

Lucton News

FROM THE EDITOR
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MIDDLE SCHOOL
SENIOR SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
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May 21st 2021
Issue 29



From the Editor



We began the conversation regarding the production of a new promotional video back in September 2020.

Several years ago we had a series of videos produced documenting various areas of the school; however, they had begun to look a little out of date and were certainly in need of a make-over.

We were keen to produce a video that was narrative-based, that captured the unique character of the school and its students without merely resorting to a crude montage of the facilities and a drone shot of the campus, as so many school videos seem to do. With that in mind, we approached a leading film company called Affixius, which is renowned for its work not just in education, but also in commercial television adverts. Indeed, theirs is often the first name to crop up whenever the need for high-end promotional content is required.

Having conducted extensive

research into Lucton, including time spent touring the school and in conversation with staff, students, and parents, Managing Director Miles Latham pitched several really interesting and engaging ideas to us. All those at the presentation agreed, however, that the idea of "Quiet Confidence" was the one to pursue. Miles had been struck by the unassuming self-confidence of our students during his visits to the school, and we agreed with him that it was a trait within young people that we can be justly proud of developing, given the opportunities and challenges that they can expect to meet in their lives. So, if you were curious as to the origin of the "Quiet Confidence" strap-line that appears on our new website, now you know!

The brand video is actually

just one of four, albeit the biggest, being produced over the next couple of months. In addition to two supplementary videos profiling the boarding and international student experience at Lucton, there will also be a partial re-edit of the brand video, tweaked very slightly for the international market. These videos will have a multitude of uses including aiding the promotion of our upcoming Open Days (1 to 1 tours) on June 15th and 17th, in addition to being a useful marketing tool for our international agents.

The original plan was to shoot the video last November, to coincide with the release of our new website; an ambitious, even audacious idea with hindsight, considering the global situation. Needless to say, the new COVID restrictions introduced at



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the start of that month made filming impossible. It was then rescheduled, not once, not twice, but three times, finally commencing last month.

It was worth the wait as an abundance of superb footage was captured over the five days that the crew were here. From cadets charging through a smoke-filled wood, to dry ice volcanoes, and the world's most enthusiastic school band, the students approached the project with gusto and I hope you'll agree that this natural exuberance shines through in the film!

Naturally, with so much excellent material in the can, difficult decisions had to be made during the editing process. There is the possibility, therefore, that some of the unused footage will appear in future videos. Anyone who isn't featured this time should keep his or her eyes peeled in future!



I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Rogers for assisting with the filming, and of course the staff and students, without whose support this project wouldn't have been possible. Enjoy the film!

<https://youtu.be/QEYkymexw7E>

Mr Norton



Prep School



Year 4W definitely got us thinking, this week on the subject of the Ascension.

They explored the ideas of friendship and how friendship changes over time. They also sang Wild World by Cat Stevens. Through poetry and performance, Year 4W showed us the value of Friendship. They explored the story of the Ascension, explaining the importance of this to Christians, but leaving the punchline until Whitsun or Pentecost. Thank you, Year 4 for exploring both these topics.

I don't often single out individuals for public praise, but in this case, I am definitely going to make an exception. Year 5 are learning about the

USA. As we all know, there are 50 states in America. Learning all of them is quite a feat. Learning all of them and correctly placing them on a blank map, gets better. But learning all of them, placing them and doing that in six minutes; well that takes some beating. If you ever need to 'phone a friend' about the states of America then I'd plump for Isabel. 6 minutes... wow!

Even though we haven't quite made it to freedom of all restrictions and we wait to see whether 21st June really will bring all that has been suggested, restrictions have loosened enough to make school feel as if we are back to normal. We galivant through

the woods during Forest School, mix up paints in the Art Room (you should see the finished painting-collage of Captain Tom, by Year 5), throw parachutes off the fire escape and get down to the nitty-gritty of protractors (having two sets of numbers is very confusing). But school isn't all about that; we need to celebrate our other possibilities as well. Miss Penny has been drilling her charges ready for the Ballet Assembly, next week. Given that the last one was Swan Lake, then she has certainly set the bar high.

Keeping with music, did you know that Year 5 pupils learn an instrument as part of the curriculum? It is a two-year programme as we believe that

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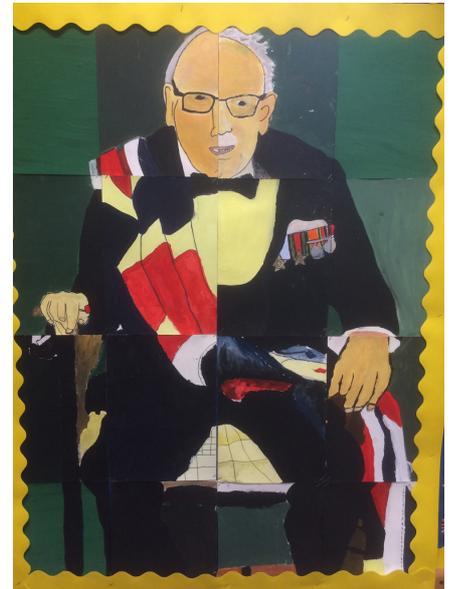
learning to play an instrument really helps in all aspects of learning, as well as the fact that it is really relaxing to play an instrument and also, there is the 'cool' factor to consider. We will be having concerts and Music Assemblies in the Autumn Term when you can see the fruits of their labours. There are, of course, individual instrumental lessons in almost everything. Drop the Office a line to find out more.

Meanwhile, our Pony Club has gone into the stratosphere with over 17 keen equestrians signed up. Aside from the cost of the subscription to the Club and the cost of the badges, this is, essentially, free. The children love it and it is not all about horse maintenance. There is the countryside code,

bird identification, camping, equine behaviour, farming, field safety, road safety, and so on. Should you be interested, take a look at the website <https://pcuk.org/achievement-badges/> and let us know if you would like a taster before committing fully.

And then there is our beloved Drama lessons or LAMDA lessons that can, if you keep to it, take you into the realms of UCAS points. But, at this age, it is more a matter of confidence building, sight reading and dressing up and acting out mini plays.

Yes, we are back to normal - almost - and soon we will be able to welcome you in to take a proper look around to remind you of what we do, but



I hope this helps. You might like to take a look at our new promotional video that neatly sums us up. Quiet Confidence indeed.

Mr David Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep

Nursery

Well, all this rain and wind certainly doesn't keep us down.

All togged up, the youngest members of Lucton take daily walks through our grounds, investigating and exploring. Do you know how many slugs there are at the moment?

Mr Bicker-Caarten



Middle School

It was a delight to see Year 6 involved in an interesting ICT project to make posters about lessons that have inspired them this week.

A range of different topics were chosen, from The Black Death, their history topic, Microbes in science, to "The Ghost of Thomas Kempe", a recent reading book in English. What really impressed me too was how much Year 6 has grown in terms of their ICT literacy. Pupils can cut and paste, use fills and backgrounds, interesting fonts and borders, not to mention saving their files efficiently in folders. It is certainly a positive outcome from their period of lockdown learning, when all of us needed to polish and improve our IT skills. Let's hope we can continue to harness these new-found capabilities in the Middle School.

Year 7 has recently been thinking about foreign language learning and its importance. They took the opportunity to put themselves in the shoes of our overseas, non-native English speakers and imagined how difficult it must be to have all your lessons in a second language. Our Norwegian pupil, Theo, kindly volunteered to give a lesson in Norwegian; see separate report.

Year 8 students have been focussing on the written and spoken word, in Form Time. It was super to take some of them to the library this week and to listen to them exchanging recommendations of books to read. We have so many amazing new books in the library now, and the wealth of choice is impressive! We have also introduced a "word of the day" to improve our vocabulary. So far this week

we have had trepidation, tangible, apparatus and endeavour. Anyone who manages to use these words during lessons receives a merit!

Our Norwegian lesson:

On Friday, Theo agreed to teach his form some Norwegian during the Spanish class. He did an excellent job and taught the class for the entire lesson! He taught us some greetings and pronunciation rules and had the whole class practising their new expressions. He also showed us some pictures of his home town and the beautiful Norwegian landscape and fjords. We all agreed that Theo did a fabulous job and would make a wonderful teacher, someday!

Mrs Bassett, Head of Middle School

Lucton's New Weather Station

We are pleased to announce that Lucton School now has a new weather station.

This will be a useful additional tool for, specifically, science and geography education, and helpful to the sports department in gauging if the pitches are playable in the winter or whether it is going

to rain when planning sports fixtures. We hope that it will be of general interest to a wider audience, allowing parents to see what the weather is doing at Lucton School and even plan what their children need to wear according to actual weather on site.

The weather station measures temperature, rainfall rate and accumulations, wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, dewpoint, relative humidity (RH) and the website carries an integrated map showing rainfall and wind direction, this also includes other stations nearby and

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further afield for further interest.

So, feel free to visit the website link below and start learning about our local weather.

<https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/ILEOM10>

Mr Beeden



Senior School

Move aside Warren Buffet, our Year 10s have taken to the stock market!

The \$100 000 may have been virtual, but our annual Virtual Stock Exchange Game is being played out with real figures in real companies. Each year in Economics, the Year 10s study the Stock Market and get the chance to trade online in a league against each other.

They have been familiarising themselves with terms such as 'floatation', 'acquisition', 'portfolio' and 'share index' whilst simultaneously reading financial data to plot their next investments. As of the time of writing, Sameer is top of the league with a net worth of \$101 686.85 on a \$100 000 investment, in just a day. Not bad for a day's work!

Mr Wolstenholme

Sameer

NET WORTH
\$101,205.11

TODAY'S GAINS
1.69%

OVERALL GAINS
\$1,205.11

CASH REMAINING ?
\$0.00

BUYING POWER ?
\$75,170.15

SHORT RESERVE ?
\$0.00

PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION



Player Portfolio

SORT BY

Most Value

SYMBOL SHARES	% HOLDINGS TYPE	PRICE CHG/CHG %
NET 1,000 SHARES	55% BUY	\$69.59 -2.84 -3.92%
TSLA 50 SHARES	22% BUY	\$555.54 -22.33 -3.86%
GOOGL 5 SHARES	9% BUY	\$2,246.00 -16.47 -0.73%

MOSY	\$4.96	LIXT	\$3.07	SURF	\$8.75	PXLW
▲ 30.87%	1.17	▼ -4.60%	-0.15	▼ -2.34%	-0.21	▼ -0.0

Sixth Form



With final assessments on the horizon now, our Year 13s have been studying diligently and will finally be seeing light at the end of the tunnel.

It will soon be the Year 12s' turn to feel the heat, with end of year exams on the horizon. No doubt our Year 13s would impress upon our Year 12s the need to continuously keep on top of notes and revision, throughout the A level course, as it goes quickly and there is

great depth to cover.

I'm sure all of the Sixth Formers are looking forward to our end of year dinner too; I know preparations are already in place with menus, with a new theme on offer this year. We traditionally have a slide-show presentation with snippets and highlights of the Year 13s' time at Lucton, and I'm looking forward to seeing that. There has also been much chatter about what to

wear, amongst the students; always a cause of grave debate.

In other news around the Sixth Form, it was lovely to hear how Annie, Keira and Megan all grouped together to make a card and provide a cake for Mr Warren's big birthday (I won't mention numbers, though the picture may give it away). Having been taught by Mr Warren since Year 3, they wanted to express their thanks and gratitude for all he had done for them. This, I think, is a wonderful illustration of the benefits of a through-school, and the type of student Lucton helps mould and shape. I know Mr Warren was very touched, too; perhaps at times we forget just how influential our teachers are throughout our lives.

Finally, I'll finish with a nod to the future, as is the theme for our assemblies this term. Mrs Mathie took the talk this week, and we were all fascinated by visions of the future from a range of historical sources including the Ancient Greeks, Da Vinci, Nostradamus and Orwell. The message, however, was to use the past to help inform our decision-making in the future - especially useful for our Year 13s as they soon head out to pastures new.

Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form

Boarding



I can't believe that half term is almost upon us!

The last few weeks have passed by in a flurry of studying and end of year exams, and for many of our students leaving for university, their time in Lucton is nearly at an end. Whilst there is a lot of hard work going on in the evenings, there is also fun to be had.

As life gets slowly back to normal and more attractions are opening up, our programme of weekend activities is also springing back into life. We try to get the boarders out and about each weekend and run some fabulous, varied trips. Whilst

this has not been possible for much of this year, over the past few weeks we have certainly made up for it.

This half term we have gone wild at the West Midlands Safari Park, lived as Victorians for the day at Blists Hill and last week, shopped till we dropped in Worcester. With a trip to the cinema planned for this weekend, there is never a dull moment in boarding!

Sometimes, however, old fashioned fun is best; I thought that the Year 9 students were up to mischief as they were so quiet this evening, but no, they were just enjoying a quiet game of Monopoly!

Please can I remind all parents to let us know travel and holiday plans as soon as possible, so we can make any arrangements for buses and transport in good time.

Mrs Webb-Rogers, Head of Boarding

Sport



It was 1pm, the end of morning lessons, and as in some bygone era, a fleet of minibuses was set ready to depart for matches. Off they went with many excited passengers, eager to make the most of this opportunity.

Time is a funny concept and although it may have been 61 weeks since our last netball fixture, there was sense of déjà vu as the U18s travelled to Hereford for a long-awaited match. With a new set of irksome rules – 4ft instead of 3ft for marking and no contested ball – the girls started tentatively, with HSFC quickly taking advantage of our hesitancy to take an

early lead. Some impressive defending from Faith and slick attacking moves from Catherine, Annie (player of the match) and Georgia, soon addressed the situation as Lucton resolve helped us dig deep.

By half time, the scores were level, and a very even game of cat and mouse ensued, as each team made steals, and took advantage of attacking situations to score goals. The end result, a 27-26 victory to HSFC, was a fair outcome. Against a slick, tall, well drilled team, we played well and at times looked impressive and will, with a few focused training sessions, iron out the

errors that crept into our game. It was, though, so good to get back on the court and play a competitive match.

Mrs Connop, Director of Sport



U16 cricket v CCB

As the sun shone, Lucton won the toss against CCB and elected to field; a wise move.

Finn opened the bowling with a fine maiden and finished with an impressive 1-3 from three tightly bowled overs. With nine

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members of the team able to bowl, good wickets from Jamie, Kian and Kennedy and some great fielding from Dami, CCB had to work hard for their score of 121-4.

Skipper Jack led by example and anchored the chase with a hard hitting 70, before Finn (19 not out) and Jamie (9 not out) clinched victory, with 7 wickets and 10 overs to spare. Jamie won the game with a most impressive hit for six. A great result indeed!



Mrs Connop



Earlier this week, the Middle School Girls cricket team travelled to Cathedral School for a tournament.

It was a beautiful sunny day with lots of good cricket played. This was the girls' first ever experience of formal match play and they were brilliant! The girls were an absolute credit to Lucton, showing great determination, attitude and manners.

They came runners up and they can be seen with their medals in the photograph! Outstanding performances came from Penny R (for her bowling and taking Lucton's first ever wicket!) and Scarlett B and Maggie E (for some

doughty batting). A great all-round team performance. Well done, girls; you can be very proud!

Miss Jones



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The U13 girls travelled to Moor Park to play their second rounders match of the season.

Under the brilliant captaincy of Maggie E, Lucton fielded first against a strong Moor Park team. A few mis-timed throws resulted in Moor Park scoring a reasonable amount of rounders in their first innings.

Lucton acquitted themselves quite well in their first batting innings with Hannah W and Scarlett B managing to score

2 brilliant rounders between them. After some good fielding by Moor Park, Hazel E was left as the last player standing in the first innings and had to face 3 very fast paced balls. She handled the pressure brilliantly and managed a good hit on her third and final ball.

After a mix up of players, most notably the changing of bowler and backstop, Lucton managed to field with much more confidence. Penny R took a magnificent catch and the

girls tightened up their fielding to prevent Moor Park from scoring as many full rounders in their 2nd innings. Although Lucton didn't manage a win this time, lots of improvement was shown by all. Hannah W was crowned batter of the match for a second time in a row and Scarlett B was named fielder of the match.

Mrs Daughtrey



U15 Cricket v Aylestone at Pentland Gardens (County Cup) 20-20 bash.

On one of the best afternoons of this term – warm, dry and a bright yellow orb in the sky – we were at Pentland Gardens eager to play in the first round of the County knockout tournament. After a very thorough warm up, we looked focused and up for the match.

With Aylestone batting first, we struggled to get our length right on the artificial wicket, where even a good length ball was bouncing over the stumps, so a lot of deliveries

that beat the bat were also flying over the bails. Charlie R, our goalkeeper turned wicket keeper, was solid behind the stumps, which was not easy, given the high bounce. To his credit, he conceded only one bye throughout the innings.

The Aylestone openers rode their luck against our opening attack and their promising Afghani import scored two consecutive towering sixes in a row off Joel, who then bowled him middle stump next ball, essentially ending their hopes of amassing a significant score. Aylestone's total was further restricted by

tight bowling from Tom Wall (4 overs, 0 for 0!) and two run outs from some slick fielding.

With wickets distributed amongst several of our bowlers, the opposition's total of 85 was never going to be enough. Our opening pair of Charlie R and Joel began steadily against some very good bowling from their opener, who was quick, accurate and moving the ball in the air, keeping their wickets intact and defusing any early pressure.

Although Charlie was dropped in the eighth over, his solid

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defence and Joel's ability to manufacture shots and read the game very well, for example by turning singles into twos, kept the score board ticking over.

In the end, we won by 10 wickets with 8.4 overs to spare. Well done, boys, on a good all-round performance! There is a caveat, however; we must improve the accuracy of our bowling. As in our previous two matches, far too many runs were conceded from wides – indeed, in this instance half of Aylestone's final score came from wide balls!

Mr Cowley



Our first tennis match in this much anticipated LTA schools tournament was against King's School, Worcester.

We started off with a round of doubles, with Joel and Zac taking on their 1 & 2 seeds whilst Nathan and Charlie took on seeds 3 & 4. Immediately we could see that these were going to be very closely contested matches, and many unusually long rallies ensued.

Joel and Zac didn't quite hit their stride and narrowly lost their rubber, whilst Nathan and Charlie managed to battle on, dig deep and get the win, 7-5!

In the singles, buoyed by their performances in the doubles, Nathan and Charlie really piled on the pressure, serving well in both their matches, playing out many long points, retrieving many seemingly impossible balls and driving the ball well.

Nathan got a win, while Charlie, who did play very well, was let down a little by his service game and lost 2-4. Finally, Joel and Zac found their rhythm in their singles matches, mixing it up with slices, volleys and some successful lobbing to win both matches!

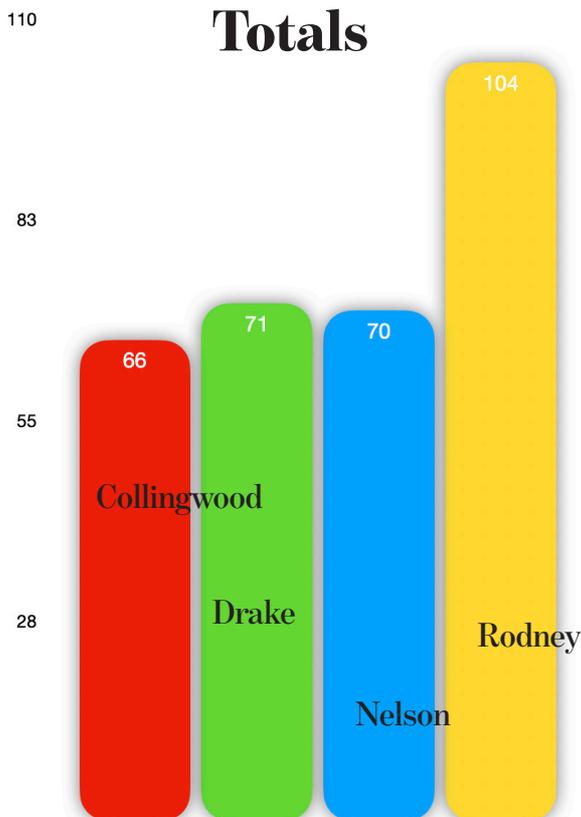
Their wins were really well-

deserved as play these last two matches was hampered by a torrential downpour. This must have been the wettest tennis fixture I have ever experienced! Well done to our fab four and we look forward greatly to the next match!

Final result: Lucton won 8 – 4

Mrs Bassett

House Merit Totals



*Numbers accurate 21st May 2021