

Lucton News

PREP SCHOOL
MIDDLE SCHOOL
SENIOR SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
SPORT
EQUESTRIAN

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Issue 33



Prep School



What a fantastic end to a term and a year! It has been really great seeing so many families at different events as we approached the end of term. So, a general round-up before we put the school under dust covers until August/September.

It might seem like months ago but in reality, it was only two weeks ago that we held our second Sports Day (the previous week being Nursery Sports Day). Again, well attended by excited parents and grandparents - I can't quite decide who was more enthralled to be there, the children or their supporters. In fact, I think both, one because they could finally attend an event and the other because

they could actually have supporters??

The weather held fine and we were off for an afternoon of track events; our fine athletes led out by the mighty Reception Class. 50m suddenly seems like miles but they lapped it up. Sprints for each year group were rounded off with some shuttle relays. Cheers rang out across the sports field. Then it was the turn of Years 3-5 with far longer races; if 50m seemed a long way then 600m seemed an infinity. Some wonderful running, cheers, tears and general excitement to finish with a superb baton relay. What a fantastic afternoon and thanks to the Sports Department for making it such

a great event.

Then to our annual Moving Up Assembly for our Year 5s. We managed to have the parents in to witness a really lovely assembly. Some of the children have been at the Prep School since the Baby Room in Nursery! Mrs Leonard had scoured the archives for as many photos as possible and there were tears as we said au revoir. For some parents they have been at the Prep for over 10 years, with various children: a bittersweet moment.

But we haven't finished! On the same afternoon - yes still in the penultimate week - we had an Insect Safari from Fetch Theatre. Anansi the Spider God and Mischief Maker took

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us across the world with some wonderful stories aided and abetted by her friend, a housefly! (See pic) Giant puppets of a praying mantis, swarms of bees, a giant dung beetle (called Hercules) and the largest spider we have ever seen. A series of stories interspersed with facts about insects; it was wonderful and we can't wait for the next visit by Fetch Theatre.



Into the last week and it was frantic times as we fit in those last bits of learning or instrumental lessons or riding lessons. Did we manage to get that poster done? Did we finish the PowerPoint? Before we knew it, we had to pack up the books and tidy the drawers; scrabbling at the back for those pieces of paper that we really thought were important with exclamations of surprise as those spellings we were sure were lost were now found. Have we located all of our lost property as well? (Whisper it quietly; the changing rooms still have some bits and bobs in there). But always, in the background was Peter Pan, his shadow, the Lost Boys, Nana etc. Alongside that was, of course, the weather. Now that the production had to move outside, what would the weather do? Be absolutely brilliant as it turned out!



The final Dress Rehearsal on Wednesday afternoon went off without a hitch and then the evening performance attended by picnicking Families. It was a truly wonderful and magical evening. We were transported



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to Neverland, were attacked by pirates, fulsomely admitted our belief in fairies and then back to Kensington Gardens and the finale.

And then the last day of term. Another bittersweet moment as we said goodbye to Mr Warren after 14 years at Lucton. We remembered his cross-country races, his introduction of our swimming curriculum (which has led to some super wins across the country and even to the Olympic swimming pool), his triathlons and aquathlons, his fantastic fancy-dress outfits, charity races...the list is incredible. But what we most remember is his 100% commitment and wonder of teaching. We will definitely miss him.

And then, last but not least: Prize Giving! The weather set fair, the field was full and it was fantastic to be able to actually have this event and cheer those who won prizes. Yes, indeed a remarkable end to an extraordinary year in so many ways. Before I sign off until September I just want to thank the staff and the parents. The latter for keeping Covid at bay so that we could keep on teaching and to the former for keeping on in the teeth of regulation after regulation. Let us hope that September is deregulated. And with that I finish with a poem by Philip Larkin. Have a fabulous summer and see you all in September.

Mr Bicker-Caarten, Head of Prep School

"The cloakroom pegs are
empty now,
And locked the classroom
door,
The hollow desks are lined
with dust,
And slow across the floor
A sunbeam creeps between
the chairs
Till the sun shines no more.
Who did their hair before this
glass?
Who scratched 'Elaine loves
Jill'
One drowsy summer sewing-
class
With scissors on the sill?"

Who practised this piano
Whose notes are now so still?
Ah, notices are taken down,
And scorebooks stowed away,
And seniors grow tomorrow
From the juniors today,
And even swimming groups
can fade,
Games mistresses turn grey."



Middle School

We have had a very enjoyable final week of term in the Middle School. Final lessons have been delivered, prizes for the most merits and Sports Day awards have been given out in our final assembly.

We have come together as forms for class parties and our walk to Croft Ambrey provided a very enjoyable opportunity for Middle schoolers to relax with their friends and celebrate the end of term.

Mr Wall treated us to a super Middle School concert on the last day of term. This provided an opportunity for us all to appreciate just how much our musicians have progressed over the last year and it was wonderful to see the Year 6 class demonstrating their skills on such a wide range of instruments, and that our Instrument programme in Year 6 is really paying off. Other highlights included Mr Wall and Mrs Coates singing Rossini's Cats Duet which was really fun - any opportunity to dress up as an animal is a real draw for Mr Wall!

Miss Holt finished off with an amazing violin piece, providing inspiration to all our musicians of what can be achieved with practice!

I do wish all our pupils and parents a very enjoyable summer break. We look

forward to seeing you all once again in September, refreshed and eager to commence the new academic year.

Mrs Basset, Head of Middle School



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Cultural studies

As an end of term treat and a consolidation of the students learning about Judaism, I arranged for the Year 7s to ask questions to my Jewish friend, Mrs Asher.

Both form groups asked a number of topics including 'what is your favourite kosher food?' 'What's it like to live in Israel right now?' and 'What

is your favourite Jewish festival?'. The students have worked hard all year and it was a fun way to show off their understanding and build upon the lessons. Well done Year 7!

Miss Quick

Rubato Band

On Saturday, the Rubato band went to Stockton Bury Gardens near Leominster to perform some background music for parents and visitors as they visited the beautiful gardens and cafe. We are always warmly welcomed by Mrs Westhorpe and Ms Marsten, and would highly recommend it to anyone who hasn't been.

As well as a program of about 10 pieces, we had a variety of solos. This was one of the last concerts that Angus and Forbes will perform in and it was lovely to have some of their trademark whistle and guitar music. We also had lovely solos from Amy-Rose and Maggie.

Many thanks to the musical staff who came: Mrs Berry, Mr Nichols and Mrs Wall with lolo in tow, who, as ever, did a brilliant job. It was also lovely to see Mrs Bassett and Miss Roussel who kindly came to

support.

It was, in fact, the first live concert that we have had in months, so it was extra special for staff, students and parents alike. The Music department is working hard to bring you some of the normal plethora of performances that we would perform at this time of year,

some live and some virtual.

Mr Wall, Director of Music



Senior School

On Saturday night we celebrated the achievements of our Year 11 students.

It was a fantastic evening and I would like to thank you all for making it such a special event in particular Steve from maintenance who sorted the dining room, the planning committee, Mrs Yates for organising the lovely table cloths, the Friends of Lucton for funding the decorations, Mrs Shepherd for taking wonderful pictures and Mrs Hall for helping pull it all together. We had a wonderful time.

Mrs Goode, Head of Senior School



Duke of Edinburgh

As the majority of Year 10 wandered across the Herefordshire countryside for their Silver Duke of Edinburgh award, those that remained at school took part in an exploration of the local woods.

They were tested on their tracking skills, plant identification and countryside code in a fun bingo format. The students displayed a wide spectrum of knowledge and some impressive detective skills in finding a deer track!

Miss Quick



Sixth Form



Term certainly ended with a bang as a whole host of exciting events have taken place across the School, but also in the Sixth Form specifically.

Our Year 13s finished their Life Skills course with a presentation on a pre-prepared subject (the New Kingdom of Ancient Egypt, and Plato to be precise), and it was lovely to see how skilfully they handled the task in front of the judges. Merit awards were handed out during our Wednesday assembly; congratulations to Amelia-Sky, Angus and Forbes who finished third, second and first respectively in the merit count. In addition, several of our Year 13s received prizes which were awarded during

our wonderful prize giving ceremony.

Our Senior Prefect team for next year has been announced, and again we are excited to work with them next year as they take up positions of responsibility around the School. I have every faith they will do the School proud. For those not on the list, the door is always open and we will be reviewing the list early next term.

In other news, we even managed to squeeze in our Dying to Drive course at the end of term - many thanks to Mrs Goode for organising this. Usually we would take the students to the police station for this, but this year

they came to us. Continuing with the driving theme, congratulations to Reubens for passing his driving test - no doubt he will be ferrying his sister in and out of school next term!

Finally, I hope that you have all had a chance to read the final edition for this year of the Sixth Sense; I'm sure this has done a much better job at communicating the range of events, the depth of ability and the dynamic nature of the Sixth Form! We look forward to the start of next term but also wish our Sixth Formers a relaxing, well-deserved break. See you all in September!

Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form

Croft Ambrey Annual Walk

The Croft Ambrey walk has become an annual tradition for Lucton staff and pupils. With the exception of 2020 and Covid and all that, on Wednesday we made our way up onto the hillside that we know as Croft Ambrey.

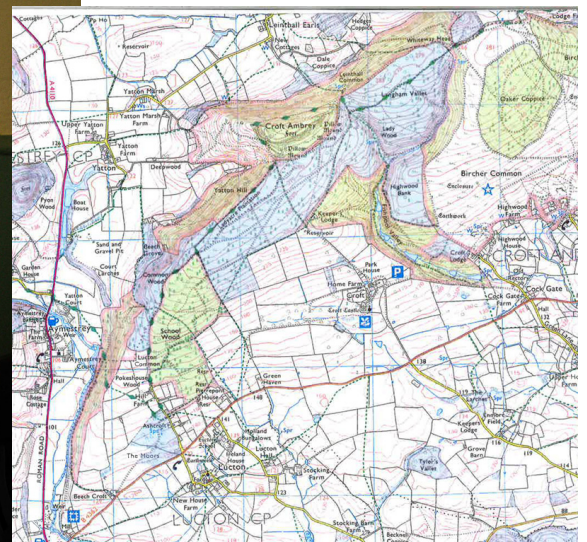
To visit the ancient hill fort, to marvel at the history of such a place, to walk there and back because our teachers say we

must or to race back for an ice-cream, our reason to climb to the top doesn't really matter. It's about the journey and what we do along the way. Whether we let ourselves surrender to nature and listen and look at the spectacle that it is or chat with our friends or lose ourselves in the moment the journey should be enjoyed. The weather was kind and the journey not too difficult and all

returned safely to Lucton HQ after a shared experience.

No broken bones or twisted ankles, but another experience to enjoy and savor. Happy holidays.

Mr Cowley



Sport



Middle School Sports Day

At last, after many weeks of running in the rain, waiting for the cloud to lift and the ground to dry out, an athletics event, a long-awaited Sports Day.

On a dull, overcast, yet calm Friday morning, many excited Middle School pupils gathered for a games lesson with a difference: an inter-form instead of inter-house competition, and they did not disappoint, as competition was intense, especially on the track.

Whilst brothers, James (Yr 8) and Henry (Yr 7) dominated their sprint events, Annabel (Yr 7) was queen of the 800m/1500m, as was Sophie (Yr 8) over 300m in an impressive 47.85sec. There were strong performances from Frankie (Yr 7 100m), Eno (Yr 7 200m) and Amelia (Yr 7 300m) and Ottie (Yr 8 200m), all surpassing expectation for a podium finish.

The Year 6's all tasted victory, with strong performances by Rebecca (200m), Solonge

(800m) and Livia (Triple Jump). With 7B pipping 7W to victory in the Year 7 inter-form event, 8B just, outperformed 8P. Although winning is always a key objective, winners come in many guises and on this occasion, it was the fact every child had the opportunity to compete and feel part of a team. Winning the Victrix or Victor Ludorum is a huge achievement, and Nicholas (Yr 6), Hugo and James (Yr 8) achieved this in style as did Yr 6's Livia and Maddi, Annabel (Yr 7) and Yr 8's Ottie and

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Sophie, who all trained hard in the athletics activity sessions. However, equally as important was the sportsmanship that was clearly evident, the mutual support and respect of and for each person's ability as well and the fact that many pupils surprised and surpassed themselves, which makes everyone a winner!

Mrs Connop, Director of Sport

Senior School Sports Day

Although rain stopped play on Monday, after one hundred and five weeks of waiting, the much-anticipated Senior School Sports Day took place on the last day of term.

The new format, inter-form, instead of inter-house was greeted with much enthusiasm, with all pupils playing a key role for their form. With a positive start on the track, some exciting 800m races ensued, with Darcy (Yr 9 Victrix Ludorum winner) setting the tone with a dominant piece of front running to win the Yr 9 race. Equally impressive was Will's timing as he overhauled Grant P-B, the long-time leader, (joint Yr 9 Victor Ludorum winner) with 200m to go, for an emphatic Yr 10 800m victory.

Forbes (Sixth Form Victor Ludorum winner) proved that he has it all, with a strong performance over 800m,

followed by a speedy dash for the line over 100 and an excellent Javelin throw of 33m. Equally impressive was Zac, (joint Yr 9 Victor Ludorum winner) who stormed down the 100m, in 12.54 sec, kept enough in the tank to just pip the talented Josh over 200m and then leapt to pole position in the long jump pit.

This was followed by an epic Year 10 boys 100m where Jack and Leo battled for supremacy, matching each other stride for stride, even over the finish line! Jack brimming with confidence went on to win the long jump and was joint Year 10 Victor Ludorum winner with Nathan. Nathan's well-timed victory over 1500m was complemented by consistent jumping, a win in the triple jump and second in the long jump.

Not to be outdone, the Sixth Form boys added to the spice and drama of the long-distance races, with Angus thinking he had the 1500m wrapped up, until Daniel's late charge denied him victory on the finish line, so fine was the margin of victory!

In the field, Tristan dominated the Year 9 boys shot and discus, as did Darcy (Javelin and Long Jump) and Daisy (joint winner of the Year 9 Victrix Ludorum) who added the discus and triple jump titles to her 1500m win, with Fremah joining the party to win the shot.

The dice was spread more

evenly in all Year 10 field events, with Annalise (discus), Evie (shot), Sophie (javelin) and Bella (triple jump) all excelling as did Yara (Year 10 Victrix Ludorum winner) who added the long jump title to her dominant 100m win. Sam and Tom went head to head in the discus and shot, with Sam stronger in the shot and Tom the discus, with Joel pipping 300m victor Ellis, to win the javelin. Gym work and strength conditioning obviously paid off for Reubens C, winner of the 400m and discus and Matthew D, whose speed over 200m was emulated by some nifty footwork to win the shot. Faith P proved that she hadn't lost her touch when winning the Sixth Form javelin and she



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sealed the Victrix Ludorum with a powerful 200m victory and a well-judged 1500m run. With all to play for, the relays were tense affairs, with 10Q clinching both, 9M were convincing winners of the boys and 9D the girls, whilst the Sixth Form managed to put out five teams! Despite their best efforts 9M couldn't quite amass as many points as 9D whilst 10Q managed to win by nine points!

Mrs Connop, Director of Sport

Rounders

A lovely afternoon playing rounders was had by a mixed team of Middle School, Senior and Sixth Form girls, Miss Coates and I, with umpiring skills from Miss Cockburn and Miss Shaw.

Team 1 was captained by Molly H and Team 2 was captained by Faith P. Molly's team opted to bat first. Miss Coates opened the batting and the team managed a good first innings of 4.5 rounders, with some very impressive half rounders being scored by Emily-Grace, Molly and Katie L.

Faith's team batted next, opening up the scoring with a fabulous rounder. With some impressive batting from Faith, Livia R, Trinia and Zoe L, Faith led her team to a first innings score of 8 rounders. Deciding to spice up the teams a little, Miss Daughtrey swapped

places with Miss Coates to bat and field for Molly's team. Despite the team batting an impressive 6 rounders in total, they were pipped at the post again by Faith's team scoring 7 rounders in total, with some impressive batting skills from Grace M, Trinia, Bella T and Evie CW.

The match ended with an overall win for Faith's team of 14 rounders to Molly's 11.5. A special mention has to go to Miss Coates for her excellent bowling skills and a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was had by all!

Miss Daughtrey

U13 Girls Cricket vs Abberley Hall



Another sunny Wednesday saw our U13 girls travel to Abberley to play cricket.

When we arrived the Abberley team was a mixed team comprising of 5 boys so this would be a real test for our girls. Scarlett won the toss and elected to field first.

We started strongly, with Scarlett taking a wicket with only the second ball of the game. Wickets for Scarlett, Sophie x2, Isla Maggie, Penny

x2 Amy Rose. When it was our turn to bat Sophie smashed a 4 with the first ball of the innings. More boundaries followed by Amy Rose, Ava and Isla. The boys in the Abberley team proved too strong when batting and bowling for our girls and we ended up losing the match.

The girls showed real determination and perseverance.

Miss Jones

U16 Cricket vs Shrewsbury



Lucton's U16 cricket team played their last fixture of the season at Shrewsbury on Wednesday 23rd June.

Lucton won the toss, elected to bowl and with the first delivery of the day Finn removed the Shrewsbury opening batsman middle stump! Lucton's bowling was an improved performance, Finn 2-17, Jamie 3-23 and Harvey 1-17 were the wicket takers. Notably, Harvey conceded only 1 run off the final over of the Shrewsbury innings which closed on a total of 121-6.

In reply, skipper Jack played

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a splendid back foot cover drive for 4 before chasing an extremely wide delivery and was caught behind, not the start Lucton needed. Lucton's batting did not match their bowling on a wearing pitch showing greater variation in bounce. Maxx showed good technique hitting a fine lofted off drive for 4 and looks a good prospect for the future.

Lucton finished on a little disappointing 51 all out, but the boys have shown a marked improvement in performance and attitude during the season and have been a pleasure to work with.

Mrs Connop, Director of Sport

U13 Cricket vs Hereford Cathedral



At a very wet and damp Pentland Gardens, the home of Herefordshire Cricket, Lucton were made to bat first on a very overcast and drizzly day!

The conditions favoured a batting side with it being so wet, but unfortunately Lucton were unable to capitalise. Hugo and Jonathan D opened the batting for Lucton and made a solid start, facing 22

balls gaining 7 runs. However, after losing the opening batsman, the Lucton batting line up collapsed very quickly. Arthur and Jonathan top scored with 5 and the innings ended after scoring 39 runs. James opened the bowling with debutant Theodor opening at the opposite end. James took 2 wickets in the first over which really put the confidence back into the Lucton team. Theo took his first ever wicket with his 2nd ball of the 2nd over and the match was back in the balance again. Hereford Cathedral then managed to steady the ship and gained control once more and easily chased down the target of 39.

Even though the season ended on a damp note this week, all the boys have progressed enormously with their cricket this term. Some of the team have never played a game before but their enthusiasm and determination to develop over the summer term has been a joy to coach. Well done to all the Middle School boys who have participated and achieved so much in cricket!

Year 7 girls also had a fantastic game against Whitecross. The girls each played in three innings; we won the first two innings scoring 9 and 6.5 rounders and lost the third innings by ½ a rounder. The overall score was 20.5 rounders to 15.5, the second and third innings were especially competitive. Each innings was well contested,

reflecting the hard work we've been putting in to our fielding tactics especially to limit scoring batters to half rounders by getting the ball back to bowler as quickly as possible. Lots of girls have played in a range of positions now and we now have lots of girls who can play both in and out field. A highlight was Eno's fantastic catch of a very fast ball. Daisy and Eno were voted by the opposition as players of the match.

Miss Wilkinson

U15 Cricket County Plate Final



In almost perfect conditions we travelled to Wormlow to play in the county plate final of the 20/20 competition.

We were up against Kingstone for whom the nucleus of the team was Wormlow CC members so this gave them "home" advantage.

After a long net warm up we were fielding. Right from the outset Kingstone were on the offensive, scoring freely against our opening attack of Ellis Yates and Herbie.

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Ellis bowled very well and in his third over had their very dangerous opening bat brilliantly caught by Nathan at short cover for 19. Zac and Joel were brought into the attack with Zac particularly miserly returning figures of 1 for 13 off of his 4 overs. This was backed up well by Tom 1 for 1 off of 2 overs and Nathan 0 for 6 runs off of two overs. Ellis finished with 2 for 25. However, our nemesis "extras" totalling 55 (of which 35 were wides) gave the opposition a much higher total of 148 at the end of the twenty overs than they should have had.

Opener, Maxx, played steadily, but was dismissed early on and Ellis and Joel led a very good fight against a strong opening bowling attack. After 10 over, honours were even. We were on 72 for 1 and they were 75 for 1. However, the 11th over proved to be decisive. We lost both Ellis and Joel in that over.

Consolidation was required and we tried hard, but with overs running out the 148 was then always beyond us. Zac looked good initially, but struggled to score against some reasonable bowling. Herbie put a little respect to

the final total of 113 for 6, scoring 16 at the end. Ellis was top scorer with 27 and Joel a useful 19, but once those two were dismissed we never looked like reaching that elusive 148 and Kingstone were deserved winners on the day.

The boys need to tighten up their bowling and some of the batters need to develop a few more attacking shots in the nets over the winter; that said, this has been a pleasing effort from them all and the final was keenly fought. Next year? Let's hope so!

Mr Cowley

Equestrian

Royal Three Counties
Last weekend I spent a very busy weekend at Malvern organising the Royal Three Counties.

Rebecca, Livia and Emily Grace came to act as runners and represented the school excellently working hard throughout with many very positive comments from competitors and staff. We had excellent entries which kept us extremely busy!

Mathew Davies was also there riding his Shetland pony. He had a fantastic weekend winning his WHP class jumping a fabulous round over a tricky track which caused a lot of problems at different

fences. This means that he had qualified for HOYS-well done.

Miss Coates, Equestrian Manager



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We have had a very busy term with lots of riders of all different abilities!

Pony club has also been full with E test passes and colour and marking/horse behaviour badges being passed by many. We have rounded off the term with balance and confidence games including a form of horse ball which brought out some very competitive riding, and bare back riding-fun ways to learn new skills! There will be the chance of a few lessons during the holidays so if you are



interested please phone the office. Some horses will be going off on holiday and some will stay-have a great summer and we will see you again in September.



Miss Coates, Equestrian Manager

Congratulations to Matthew

Matthew and his pony Sharptor Autumn Sunset qualified at The Three Counties recently for this year's Horse of the Year show in the 122

M&M WHP class!

Well done to Matthew!

