

Lucton News

FROM THE HEADS
PREP SCHOOL
MIDDLE SCHOOL
SENIOR SCHOOL
CCF
SIXTH FORM
SPORT
EQUESTRIAN

March 26th
2021
Issue 25



Grand Total
Distance covered: **11,774km**
Money raised: **£3026**
Congratulations and thank you to
everyone who took part!



From the Heads



We are rather surprised at the bumper edition of the Lucton News this week but we have clearly packed in a lot over the last few days; enjoy reading about it all.

It is so lovely having had the school fully open for the last couple of weeks but, regardless of how tired we are, it feels like a very short term now that the Easter holidays are upon us. Enjoy the time with your children; no home schooling required and screen

time can be limited as you see fit!

Heads' homework for the younger ones is to read every day but it is not a time for complete relaxation for all: we wish our Year 11 and Year 13s good luck with their studies and preparation for the examinations and assessments that lie ahead, next term. Work hard but pace yourselves and build in some time to relax and engage in other interest, away from your

books.

We wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter!

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

Prep School



No Friday assembly last week; instead it was a fantastically comic set of talents that we witnessed – and hopefully you did too.

Red Nose Day was fully embraced from the Nursery to Year 5 and beyond, and it was wonderful to see such talent and effort for a good cause. However, it didn't finish in the morning; the Games Department got in on the act and we enjoyed a brilliant Danceathon. The old saying is definitely correct: laughter is the best medicine. Not only did we laugh, we raised money too. A huge thank you to all;

a truly magnificent sum for a great charity.

We wondered how we could follow that? What could stop us all being deflated? Well, for Years 3-5 it was finding out that we are performing Peter Pan! Great excitement all round.

Main parts were eagerly auditioned for and now we are pleased to say that we have the cast. Under the stewardship of Mrs Rogers, Mrs Leonard and Mr Rogers, we will all find our way to Neverland come June. Sets are being designed under

the watchful eye of Miss Jay, whilst the music is being overseen by Mr Wall. You will note that Mr Warren and myself have been left out; well someone needs to make the tea and shepherd the backstage. It appears that we are the unsung heroes!

Not to be outdone, Year 1 time travelled to a Victorian classroom for a day (more information below). Mrs Chapman was incredibly fierce and brooked no nonsense.

Reception Class had great fun making mud Easter rabbits and Year 2 were busy

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finding out what happens with polluted water.

With energy flagging it was time to pull the next event out of the hat: our wonderful Prep School Poetry Slam! 45 children have LAMDA lessons and this term is usually their highlight, where they get to show off their performance skills at the Hereford Festival. It is absolutely nerve-wracking but at the same time really enjoyable.

To perform in front of an audience can be absolutely terrifying but a great skill to learn and one that will stand you in good stead for the rest of your life. Seeing them walk to the stage and then stand there, completely alone, and then to see their faces when they have nailed it is wonderful. For those old

hands, it is time to "work" the audience and raise a laugh or two, another fine skill to learn and to see in action. We must say a big thank you to Mrs Rogers and to all the parents for making them word-perfect. Finally, we reached the end of term and the magnificent Easter Egg Hunt with our very own Easter bunny. Completely organised by Year 5, the children had a fantastic time. What can be more fun than charging through the woods with your friends and getting a prize at the end!

We now look forward to the Summer Term and the sound of leather on willow, Sports Days on the field, Peter Pan... and so it goes on.

Have a super Easter and get recharged for the term ahead. If this term was anything to go



by, you will be amazed at what we can fit in!

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School

Year 1

On Tuesday, Year 1 dressed up and stepped back in time to 1871 as a finale to their Topic about The Victorians.

There was drill in the playground to begin, after which we sang the National Anthem to our classroom portrait of Queen Victoria.

I had to morph into a very strict Victorian school ma'am and reminded the children that 'cleanliness is next to Godliness', that 'children should be seen and not heard' and to 'speak only when they are spoken to'.

It has to said that several children got the cane!

We practised writing the alphabet on our slates, learnt about The British Empire and after a nature walk, drew and labelled the parts of a flowering plant.

At Biscuit Break we played Tag and Hopscotch which was popular with everyone in Pre-Prep. We finished the day with a slice of Victoria Sponge and a discussion about the pros and cons of being a Victorian child.

We all agreed that it was good to be at school in 2021.

Mrs Chapman



Middle School

The renewed rhythm of lessons at school has continued this week and it has been gratifying to see pupils once again getting the benefit of the variety and pace which lessons in the classroom afford.

In fact, just to give an example of the range of lessons taking place this week, I can report that in Music, pupils have been busy working with a wonderful tubular instrument called a boom-whacker which I believe acts as a perfect accompaniment to the music from Batman!

In ICT, students have really enjoyed finishing off their projects using Code Avengers, which allows pupils to

experiment with coding software. In English, the Middle School has been busy practising their spellings in readiness for our end of term Lucton Spelling Bee.

It has also been really fabulous to see pupils outside, making the most of the better weather and being able to dust off their cricket bats, tennis rackets and rounders equipment. Long may this continue. I have also been so pleased with the ever-increasing popularity of ping-pong at break times and how well the Middle School have organised themselves with their competitions and a regimented and well-respected queuing system to ensure a fair go at the table for

everyone!

I would also like to thank Mrs Berry for her very generous donation of ping-pong bats and balls, as our last set had really been worn out after so much use! We look forward to the Summer Term and for a prolonged period of good weather which will allow us to really enjoy the time we have between academic lessons to have fun outside, practise our sporting skills and enjoy the company of our peers.

Mrs Bassett, Head of Middle School

Mask Making

I have spent the past few weeks since the students returned delivering a mask making workshop for anyone interested.

Students learnt how to set up the machine correctly, use a template and the importance of a back stitch. There is hope that next year a sewing club will start up during activities if there is enough interest.

Miss Quick



Senior School

It has been another busy week of learning for the pupils in the Senior School, with some really positive achievements.

We are delighted to award our high achievement certificates to Nathan, Fremah and Lois. We also celebrated the following students who obtained substantial numbers of merits this term: Harry, Catherine, Malachy, Elodie, Dolly, Georgia, Katie, Alice, Ryan and Libby. Well done to you all!

Year 11 are working hard as they provide evidence for the teacher assessed grades, and several of them showed their quality by sitting the Sixth Form Scholarship Exam. In addition, the Year 11 Options have been helping with duties within their bubble and this has been a great help. I was delighted by

the boys in Years 9, 10 and 11 who participated in the safeguarding research carried out by Birmingham University, this is a long-term in-depth study into safe behaviour online and it was most interesting for students to hear about how such studies are designed and managed, as well as being part of the research.

The Year 9 Drama pupils performed some fantastic pieces this week, having started the planning in lockdown. Their brief was to create a piece of verbatim theatre which is a theatre performance taken from real-life conversations and interviews. We thought we would stick with a subject matter that we know well, and therefore chose Covid! In lockdown, the students began by interviewing parents,

friends and family on their experiences during this turbulent year, and then began the process of turning these interviews into performances. Once we came back to school, the pupils had two sessions to rehearse before performing this week. It was really super to see the thoughtful, touching and, at times, comedic work that they had produced. Well done, Year 9!

I hope everyone has a good Easter break and we are hoping to run some online session to support students preparing for exams, information regarding these will be emailed during the early part of the holiday.

Mrs Goode, Head of Senior School

Library

The library is running a challenge for the Easter holidays!

All you need to do is take a photo of you blending, recreating or extending (see right) the front cover of a book to make it look like you are a part of it. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative photos. Please send your efforts to me.

Miss Quick



CCF



With last Friday being Red Nose Day and Mr Warren organising multiple events leading up to the day, the CCF felt it only right to join in.

The events were to be a stretcher race to simulate a casualty evacuation, and a weighted shuttle run/carry to simulate an ammunition resupply. The stretcher race would follow the 1km circuit at school, and the weighted-carry done over a 50m shuttle on the rugby field. Two teams would race in each event, the stretcher weighing 40kg and the simulated ammunition would be two Bergans weighing 20kg each and three 81mm mortar containers, weighing 10kg each (per team). The race would be running for best time and the carry, a continuous run for 15

minutes.

In joint first place of the stretcher race was Sgt Perry's team from Somme Platoon and Sgt Marron's team from Normandy platoon, coming in at 7 minutes, dead. A special mention must go out to LCpl Palfreman who ran the race twice in succession as their second platoon team were

a person down, she stepped in without hesitation to help out – a Stirling effort. All personnel taking part in the stretcher race covered a total of 55km.

Winning the resupply challenge were the RAF Team 2, carrying 1640kg, shuttling 10.4km – a massive effort on their behalf! The total for all teams on



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CCF

the resupply challenge was a staggering 10,570kg (in excess of 10 tonnes), covering 52km in shuttle runs over the 50m course. Making the total distance covered during the CCF period 107km. An excellent effort from all cadets.

To complete the day a number of promotions to LCpl were made. Maj. Derrigan awarded the following cadets: Archie,

Fremah, Lola, Tristan, Evie, Connie, Tara and Annalise. Congratulations from the CCF Staff!

W02 Rich Brown, SSI Lucton School Cadet Contingent



Sixth Form

It's been an eventful week, as ever in the run up to the end of term, and we've certainly managed to squeeze a lot in!

Our Year 12s were all signed up and into the UCAS Virtual Discovery Day on Tuesday which, despite some technical hitches, provided some really useful additional information on courses, requirements and accommodation at a plethora of universities and higher learning establishments.

Whilst we didn't get the usual day out at the UCAS Convention held each year at Worcester University, we did get a flavour of what certain universities are like, and have continued our PSHE sessions on UCAS and life after Sixth Form.

Meanwhile our Year 13s

are fully focussed on their upcoming tests and have really knuckled down to revision. University offers are now almost all in, with only one or two exceptions, while those choosing other paths have now made applications and signed on dotted lines.

In and amongst all this, we even managed an Easter Egg Hunt! Not to be outdone by the Prep School, our Sixth Form Egg Hunt featured the finest Oologists, organised by House, out in the Front Gardens. Needless to say, much chocolate was consumed.

Finally, we were delighted to hear of Alice Cunningham's success in the Telegraph Teenage Creative Writing Competition; Alice (see right) finished runner up with an article on life during lockdown

and Percy Pigs!

Indeed, her achievement is testament to her hard work and a real reflection of the type of student she was when at Lucton. Having taken English Literature, History and Geography here, she is now off to study Creative Writing at UEA where we have no doubt she will continue to flourish. I hear she has already been lined up by our current Sixth Formers for the summer edition of the Sixth Sense!

Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form



Former Head Girl, Alice Cunningham

Sport

With more than a hint of spring and even early summer in the air, the Year 9, 10 and Sixth Form boys played their last football session of the season, whilst the rest of the school began to hone those rusty summer sport skills.

Miss Coates, always a passionate rounders player, was keen to get a few early sessions underway and was treated to some competitive matches as the Sixth Form pitted their skill and wits against combined Year 9 and 10 teams. Although Annie S won the batting award for most rounders scored, it was Evie G's team that won the day as their consistent batting kept the rounders tally flowing.

The Middle School boys were treated to a cross country run, with James H, Jonathan D and Will E running superbly to fill the top three slots. This was followed by some small sided cricket games, whilst the Year 11 boys worked hard in the Sports Hall nets to improve batting and bowling consistency, before embarking on a 3km run.

Some competitive netball was played by the Year 11, who donned their new netball dresses and upped their game with some fast, fluent, attacking play against a team of Year 10 girls. It was great to see all the Year 11 girls working hard, with energy



and enthusiasm, working as a team to create goal scoring opportunities with some balanced circle work and superb shooting from Georgia B and Amber. Jess and Catherine (Player of the Match) were always dominant in the centre court, with stealth-like interceptions and fast circle feeds, whilst Maureen, Seren, Libby and Millie (Player of the Match) kept the pressure on the Year 10 shooters with some tight defending.

As the game progressed, the Year 10s started to play with greater confidence, especially in the final quarter when, with Jess as Centre, the attack

accelerated into the fast lane, with some great circle moves from Yara (Player of the Match) and Connie!

The Middle School ended the lacrosse season with a friendly, yet very competitive tournament, with the aim being to show how much they have progressed this year. Team captains, Sophie D, Eno, Hannah and Solange led by example displaying their versatile, tactical and positional awareness in a variety of positions. The short game format meant that centre draws were eagerly fought for, and that keeping possession to score goals was

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critical. All pupils could use their improved stick skills to keep possession and score quickly. Penny, Eno, Maggie and Scarlett B were voted MVPs, with Solange winning the sportsmanship vote and Hannah, the Top Captain award.

Mrs Connop, Director of Sport

Equestrian

Great news! The school has given us the "go ahead" to hold our NSEA arena eventers challenge in the autumn term; the date still needs to be confirmed.

We have had a busy term with an increase of riders and pony club members!

It's lovely to see the improvement of so many, and the confidence returning: some had forgotten how to balance and steer when they came back, but are jumping again now!

We hope to have our first PC rally since this last lockdown, next Wednesday - it was fully booked within 48hrs! I will also be running a PC camp later in the year and we will start competing during Easter. Good luck to all!

In other news, it appears that we have found our own Easter bunnies living at the stables!

Miss Coates, Equestrian Manager

End of Term House Merit Totals!

