

# Lucton News

PREP SCHOOL  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SENIOR SCHOOL  
SIXTH FORM  
SPORT

June 18th 2021  
Issue 32



# From the Heads



**The news that the government has decided to maintain COVID restrictions for a further period came as no surprise to us, but we were as disappointed by it as no doubt many of you were.**

As you are aware, we felt obliged immediately to abandon our plans for our traditional Speech Day and Prize Giving, and the loss of what is, in many ways, the pinnacle of the Lucton year was a great blow. We remain determined, however, both to celebrate publicly the achievements of our students and to gather together as a

community, albeit in a safe, responsible and COVID-secure fashion.

To this end, we are looking at holding a simple outdoor Prize Giving ceremony followed by family picnics on the Holland on the last day of term.

Naturally, these events will be weather-dependent and we will also need to ensure that we “do our bit” to ensure a COVID-safe environment. Nevertheless, the regulations allow for outdoor gatherings of this type, we are confident that we can rely on the support

and common sense of all involved, and we are fortunate that the medium term weather forecast is looking good. It will be wonderful if we can pull this off and the end the term on a really positive note!

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





# Prep School



**Year 2H took us all back to the days of the pirates. I am sure that you must have been taught about Blackbeard and the tapers in his beard or about Anne Bonny, who 'shot as well as a man'. Well, it is safe to say that 2H really got into the swing of things!**

We learnt that pirates had a code of conduct, including no fighting on deck and going to bed by 8:00pm, although I'm fairly sure that the latter wasn't stuck to! We learnt that pirates worked as a team; however, punishments were severe and a number of our pirates had to walk the plank. 2H have obviously enjoyed learning about them and I'm pleased to see that the famous ones are still famous. Well done, 2H.

Last week also saw a special event! In fact, our aquathlon was the first event since March 2020 where we could invite parents to come and watch. Thanks to Mr Warren and Ray (our superb groundsman) for a) organising the event and b) organising the track, and even the weather gods were kind. We all had a great time and it was lovely having you all in to come and watch. Thank you. The overall winner was Collingwood, who won Pre-Prep and Prep. But, actually, the overall winners were the children.

Friday saw a first: Year 1 children camping overnight. Yes, I admit I was a doubter. It couldn't work. The children would all want to go home. But

no! A resounding success all round; even I enjoyed it! There is a full report elsewhere so I will use this opportunity to say thanks.

Thanks to the CCF for constructing a fantastic assault course, thanks to Mr Brown for putting up the biggest tent I've ever seen, thanks to Mrs Rees for being there all evening and then first thing in the morning, thanks to Mr Rogers for entertaining us all with absolutely classic campfire songs, thanks to the parents for trusting us to look after your most precious charges, but, most of all, thank you Ms Chapman for forging ahead and never losing faith. It worked and it was great. I suspect (fear?) that this will be

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an annual event!

The weather has been brilliant and the Friends of Lucton have been busy selling ice creams and lollies on Fridays. This has been a great success and there is only one more Friday to go! My goodness time does pass quickly.

Next week we have Induction Day on Tuesday and Sports Day/Afternoon on Thursday. Covid regulations are still in force so this will be a track event without field events so that mingling is reduced, but it is still an EVENT and you may come and watch. Phew! That will do for now. See you all next week!

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

## Year 1 Go Camping

**We talked and wondered, worried and planned; then suddenly it was Friday afternoon and time to begin our camping adventure!**

From beginning to end the children, Mr. Bicker-Caarten, Jenny and I had a great time. After eating our packed dinner from home, we made our cosy beds in the tent and then settled on our log seats around the campfire to sing songs and toast marshmallows, all accompanied by Mr. Rogers' wonderful guitar playing.

Then, full of energy, we dashed



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off to tackle the assault course that had been built for us by Major Derrigan and the CCF (Lucton's Combined Cadet Force). The competition was keen and Jenny timed everyone.

Next, we were off for an evening stroll through the woods and the field and a paddle in the stream, bravely ignoring the odd nettle sting and wellie full of water. Once back at the campsite it was into our PJs and brushing our teeth, then around the campfire where we sang into the night, waving our torches until eyelids were beginning to droop. A few stories at bedtime and silence . . .

We woke up to a beautiful summer morning, dressed, munched on strawberries and raspberries and then, off to

## Nursery Sports Day

**Another event that parents, and grandparents, could come to. It was absolutely delightful and superbly organised by the Nursery Team.**

I am always pleased to be invited to this and see our youngest, and smallest, members of the Lucton Community have such fun. And 'Fun' was the main point of the event. We had Teddy Bear Races, egg and spoon (with the egg stuck to the spoon) and beanbag races. It was a beautifully sunny morning and



collect firewood for cooking breakfast and everyone ate their bacon, sausage, egg and toast with a very hearty appetite and William decided that this was definitely 'a real camp!'

energy for one more go at the assault course. Then, all too soon it was time to go home but I will confidently say that we all want to do it again!

**Mrs. Chapman**

Once everyone had packed their kit there was still enough



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this just made it even more special. Perhaps because we haven't been able to gather as much as before makes, these new gatherings are even more poignant? No. We always enjoy them and let's hope we can continue to do so.

**Mr Bicker-Caarten**



# Middle School

**Year 8 Pupils had a marvellous time at Oaker Wood on their residential trip with the CCF.**

Students were involved in a whole range of activities including rafting on the lake, trench crawling and a really fun high-rope climbing activity. Camouflage concealment was also a highlight, which involved painting each other's faces and inventive use of leaves to hide behind. I was told that the greatest game of hide and seek ever ensued afterwards!

Those who had done a good job could not even be spotted by Miss Griffiths in the open area. Stealth and an ability to stay still was an absolute must! All agreed that the paintballing activity was probably one of the most fun events of the experience. Well done to all Year 8s; Major Derrigan said that your behaviour was exemplary!

**Mrs Bassett, Head of Middle School**



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# Lizards!

Presently, the Year 8s are reading "Holes" by Louis Sachar in their English lessons.

The prep over half term was to read the description of yellow spotted lizards, and then create a lizard that meets the parameters in whatever medium they choose. I was thrilled by the pupils' careful reading and creativity - the results of which have made a fantastic display for my classroom.



Raffie's was the winning lizard, as it was both beautiful and met all of the criteria, but all pupils should be commended

on their hard work – fantastic!

**Mrs Webb-Rogers**

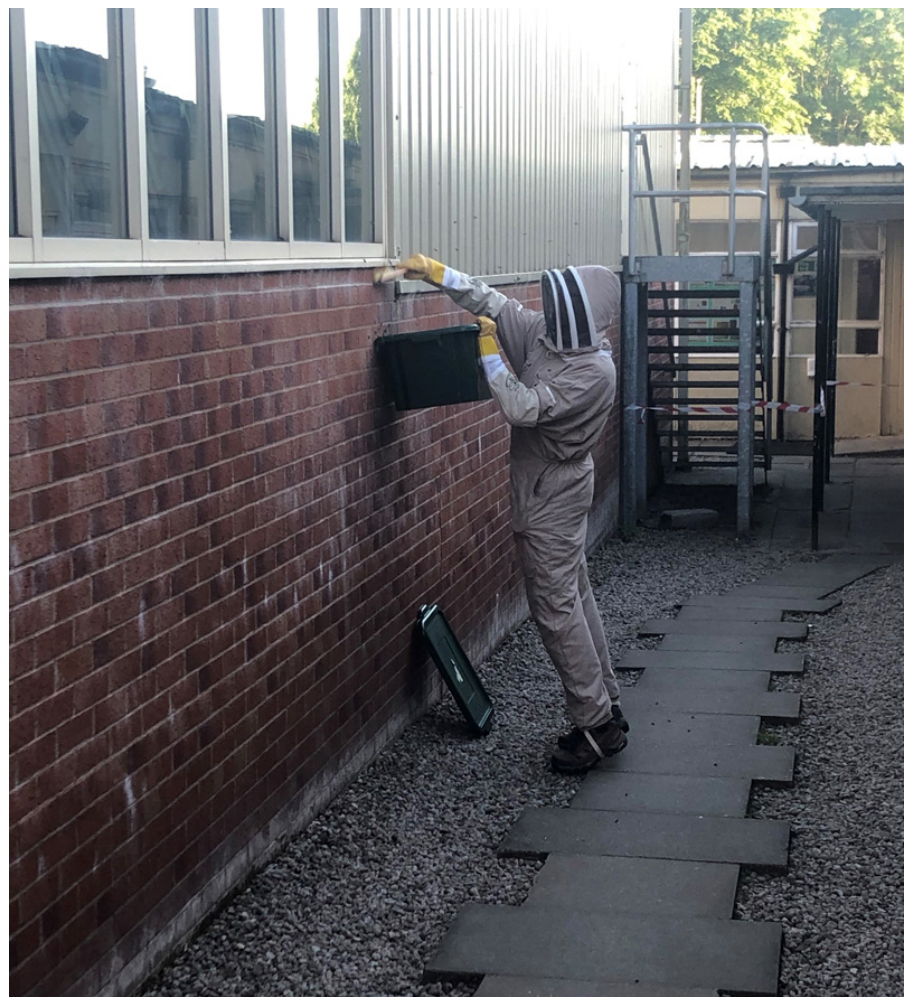
# Bees!

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr Berry discovered that a swarm of bees had decided to settle under a window ledge on the swimming pool building.

This seemed an unusual and highly unsuitable new home for all concerned, so I was called to the scene and swiftly swept the honey bees into a box and carried them off to start a new life in a hive near Ludlow!

Initial reports state that the bees are settling in nicely. We eagerly anticipate the first batch of Lucton's own honey!

**Mrs Bassett**





# Senior School

On the Friday before half-term the traditional afternoon tea for Year 11 was held in the Queen Anne Dining Room.

The catering staff put on an amazing spread, there were (short!) speeches and votes of thanks and some activities to record the students' favourite memories.

It was a lovely celebration of our students' time at Lucton. Mrs Niblett was also there to present CCF awards to Tim W and Tom M (pictured). With the Dinner to be held next Saturday, we feel that we have really been able to round off this challenging year for Year 11s in a positive, joyous way. Well done to all involved!

**Mrs Goode, Head of Senior School**





# Sixth Form

**It's been a full week here in the Sixth Form, with our new Year 12s settling in quickly and our Year 13s making the most of the post-assessment period.**

Starting with the new Year 12s; I have been really pleased with how they have taken to life in the Sixth Form, and there is no doubt that they will benefit greatly from, and contribute greatly too, all that we do here. The response of School Leaders nationally to the government's education catch up plan following COVID records that over 70% of teachers believe that one-to-one and small group teaching is vital. We already do that at Lucton as a matter of course! Already I have heard of exciting lessons from the students - experiments involving pond water, electricity and even blood (though obviously not all at once!), data manipulation and 'nudge theory' economics, and snippets of Beckett and poetry amongst others.

Our Year 13s meanwhile have been learning valuable life lessons. I saw some interesting looking omelettes on display, and some excellent looking flatbreads, give or take one or two! There has been CV writing and button sewing, presentation skills and even chess, with plenty more to come. It has been a real pleasure to see just how quickly they have taken to it,

and I know Mrs Mathie has plenty more ideas, ready to continue for next week. What has been most pleasing on the elements of the course I have taught so far has been just how mature and appreciative our students have been. They have engaged well with the material and had some really good discussions as a result.

And then finally on to our Year 12s, who have been receiving their end of year test results this week. I know they are now combing through them, and looking to work on any areas that need rectifying. Again, great credit must go to them for the calm manner in which they have dealt with the pressures of exams, given all the disruption they've endured this year.

This week also marked

something of a rite of passage in that the Year 12s registered with UCAS. They are now officially planning for life after Lucton. How quickly the time flies in the Sixth Form!

Overall a really good week, and we look forward to the next, with a lot still to come!

**Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form**





# Sport

## England Rounders Tournament at Luctonians

**The heat is on...!! Quite literally, as the sun rose high in the sky, Lucton's senior rounders team had a baptism of fire when playing England's U17 side in the first round of a tournament hosted by the English national association at Luctonians.**

After a hesitant start in the field, the girls gradually settled and became less in awe of the big-hitting England players. Although we lost the first match 18 -3½, some tenacious batting from Rachel, Sophie and Catherine kept us in the game. A rest, some tactical discussion and a second match against Lacon Lightnings proved just how resilient the girls are. Superb bowling from Georgia, great catches from Olivia and Jess W, plus slick backstop (Scarlett P) and first post links meant that Molly piled on the pressure with several crucial stumpings, curtailing Lacon to seven rounders; an achievable target.

Lucton set off at pace, with excellent batting from Jess, Scarlett, Catherine and Tiphany as we chipped away at the target and then passed it to

amass a match-winning 11½ rounders. Having regained confidence, the next match was extremely close. Lucs Aces batted first and despite tight fielding, three stumpings at first post, and solid catches from Scarlett and Sophie, some late rounders lifted their score to 8½.

We began positively with the batters finding the sweet spot and the gaps in the field. At the half-way stage the tension mounted as we were close to equalling their score and some timely rounders from Jess W and Jess C, plus canny decisions from Rachel, kept us in the game with a crucial rounder scored off the last ball of the match to clinch the game.

Next up was Lady Hawkins.

With confidence high, some outstanding batting and fielding, especially Olivia's three outstanding catches, from the whole team gave us a comfortable 12-4 win. Although the final game against national U15 was always going to be tough, Lucton won praise from the England coaches for their teamwork, both on and off the field. With Molly leading the team in a calm and mature manner, it was so good to see how much they had learnt during the day. Their fielding in this last match was much slicker and Georgia's bowling was first class; hardly a no ball in sight! Whilst England scored 16 rounders, we responded positively, sneaking the quick half rounder as often as possible, speeding around the posts to score a respectable



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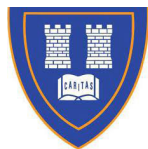


seven rounders.

A great performance on a really enjoyable day. To finish third overall against strong opposition was impressive. The girls flew the Lucton flag with pride; Floreat Luctona!

**Mrs Connop, Director of Sport**

## Girls Cricket vs Bedstone



**The sun was shining on Wednesday as our Year 9 girls prepared to play their first ever cricket match against a more experienced Bedstone team.**

We won the toss and elected to field first. We started strongly with Scarlett opening the bowling and taking the first Lucton wicket of the game with only her sixth ball. Some excellent and accurate bowling followed by Daisy, Darcy and Myra; all taking two wickets each. Harriet ran in at the end of the innings, bowling the last over with such enthusiasm! When it was our turn to bat, Daisy was our top scorer, smashing four boundaries. We also witnessed some excellent batting by Dolly, Rachel and Darcy in what was a really promising performance in their first ever game.

**Miss Jones**

## A County Cricket Champion

**Months of cricket practice and training with both Herefordshire and Worcestershire paid off for James H in Year 8 when he was selected to play for Worcestershire County Under 13s against Warwickshire in a forty over match on Tuesday.**

In fact, James had three really good matches this week, over two days, which included his match debut for Worcestershire County away at Enville CC. Unfortunately, James who was number 5 in the batting order, didn't get to bat as the team hit 40 overs before he was needed, but he did impress with his bowling and fielding in what turned out to be a very tight match, with Worcestershire, who amassed 191, winning by just three runs. It was an excellent first high-level county cricket match for James in extremely hot conditions!



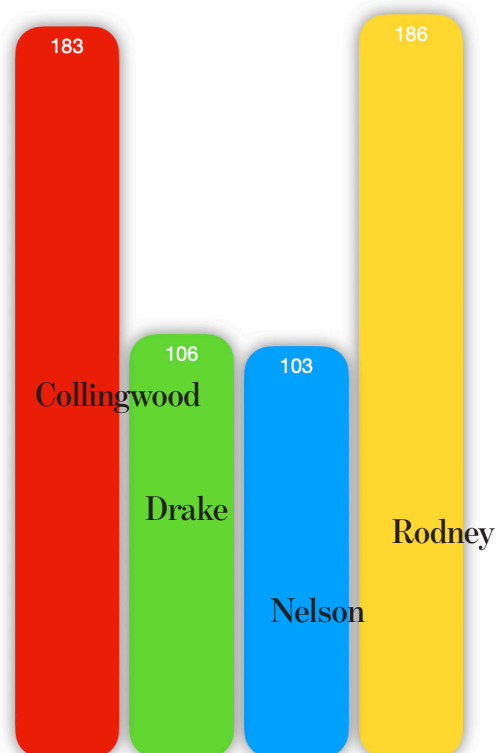
James then raced back to Eastnor for an Under 13s Club match against Colwall, which Eastnor won. James scored 28 runs and took 2 wickets.

On Monday, the successful week began with his club Under 15s match against Wormelow in which James hit 44 runs and took 4 wickets.

What a star!

**Mrs Philpotts**

## House Merit Totals



\*Numbers accurate 18th June 2021