.

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School



Sixth Form

So, we reach the end of remote learning in the Sixth Form, unscathed, having learnt new skills but also incredibly grateful that we are able to get back into the classroom!

Although we will have to stick with our now-usual practices to ensure that we keep everyone safe, a semblance of normality will be restored as we head towards Easter. Indeed, there is still much to be done. Whilst we will be hitting the ground running with Year

12, who take interim tests in their first week back, Year 13 will also be focussed on ensuring they are in the best possible position with their revision.

UCAS procedures are now being explained to our Year 12s, who will soon start casting their eye toward universities and start forming ideas over different subject offerings!

We really are looking forward

to everyone returning; the Common Rooms have looked very bare and empty without all the life that our Sixth Formers bring but, having seen a draft edit for this term's Sixth Form magazine, I am amazed by just how much they do at home, too! Well done for completing lockdown learning - see you all on Monday!

Mr Wolstenholme
Head of Sixth Form

Boarding

How lovely the weather was last weekend – a much needed reminder that spring is just around the corner.

Our boarders were really able to make the most of the glorious open spaces we have on campus, and managed to clock up a few kilometres for our Lucton Red Nose challenge of walking to Shanghai. It was lovely to get out in the open air and see all the students working together to help achieve our goal.

This week has been a busy one. We have been gearing up for the return of our other boarders and I think we are all looking forward to the noise and chaos of having everyone back together in the house -

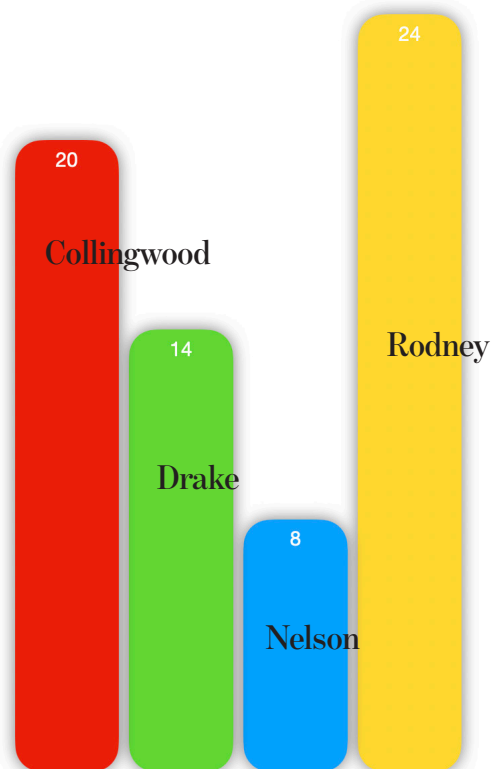
a quiet boarding house just doesn't feel the same!

With quarantine restrictions in place, I would like to remind parents that the boarding house will be open over the Easter break; please contact the school or the boarding house (boardinghouse@luctonschool.org) if this is something that you might find useful for your son or daughter, at this time. If your child is travelling, again, may I politely request that you let us know your travel plans as soon as possible so we can make arrangements for the end of term.

Stay safe,

Tracey Webb-Rogers
Head of Boarding

House Merit Totals



*Numbers accurate 5th March 2021

Comic Relief 2021



After a mightily impressive week, we have managed to clock up another 2,385km taking our total so far to 4,912km!

Last week saw us experience the cultural delights of Lake Onega, and we now find ourselves further east, in the Khanty-Mansi region of Russia.

The closest city of note appears to be Nizhnevartovsk. Laying in the lowlands of western Siberia, Nizhnevartovsk was founded in the early part of the 20th

century as a service point for merchant steamships operating on the River Ob, and more recently was also the birth place of 2008 Miss World winner, Ksenia Vladimirovna.

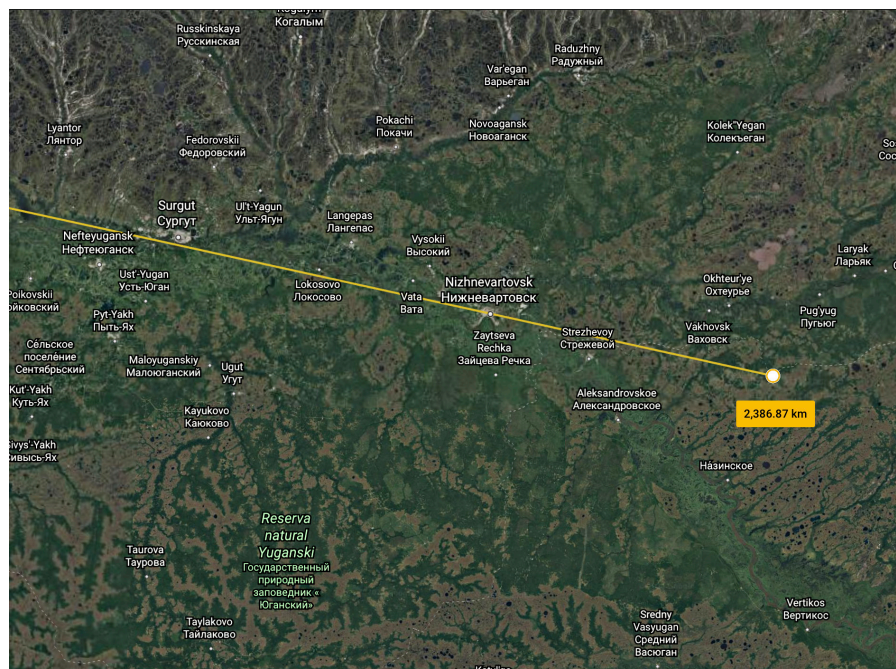
By all accounts, it appears to be an interesting location; however, we are not actually in Nizhnevartovsk. We are about 133km south east in the middle of nowhere...

With a lack of passing cars, let alone a Tesco Express, several members of the team were forced to jump the chain link fence of an industrial

compound in order to obtain directions. Wearing neon lycra cycling shorts and Lucton branded jackets, they stepped gingerly across the carpark in an attempt to avoid the unwanted attention of a pack of security dogs. Despite obtaining no directions whatsoever, the majority of the team returned safely, which was a welcome morale boost as in recent days our numbers have dipped slightly.

In desperation, one Year 10 student went looking for a McDonald's in the forest where he was later eaten by a wolf, whilst two Year 9 students went foraging for WiFi several days ago and haven't been seen since.

With all students returning on Monday, it won't be long before we are on Mongolian soil and a considerable step closer to our destination. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far, please keep pushing and remember that you can still donate via our justgiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Lucton-Prep-School>



Mr Norton, Marketing



Term Dates 2021/2022

Autumn Term 2021

Tuesday 31st August - Boarders arrive
Wednesday 1st September – First day of term
25th October – 29th October – Half term
Thursday 9th December – Last day of term
Friday 10th December – Oversea pupils leave

Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4th January – Boarders arrive
Wednesday, 5th January – First day of term
14th February – 18th February – Half term
Thursday 31st March – Last day of term
Friday 1st April – Overseas pupils leave

Summer Term 2022

Monday 25th April – Boarders arrive
Tuesday 26th April – First day of term
30th May – 3rd June – Half term
Thursday 7th July – Last day of term
Friday 8th July – Overseas pupils leave