

Lucton News

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CCF
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EQUESTRIAN

May 7th 2021
Issue 27



From the Heads



Many apologies to those of you who look forward to a weekly update on the School via Lucton News, but last week's publication could not be "put to bed" owing to our esteemed editor being tied up with assisting the professional production team who are, as we write this, cutting and splicing in order to create our exciting new promotional short.

With further videos to be produced after the main advert, the School's promotional tools will have been significantly upgraded. Well done and thank you to all involved, especially Mr Norton and Mrs Rogers, as well as all the students and staff.

To make up for no news last week, a bumper edition has been published this time

around! We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we did!

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



Prep School



It certainly has been a busy few weeks and, as you may already have surmised, what captures the imagination one week, is history the next.

Last week we were really excited by the film crew that came around. This week we were delighted to welcome back Open The Book with their story of the Two Kings.

Two Friday Assemblies to report on first. 23rd April was our first Friday Assembly of the term. 23rd April marks two anniversaries; Year 4R managed to combine both, Shakespeare's birthday and

St George's Day. They acted out the Siege of Harfleur from Henry V, with the famous lines "Once more unto the breach dear friends..." followed by the story of St George and the slaying of the dragon. They were excellent and we all enjoyed their performance.

Then it was the turn of Year 3. They had been looking at proverbs which they imaginatively brought into the present. All proverbs are there to help us, so they reminded us of all those who are there to help or to whom we can turn.

As with the week before, their

performances were excellent. I am continually amazed at how comfortable the Lucton children are when on stage. They really are confident when in performing in public. I am not sure how we teachers would have felt about standing up in front of everyone when we were their age!

There was a Friends Meeting last week, which generated further excitement. There are plans afoot to reorganise the front of the Prep School to make the entrance more suitable (see above photo). We will make a call for help closer to the time – it will

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involve some manual labour! I shall man the refreshment table, providing tea and bacon butties! Thank you to the Friends for their generosity and commitment to the school. No doubt they were also planning future events as well; given that it is the Autumn Term next, then it may well involve a fayre of sorts (I won't say what sort; suffice it to say that it will be in December!).

Yet more excitement! The stage is up and we have started to rehearse for Peter Pan. The songs are already reverberating round the hallways and classrooms: 'Our Leader' and 'Tell Me A Story' are just two. There is certainly some swashbuckling going on in the playground – I do believe that we have some method actors amongst us. There is definitely a buzz in the air.

Year 2

Last week, Year 2 compared the difference between bulbs and seeds before planting one of each.

Following on from this, they planted some test seeds and bulbs and talked about what conditions the plants needed to grow. They chose locations around the school where the plants would not have access to one of these conditions e.g. sunlight.

This week, the focus has been on collecting interesting flowers and leaves from the



We have the Book Fair next week; Book Bingo has produced a lot of books that have been read (can we beat our record?). There is an Aquathlon being organised (swimming and running) and we hope to get the whole of the Prep involved.

Oh yes, excitement is definitely in the air, and I haven't even mentioned the lessons!

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School

woodland and using them to decorate their own crowns. They had great fun wearing them whilst pretending to be

kings and queens!

Miss Dyer



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Reception

On Tuesday, Reception took a walk around the woods at Croft to enjoy the sea of bluebells, and to investigate the many other things of interest spotted along the way.

There were fish pools, a wood chopper, a water mill and a den, as well as rumours of fairies and Billy Goats. What a wonderful start to the Summer Term!

Mrs Fower



Middle School

Throughout this week, our main focus has been our end of year examinations.

Pupils have diligently completed all sorts of assessments, from foreign language speaking tests and English comprehension tests to practical exams in Art.

It has been a real learning curve for the Middle School: not only have pupils had to thoroughly revise a range of subjects for the first time, but they have also had to learn how to revise and which method of revision works best for them.

Consequently, we have seen pupils try their hand at spider diagrams, mind maps, revision cards and some pupils even

making their own revision booklets. I've been really impressed with how the Middle School has responded to the challenges of revision and I wish them every success in these exams.

Mrs Bassett, Head of Middle School

Cake Sale Update

On the first Friday of term the Middle, Senior and Sixth Form had a cake sale in aid of Guide Dogs For The Blind UK.

As many of you know, I am experiencing some ongoing vision issues and as such, I am trying to support the work of this most valued charity.

Many, many thanks to the families who supported this cake sale through donations of cakes or else buying the cakes at school. I am very pleased to say that we raised over £200!

On a practical note, thanks to Amelia-Sky for organising the Sixth Form sale, and to Miss Quick and to Mrs Rogers for their help selling to the masses!

Mr Wall



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Wellbeing Walk

Year 6 Forest School continued on this morning, with Mr Mogford and Mr Berry joining us to make the most of the sunshine!

The Year 6 pupils went on a team treasure hunt to find objects that fitted different adjectives. They then talked about the importance of nature and getting outdoors as a positive way to help their mental health and wellbeing.

The pupils then set off on a wellbeing walk to find things that stimulated different senses, such as a whooshing rope and some smelly poo! They had great fun splashing around in the stream and watching the sheep mother



their lambs. A lovely morning was had by all!

Mrs Berry

Senior School

Students in the Senior School continue to work hard and have all been involved in preparation for either Teacher Assessed Tasks in Year 11, which will go towards their final grade this year, or internal exams.

Tutors have been working hard to help students learn the right study and revision skills to help them achieve the best they can. We all know how stressful these times can be and there is lots of help and support available.

Last week Year 10 started on a new maths topic. To learn the concept of a vector, students need to realise that a vector represents motion from one position to another.

To the music 'Hot Stuff' by Donna Summer, the students danced their vectors relative to their friends and changed displacement relative to their original position. Who knew that choreography could be so mathematical! It was really brilliant to watch too!

We have started recognising our outstanding students with a star of the week certificate. Congratulations to the following who have been recognised for their super contribution to school life; Seren L, Alex K, Charlie R and Noah L.

In PSHE we are encouraging students to think about what has been learned from lockdown and to take part in the Children Commissioners "Big Ask", which is the biggest survey of children in England

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ever carried out in order to establish a "child's view" of the world today. More information can be found at <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

Thank you to the Friends of Lucton School who have supported the purchase of more equipment for students to use at breaks and lunchtimes, as well as

some much-needed additional outside seating.

Mrs Goode, Head of Senior School

Library News

I am pleased to announce the winner of the book cover challenge that was set during the Easter holidays..

Lois W beautifully recreated the cover of a number of interesting books.

Also pictured with Lois is Noah L receiving his prize for successfully reading 20 books last year in the 20 books for 2020 challenge. Remember, the challenge is back on again for this year.

Miss Quick



Sixth Form



It has been a busy couple of weeks here in the Sixth Form with all focus and attention now very much on collating assessment material for Year 13s.

With traditional external exams having been replaced by assessments, our Year 13s have continued to show real effort and application in what are quite challenging circumstances. The study room has certainly been very quiet of late!

Our Year 12s, meanwhile, are now gearing up for their own

end of year tests and with UCAS applications ongoing, these will obviously be of great importance.

It was lovely to see and hear competitive sport happening again in the Sixth Form. Forbes and Angus agonizingly lost on a tie-break in the tennis, whilst the girls won their rounders game vs Bedstone.

Aoibh continues to shine in the duathlon (pictured), even winning the Senior Female category at the Worcester Duathlon event held at their

Lakeside campus with a time of 1hr 17m! All the sport has provided welcome relief from the pressure cooker that is assessments.

Finally, my thanks go out to our Sixth Formers for helping out with our new promotional video. They all looked very smart and were willing to get stuck in - we look forward to its release!

Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form

Boarding

It has been a busy start to the summer term in the boarding house, and lovely to have the houses full of boarders once again.

The focus for most students is firmly on revising for summer exams and assessments at the moment, and we are very pleased with how the boarders seem to be knuckling down to the hard work that is needed.

The good thing about boarding though, is that there is always room to squeeze in some fun too! The last two weekends have seen some glorious weather and we have really made the most of it, with a shopping trip to Hereford and also a trip to Blists Hill Victorian Museum. Here the children enjoyed traditional fish and chips, a look around some interesting Victorian shops (including the popular sweet shop!) and playing in the fairground. It was even warm enough to warrant a picnic lunch and slapping on some sun cream!

I think we are all appreciative of activities and being able to enjoy a little more freedom now things are beginning to get back to normal, but I would kindly remind parents of the rules for pupils staying at friends' houses etc at the weekend. Government guidelines clearly state that staying in the houses of others

is still not allowed due to Covid restrictions at the moment, so we are unable to allow boarders to stay at any house other than that of their own family or guardian.

Half term is already creeping up on us, and we would kindly request that parents inform us of travel and holiday arrangements as soon as possible. We understand that for many, travel restrictions and quarantining are still

causing difficulties. Please, therefore, let us know if you would find the option of us keeping the boarding house open a useful one. This will of course depend on student numbers, but we will certainly try to make things as simple as possible by staying open if numbers are viable.

Mrs Webb-Rogers, Head of Boarding



CCF



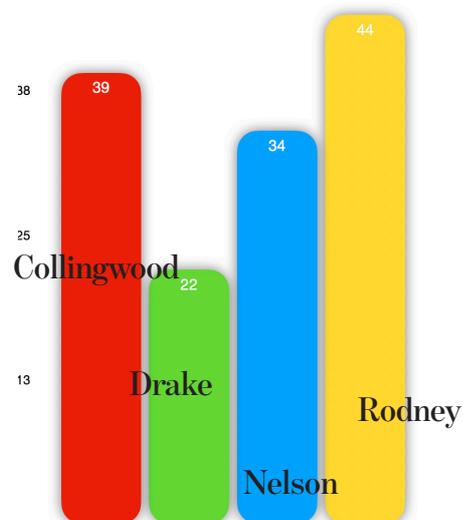
As you may know last week we had a film crew in school, filming for a new advertisement about the excellent qualities of Lucton School.

Like many a good film, there was a requirement for guns and smoke! Fortunately for Lucton School we have the means to provide such 'props' and were happy to oblige. Due to Health and Safety, fire balls and loud bangs were not allowed!

The cadets acted superbly throughout their time on camera and hopefully their efforts will be rewarded with starring roles in the final cut. If you know anyone who requires small extras for a remake of A Bridge Too Far you know where to come!

WO2 Rich Brown, SSI, Lucton School Cadet Contingent.

House Merit Totals



*Numbers accurate 7th May 2021

Sport



28th April 2021

On cue, at 2pm, but sadly, not before all cricket fixtures had been cancelled, the occlusion tracked southwards, the rain ceased and the sun shone weakly. With a cool breeze to dry the underfoot conditions, it was soon apparent that this cloud had a silver lining.

Making the most of the extra training time, the U16 and U14 cricket teams mixed and matched, as did the U13 girls cricket team, with productive training matches. Improved bowling, batting and fielding were clearly evident as players developed their understanding of the complexities of the game.

A return to winter sports was the name of the game for the Senior Girls, with a competitive netball tournament. Seven teams, playing together for the first time, quickly learnt the value of team work and versatility.

After a slow start, the play began to flow, with many fast attacking breaks and sharp shooting. The Sixth Form captains impressed with their leadership skills as they encouraged all players to perform to their potential.

After many (13 in total)

competitive rounds, despite a determined effort by Rebecca's team, Faith's team just edged into the lead to win the tournament.

5th May 2021

With dark, threatening cumulonimbus clouds towering over School Wood, normal service resumed for the girls, with a long awaited match; a rounders tournament; a round robin series of one innings of twenty good balls against Bedstone, which definitely sharpened the competitive appetite.

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As the hail held off, the U18s, with their impressive bowler (Annie), backstop (Faith) and first post (Molly) combination and solid team play from everyone, scored a respectable win against Bedstone. It was the first of several victories, with decisive hitting from Annie, Molly, Amelia, Faith, Hannah and Felicity. Despite their dominance, the U18s couldn't quite contain the U16s with their equally sharp bowler (Georgia), backstop (Jess W), first post (Katie), second post (Amber) combination, with superb hitting from Catherine, Millie, Katie and Jess.

There were many impressive fielding performances, excellent bowling from Tiffany, Connie and Scarlett, strong fielding from Ashleigh, Sophie, Daisy and Darcy, but none that quite matched Olivia's (U15) sudden leap from nowhere to retrieve a mistimed ball to fourth, for a crucial stumping. It was good to see many well timed and placed hits from Connie, Rosie and Olivia. Now we need to aim to hit harder and further! All in all, a positive start to the season.

Meanwhile, the Middle School went on a jaunt to The Elms. A very excited group of pupils had to pit their wits, guile and skill against three strong teams. Lucton's tenacity showed through as we battled on and showed good progress throughout the afternoon. The Year 7s, captained effectively by Sophie, opted to field first and it was soon obvious

that the ability to throw long, strong, accurate passes was crucial. Some excellent fielding in the second innings from Amelia J, Eno and Freya (Player of the Match) curtailed the rounders and although we lost to a well-prepared, big hitting team, much was learnt.

On the tennis courts the Sixth Form boys played their first tennis fixture against Bedstone, with Angus and Forbes playing doubles and Asier playing singles.

The fixture began with a tense, three set doubles match that went to the wire. Our boys took an early lead with some lovely shots and solid communication, taking the first set 6-2. Moving into the 2nd set the Bedstone boys started coming into their own, playing an array of shots and really getting a feel for the Lucton courts.

Angus and Forbes continued to play well but after a gruelling 12 games Bedstone took the second set in a 7-point tie-break game with Lucton only losing by 2 points. As it was one set a piece, the boys moved into their third set, a tense affair, with the hail coming down around them, as each team won alternative games, until they were back again at a tie-break match.

Although Angus and Forbes played strongly, the Bedstone boys just pipped them in the tie-break, winning 7 to 3, taking the final set 7-6. After a quick water break, Asier then took the court against

Bedstone's top player and, due to time-constraints, played one (exciting!) set.

Both boys played admirably with each pushing the other all over the court with varying shots and a keen eye for shot placement. Asier took the match in his stride with a strong start resulting in him going 5 games up. He only lost one game in the whole set, an excellent 6-1 win for Lucton.

Miss Shaw and Miss Holt were impressed with the boys performance, sportsmanship and game play in their first competitive match of the season.

Mrs Connop, Director of Sport

Lucton U13s 157 **Bedstone U13s 77-8**

The toss was won by the visitors, who elected to bowl first and therefore put Lucton into bat.

Jonathan D and Ollie D opened for Lucton. Some very accurate bowling from the visitors meant that the Lucton openers were soon dismissed and James H came to the crease.

Bedstone put the pressure on with some very good, straight bowling and dismissed the Lucton middle order very quickly; however, James managed to stick around and soon got into the groove and went on to score 101 before retiring.

James was backed up brilliantly by Zac T who scored

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30 before being dismissed towards the end of the innings. Lucton finished their innings on 157.

Lucton started fielding in a buoyant mood after the batting display and soon started taking wickets. Henry H took the first wicket with a fine delivery, which was caught by his older brother James. Bedstone settled, but some sharp fielding from Lucton meant the runs stayed low. George L came into the attack and took two quick wickets before Ted R starred and took 3-15 off 18 balls.

It was fantastic for the Middle School boys to get back to competitive games again and a win made it even better! Well done to the whole team!

Mr Leonard

Cricket Away Match



U14/15 Cricket XI v CCB (away)

We travelled with a light heart to CCB after our win two weeks ago.

Wales opened its doors to the English after months of lockdown and a very warm

welcome we received on arrival, in stark contrast to the weather which let rip a deluge of hail, covering the pitch in a layer of the white stuff! Would we play? Well, the CCB players rushed on the covers to keep most of the hail off the square and within 10 mins of the downpour we started, albeit with a white out-field.

We batted first and began brightly enough. Wickets tumbled regularly with only Nathan being able to stay at the crease and at 11 overs on 54 for 4 we should have built a respectable score, but with our main run scorers back in the pavilion, through poor shot choices (not through particularly great bowling) survival was the order of the day and that we did.

Only 8 runs were scored off the next 9 overs and a total of 68 for 7 was never going to be enough on a drying outfield. Sure enough, despite some tight bowling from Zac P and Josh T, Brecon reached our score with 9 overs and 8 wickets to spare.

We have a return fixture at home next week, and a chance for revenge. Their Welsh U15 all-rounder will be playing for their 1st XI so that should balance the teams up.

Well done Nathan for a good batting performance, but we need to have a greater desire to occupy the crease and score runs whilst there! Good practice brings good performance on the field of

play!

Mr Cowley

Rounders

The U13 girls had their first rounders match of the term on Wednesday. We travelled to play the Elms on what looked like to be a lovely afternoon of sunshine.

The Lucton girls batted first, expertly captained by Sophie D. We played 30 good balls and displayed some sound, consistent batting skills. The girls are now learning how to try and place the ball which allowed a number of half rounders to be scored.

The Elms had a strong fielding side which prevented our girls from breaking through enough to score a full rounder. At the end of their batting innings the girls took to the field. We had some strong, consistent bowling from Amy-Rose S and some safe fielding by Hannah W and Isla W. The Elms had some reliable batters who were able to place the ball in a more consistent manner than Lucton, which allowed them to notch up a fair few rounders.

During the second innings we mixed our team up a little. Although we did not manage to break through the Elms' fielding and gain any rounders, we showed some good connection with the ball throughout. Lucton fielded much better in the second innings and managed to curtail

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the Elms' number of rounders to a third of the first innings. Penny R made 3 fantastic catches and Hannah W was named Player of the Match for her excellent left handed batting and fielding. Overall a thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all and we even managed to dodge the hail storm!

Miss Daughtrey



Equestrian

Last week a few of the Year 11 CCF recruits had a try at lunging a horse at the school yard under the guidance of Miss Coates and Miss Quick.

All the boys listened well to the instructions and managed to successfully have Alfie go over poles in a circle, trot and canter. Alfie thoroughly enjoyed all the attention too.

On Sunday May 2nd Lucton School hosted the Vale of Arrow Riding Club for their dressage competition.

Open to members and non-members the school had three familiar faces entered. Emily-Grace rode Mouse in the juniors Intro A and B tests placing 3rd and 2nd. Mrs Goode rode Storm in the seniors Intro A and B tests coming 4th and 2nd. Miss Quick rode Alfie in the Prelim 2 and 13 tests and was just pipped to the podium by a few



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marks.

The weather remained pleasant so that all competitors were able to fully enjoy the day. Well done everyone.

Miss Quick



Lucton Equestrian Team Update

With lockdown starting to ease it has meant that we are all able to start training and competing again, with the first team event this weekend being the NSEA Eventer Challenge at Kings Equestrian.

We have individual riders in the Grassroots sections jumping at 50cm and 60cm and two teams in the 75cm and 85cm classes, which are also qualifiers for the Championships at Hickstead in May.

Some of our team riders have already been out and about with their ponies. Henry competed in show jumping last week with his new horse Rosie and won the class. Amelia also took part in the Pony Club racing at Cheltenham, achieving a fantastic 5th place.

We are looking forward to competitions over the coming months and getting back to some kind of normality, if such a thing exists anymore!

Mrs Lawry

Ex-Lucton Student Celebrates His 93rd Birthday!

We were recently contacted by Jessica, the granddaughter of ex-pupil, John Bruford, who has recently celebrated his 93rd birthday!

It is safe to say that the School has changed a fair bit since John was a pupil; however, he has kept a keen interest in developments over the years through our annual Luctonian publication.

Jessica comments that John's eyes still light up when he recalls his time at Lucton during the war; often singing "It wasn't the Yanks that won the war; Lucton cadets were here before!".

We wish John all the best and hope that he enjoyed a fantastic 93rd birthday!

From all at Lucton School

