

# Lucton News

FROM THE HEADS  
PREP SCHOOL  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SIXTH FORM  
SPORT  
EQUESTRIAN

April 23rd 2021  
Issue 26



# From the Heads



**We would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our families!**

One seems to forget just how lovely the summer term is, with many days of gorgeous blue skies. We have already seen lessons being enjoyed outside and of course there is a new buzz on the playgrounds and fields. Our first sports fixtures for well over a year took place with the cricketers making particularly good use of the clement weather. Swimming and Forest School are much more enjoyable now, too!

But, of course, work in the classrooms is the priority and, with internal assessments looming, most teachers of students in the older year groups will start focussing on revision and study skills. The exam timetable has been issued to the students from

Year 7 and up (although the Year 12s will have to wait for this pleasure as their exams will not take place until after half term!) and it is also available on the Parent Portal. Year 11 and 13 students continue to work hard to achieve their best possible GCSE and A-level results in what is a very challenging and uncertain set of circumstances, and Year 12 have already started their UCAS application process. We would like to encourage all our parents and students to ask for support and clarity from their teachers if there is anything that they are unsure about.

By any measure, the last year has been a challenging one for everyone. Lucton, just like every other school in our sector, has had its fair share of ups and downs since the

arrival of COVID; however, to use what appears to be quite an apt metaphor as we look out on such a beautiful Spring day, the stormy weather has been successfully navigated and all is now set fair for the future, which can be approached with every confidence.

Indeed, as you probably already know, filming takes place next week for the first of a series of high-quality promotional videos for the School, and we look forward to sharing it with parents and students in due course. Having said this, as Heads we are always happy to speak with parents about their ideas for the School or about any concerns they may have. Please do not hesitate to contact the School Office to make an appointment to come and see us if you wish; our door is always open.

We are looking forward to a time when we can welcome parents back to events at the school, with luck, after the 21st June. Therefore, please add the evening picnic concert on Wednesday 23rd June and Speech Day on Thursday 1st July to your diaries. More details of these and, if COVID regulations allow, other events, will be forwarded to you in due course.

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

# Prep School



**Welcome back to the Summer Term! As ever, it was fantastic to see everyone charging in on Tuesday, ready and raring to go.**

Lots were in summer uniform and, as the day warmed up, we were really pleased that they were. Wednesday was a different matter but Thursday was beautiful again.

The Summer Term, of course, means The Dens! In any school there are traditions that pass down through the years and The Dens are certainly one of them. We get to go onto the field and then

into the hedgerow. Now, in the hedgerow are The Dens. This is the world of vivid imagination where worlds are created, bases are raided and high finance trades take place (stones become money). It is a huge part of the children's playtime and an ideal way to get very grubby. The field provides a vast space and they are typically awe-struck by the options available to them! Gymnastics usually takes pride of place; especially the ability to perform cartwheels as well as kicking a ball as far as possible or even using the running tracks. Whatever they decide to do, the fields and

The Dens are eagerly looked forward to.

A new term brings new topics to delve into and, as ever, the revision of past skills – the perennial problem of capital letters and full stops or the arcane magic of long division. After three weeks of no alarm clock and flexible bedtimes, the early mornings and long days certainly come as something of a shock, and then there is the fact that it is now light at bedtime. That is really unfair. Robert Louis Stevenson certainly got it right.

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## Bed in Summer

*In winter I get up at night  
And dress by yellow candle-  
light.*

*In summer, quite the other way,  
I have to go to bed by day.*

*I have to go to bed and see  
The birds still hopping on the  
tree.  
Or hear the grown-up people's  
feet,  
Still going past me in the  
street.*

*And does it not seem hard to  
you,  
When all the sky is clear and  
blue.  
And I should like so much to  
play,  
To have to go to bed by day?*

And so, at the end of the  
week we are well and truly in  
harness and know where we  
are going. The Summer Term  
is a full and packed one and  
we love it.

**Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of  
Prep School**



# Middle School

To round off the Spring Term, the Middle School held its traditional Spelling Bee, which saw the best spellers from each year group compete for their houses to win our very lovely Spelling Bee trophy.

We also ran some Maths 24 challenges, which gave our mathematicians a chance to put their mental arithmetic skills to the test. Our champion spellers responded well, successfully spelling many commonly misspelt words such as 'accommodation', 'committee' and 'occurred' (why are there so many double consonants in English?) Congratulations to Nelson House who were the runaway winners of this event and



many thanks to the whole of Middle School for the excellent support you gave to our spellers!

Year 6: Nicholas  
Year 7: Eno  
Year 8: Lylah

Individual Year group winners were as follows:

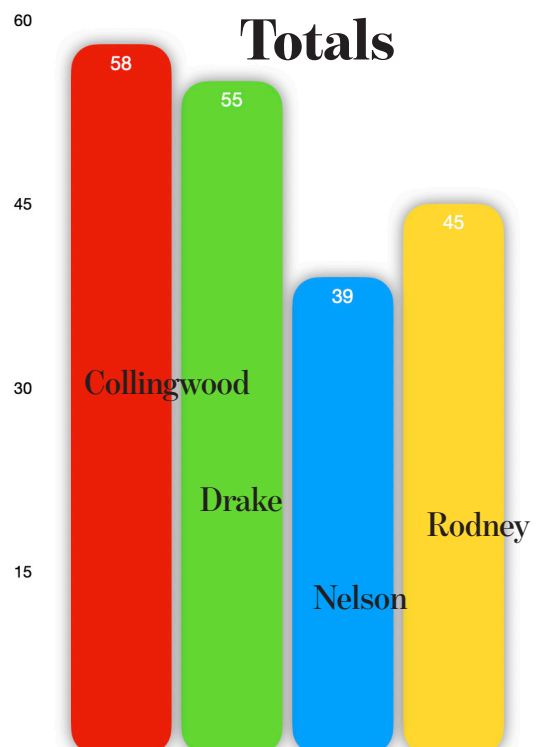
**Mrs Bassett, Head of Middle School**

## Cake Sale

Staff and students took part in a charity cake sale today, raising money for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Well done to all involved.



## House Merit Totals



\*Numbers accurate April 23rd 2021

# Sixth Form



**The summer term already feels like it is in full swing, and what a busy time it is already proving to be.**

Our Year 13 students are now valiantly continuing to produce the evidence required for their specific subjects, whilst our Year 12s refine and research courses and universities they may be interested in. The sun has certainly helped keep morale high, and it's been good to see Sixth Formers at break times walking around the fields and topping up on a bit of Vitamin D.

Offers continue to roll in from a wide and diverse selection of Higher Education

establishments for our Year 13s. Most have now heard from their full selection of choices, with later responses now coming through - only four left to respond last time I checked!

Meanwhile it's back to the hurly-burly routine of study, sports, and extra-curricular events. On the back of the success of the last edition of the Sixth Sense, Amelia-Sky will be leading this term's edition, as editor-in-chief, with a lot of good ideas already in the offing. It was also lovely to hear just how competitive Games was on Wednesday; I noticed a lot of contentious line calls in the tennis from my

window, whilst the echoes of an intense softball game also kept me entertained!

Finally, it was great to see the Sixth Form doing their bit for charity in our cake sale for Guide for the Blind. Some very impressive cakes were on display! It certainly created a good atmosphere at break time.

It's great to be back and whilst we have a lot to do, I know that our Sixth Formers will continue to show the resilience and spirit that they are renowned for.

**Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form**

# Sport



**At last some matches!! Whilst one swallow does not make a summer, two (as seen over the Prep School field) and a cricket match go a long way towards thinking it is on the way.**

At last, after many months of waiting, we had two cricket matches and, fortunately, the weather and the ground did not disappoint. With the help of Connop and Sons roll, Ray did an excellent job preparing a wicket with pace and bounce where, as the bowlers soon discovered, there was little margin for error.

The U16s, at home, faced a strong Shrewsbury side who, deciding to bat first, faced

some economical overs from Lucton before stepping up the gear to score 195. As a team, Lucton displayed great tenacity and resilience with Toby taking a great catch in the deep field, whilst Harvey stopped a bullet shot with his shin. Jack led by example, with some strong wicket keeping, a wicket during his one-over of bowling and a magnificent 49, with six 4s and three 6s. He was aided by Finn as they put on an opening partnership of 70. Jamie also inspired by taking the first wicket of the game and scoring 34 runs with some accomplished shots; six 4s and 1 six to help push the total to 130 runs. A fair result against a strong, well drilled and skilful team.

Meanwhile, the rest the school were busy preparing for forthcoming matches. The Middle School boys and girls mixed and matched their cricket skills as did the Year 9 and 10 boys in the cricket nets. Mr Richmond introduced softball to some of the Year 11 and Sixth Form boys whilst the rest played tennis.

Miss Coates put the Year 11 and Sixth Form girls through their paces on the rounders pitch with some fielding drills, before playing a competitive match where the Sixth Form just edged ahead of Year 11. Despite Catherine's heavy hitting, and at least half a rounder from nearly every player, Year 11 could not quite

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contain the consistency and excellent rounders from Sixth Formers, Molly and Annie, who scored two apiece.

The Year 9 and 10 girls endured some fitness: a short run, some sprinting, lots of competitive fielding drills and then a game which turned out to be a feisty battle between the year groups.

In a low scoring game, Year 9 batted first and, despite consistent bowling from Connie (Year 10 fielder of the match), Darcy, Rachel and Lois scored excellent rounders, whilst Scarlett made the most of fielding errors and Evie C-W was voted batting Player of the Match for her elegant hitting and placement.

Year 10 thought 5 rounders

## Cricket Away Match



### Under 14/15 v Shrewsbury School A/B U14

**We travelled to Shrewsbury not knowing quite what to expect. Shrewsbury is one of, if not the, best cricketing schools in the country. We thought that we would be playing their "C" team, but we ended up facing predominantly their "B" side!**

Shrewsbury won the toss and



was a soft target to beat and despite some hard hitting from Olivia (Year 10 batting Player of the Match) and Tiphany, they discovered that the bowler, backstop, second post combination of Scarlett, Myra and Darcy was too strong, with many second post stumpings

and an excellent catch from Darcy (Year 9 Fielder of the Match). In the end, four rounders was close but not quite enough. A great games session, in which much was learnt.

**Mrs Connop, Director of Sport**

elected to bat. We started tentatively with Zac opening the bowling and apart from a few wides from lack of match practice we made good progress. A wicket was taken in only the second over when Maxx had the batsman trapped LBW on the crease, raising our hopes.

Shrewsbury fought hard and at 73 for 2 after 8 overs the balance of power was leaning towards them; however, tight bowling from Daisy, Maxx, Charlie and Zac at the death meant that we had only 122 to chase - a reachable target.

Our fielding was excellent, with Nathan taking an excellent catch. Nathan, in partnership with Maxx, also manufactured a very good runout as Shrewsbury tried to chase a big score. Charlie and George shared the wicketkeeping duties, both performing admirably, with George taking an excellent catch.

In reply we started slowly; Nathan was out bowled with the last ball of the first over. George and Maxx batted well until both were out within a few overs of one another, bringing Zac and Charlie to the

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crease. These two played with patience and determination. Zac scored the bulk of the runs, but without Charlie's support he would not have been able to play so freely. Together, they steered us to a narrow win with 3 balls to spare.

The last over was particularly tense for both teams, with

their best quick bowler on and 9 runs required. Charlie's only error all match was to sky one, but fortunately for us the catch was spilt, giving Zac the strike. Shrewsbury's finest delivered a really quick ball that was wide and defeated the very competent Shrewsbury keeper, giving us the win by 7 wickets.

Well done to all the players. I especially admired the concentration and discipline when fielding; this was the platform that gave us the chance of victory.

**Mr Cowley**

# Equestrian

## Show Jumping Success for Megan

During the Easter holidays, Megan made an excellent start to her show jumping season with two double clears at a British Show Jumping competition at Prestige Equestrian. She finished 3rd in the BN (British Novice) and 5th in the Discovery classes.

Well done Megan!

**Miss Coates**



## Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Prosser!

Many congratulations to Emily, our Administration Assistant, who got married during the Easter holidays.

The sun shone on the happy couple last weekend as they said 'I do' in front of a

small gathering of family at Broadfield Court.

Everyone at Lucton School wishes Mr and Mrs Prosser the very best for their future!

**Mrs Hall**

