

Lucton News

FROM THE HEADS
PREP SCHOOL
RED NOSE CAKE AUCTION
BOARDING
SIXTH FORM
SPORT
RUN TO SHANGHAI
LOCKDOWN

March 12th
2021
Issue 23



From the Heads



It has been an absolute delight to have all the children back in school this week. We are very pleased to note (but not at all surprised!) how sensibly they have behaved and how quickly they have settled back into school routines.

School-based Covid testing is nearly finished, with the team having already completed over 1300 tests, all negative. Huge thanks go to Mr Brown, Mrs Rogers, Lulu and the grads. The testing centre is a lively place, with upbeat music being played to lift the spirits and keep the energy high. In a

strange way we think we will miss it!

Anyway, after Monday it's over to parents and children at home to carry out the testing. The home testing kits have arrived and will be distributed shortly. Thank you in advance to parents and students for carrying out the home testing diligently, and keeping the Lucton and wider community safer in the process.

While school events are still on hold by and large, we have noted with great satisfaction the progress made on our

"Run to Shanghai" – well done, everyone!

Also, this time next week is Red Nose Day and we are giving all students the opportunity to wear something red on the day for a voluntary donation of at least £1. All the funds raised will go to Comic Relief. We are so proud of everyone for playing their part in another magnificent effort on behalf of others less fortunate than ourselves.

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

Prep School



Last Friday was, hopefully, the last online Friday Assembly from my office!

The theme carried on from St David's idea that it is the small, kind and thoughtful actions that really count. We looked at St Thérèse of Lisieux, who also believed that it was not great deeds, but small actions, that would help most.

I hope that some small, good deeds will be done this weekend. Perhaps some helpful tidying up (without being asked) or just popping litter in the bin. Now those are very thoughtful, small deeds

that definitely go a long way to help.

Monday saw all of the Prep School back; indeed, the whole school returned. It was lovely to walk up to lunch seeing the netball court full and football being played on the pitches. A school is only a school with children, and although that may seem obvious, it truly shows up when deserted playgrounds are once again full.

We are, of course, still being extremely careful; tables are all facing forward, hands are washed at least 6 times a

day, the playgrounds are still divided and, in the Senior School, masks are worn in the classrooms. I am pleased to see that parents are also being careful. As long as we keep with the mantra of "Hands. Face. Space." amongst all of the community, then we can keep progressing.

In other news, the lunchtime walk to Shanghai is proving to be extremely popular and the children have been eagerly clocking up the kilometres. Drama lessons have been focussing on class performances for Red Nose Day and also for our

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forthcoming Prep School Poetry Slam which we are holding on the 24th March. All being well, we hope to stream these events live so keep your eyes peeled for the link in addition to a timetable of events.

Much attention has also been focussed on Science Week. Plants are a big thing in Reception, Year 1 and 4W. I love the 'Mean to the Bean' in Reception class; by withholding water. Year 1 is being mean by putting their beans in a fridge! Year 4W on the other hand, is looking at the best ground to sow in.

Meanwhile, Year 2 is testing how waterproof different materials are which is particularly apt given the weather this week. Year 3 is testing different materials for friction and assessing how far a car can roll down a slope with different materials on it. Year 4W have decided

to be aerodynamic and fly paper aeroplanes in different conditions culminating in flying them from the fire escape (given the wind I suspect some will be found in Leominster!).

Finally, Year 5 is creating planet fact files as well as looking at the different colours in Skittles (the sweet not the game!), I suppose that they will eat them afterwards although a pale coloured skittle might not be too appetising.

Whilst the Drama Department is focussing on Red Nose Day and the Poetry Slam, they also have their eyes on the Summer Production. It has been ordered. It is here. It will be...unfortunately I am not allowed to tell you. Here is a hint; the main character crows. And with that, I will leave you to ponder and to have a good weekend.

Below is a QR code (and



[Hyperlink](#)) to our fund-raising page. Please do keep the donations coming in.

Mr Bicker-Caarten
Head of Prep School



Reception

There has been some magic at work in the Reception garden, with new plants and curios to capture the children's interest.

Indeed, they have already very much enjoyed chatting and writing about who lives in the little spring cottage! Many thanks to those who have helped with the magic!

Mrs Fower



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Red Nose Cake Auction

Tracey Evans, a professional chef in our kitchens, has made a fabulous cake for auction.

The fruit cake, soaked in brandy and made with butter, looks very delicious. It is being made available for blind auction and you can make your secret bid by email to m.warren@luctonschool.org. This professional cake is special and unique and we really hope you will continue to support our efforts for Red Nose Day. Our school fundraising target is £1500 and we are already over half way!



Thank you for your support. Bids will close at 3pm on Friday, 19th March, so get them in quickly! You can email



your bid now, marked 'Red Nose Cake'.

Mr Warren

Boarding

It has been lovely to welcome back our students this week, and have both boarding houses full of life after a very quiet couple of months.

Students and teachers are once again getting back into the routines of school life, and the house has been full of music and chatter as friends get to catch up with one another after what feels like a very long time!

Miss Quick spent Saturday with some of our younger boarders, and a creative time was had by all. She led the students in making face coverings and showed



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them how to use the sewing machines to make their own masks. They successfully produced a number of lovely face coverings, just the job to wear around school. Now we all wear masks in school every day, they have become quite the fashion accessory!

I would like to remind all parents and guardians that we are now able to offer Easter quarantine and holiday places for any boarder unable to travel over the Easter break. If this is something that you

would find useful, please contact School Admissions or the boarding house directly.

If your child is travelling elsewhere in the UK or overseas for the holiday period, I would politely remind you to inform us of their travelling arrangements as soon as possible, so we are able to make transfer arrangements for those who need it.

Mrs Webb-Rogers
Head of Boarding



Sixth Form

It's been fantastic to have the Sixth Formers back, and we've already got stuck in to things.

On Wednesday we were all outdoors, running (and walking) for Red Nose Day and completing five laps of the marked-out circuit round the school grounds. Forbes, of course, ran at least 6 laps. It was a lovely opportunity to catch up with many of the Sixth Formers in person, too.

In terms of exams, we currently have our Year 12s busy beaver away at their interim tests, whilst Year 13s have plenty to work towards.

Our Sixth Form Magazine for Easter is now in its final editorial stages, whilst preparations for UCAS applications are also continuing. It's a busy time of

the year, but we're just very grateful to be able to have most of our students back in class again.

Mr Wolstenholme
Head of Sixth Form



Sport



Despite the dull, grey, overcast day, with more than a hint of drizzle in the air, there was a buzz of anticipation as the Senior School met for an afternoon of sporting activity.

Active miles were a key theme of the day. The Sixth Form clocked up 5km each, whilst the rest of school tested their fitness and resilience over a range of distances, whether around the fields at school, down to the crossroads or the Lucton Village phone box.

Elsewhere was also a hive of activity with some of the Year 10 and 11 boys attempting to emulate the feats of James Anderson and Joe Root with a session in the cricket nets, whilst Year 9 and some Year 10 worked on football skills and match play.

Miss Coates put the Year 11

girls through their rounders paces as they focused on hard hitting and accurate fielding, whilst on the netball court, Year 9 and 10 worked on driving onto the ball at speed, before playing some very competitive matches.

The Middle School boys recapped football skills learnt last term, whilst playing a friendly tournament.



Meanwhile, Miss Wilkinson was really pleased to see that the Middle School girls hadn't lost their ability to cradle, throw and pick up lacrosse ground balls. The day was rounded off with a GCSE PE swimming session in the pool!

**Mrs Connop
Head of Sport**



Comic Relief 2021



With almost all of our students back in school, not to mention the consistent efforts of our staff and parents, we've managed to rack up an incredible 3588 kilometres this week!

This has made a significant impact and with 8500 kilometres now in the bank we are a mere 1500 kilometres away from our final destination.

Over the course of the last week we have positively rocketed through the remaining part of Russia

before speeding through Mongolia, crossing the Gobi Desert and into China! Now, with only one week to go, we find ourselves a few kilometres south west of the city of Shijiazhuang.

*As a result of significant industrialisation over the past 30 years, the city has experienced massive population growth and with over 11 million citizens, Shijiazhuang is ranked the 12th most populated city in China.

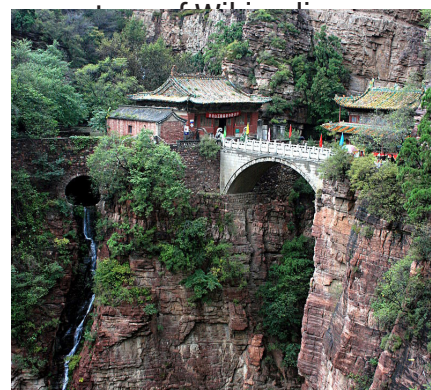
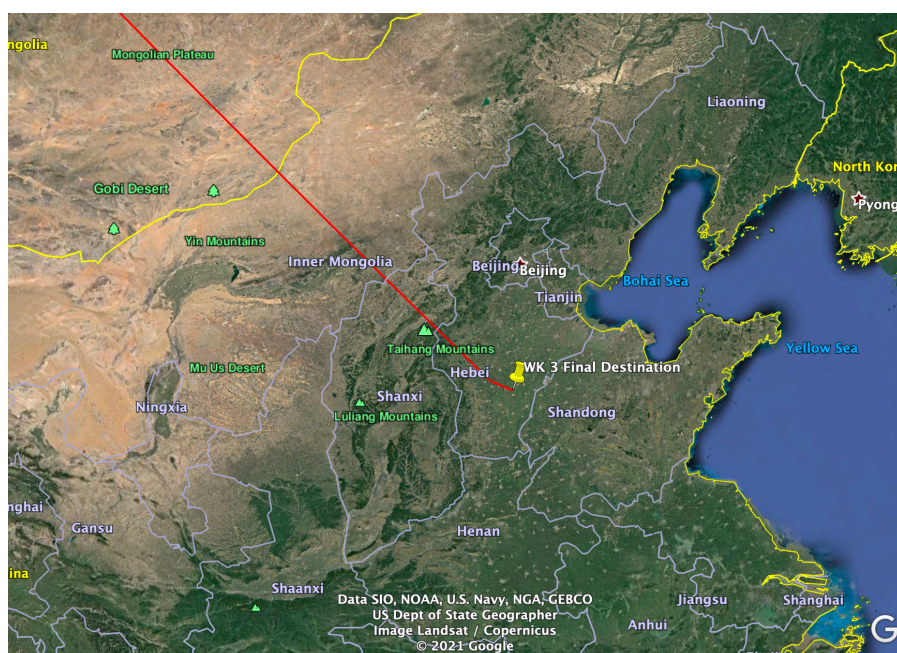
Head off the beaten track and

the province of Hebei in which Shijiazhuang sits, is also home to several significant Buddhist temples and the impressive Mount Cangyan (see below), which was featured heavily in the Oscar winning Martial Arts movie Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.

However, there's no time to brush up on our Kung Fu skills as our final destination is tantalisingly close!

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**

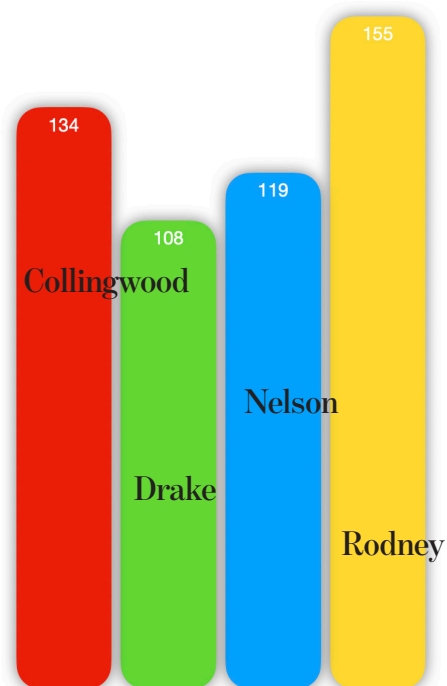


Best of the Rest

It seemed like it would last forever but with school now back in full swing we thought we would share a few images of some of the things that our students got up to in lockdown. From heroic litter picking to mastering pottery, and who remembers the snow??



House Merit Totals



*Numbers accurate 12th March 2021