

# Lucton News

PREP SCHOOL  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SENIOR SCHOOL  
SIXTH FORM  
CCF  
SPORT

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Issue 38



# From the Head



**It has been such an action-packed half of term that I barely know where to start in reflecting on it all. Our students seem to have done a bit of everything.**

On the academic front, they have continued to work hard in the classroom, as well as participating in competitions and challenges outside of it. A particular highlight was the 'Great Egg Drop', which marked Science Week in an exciting (if sometimes messy) way, while there have also been awards for the Chemistry Olympiad and Maths Challenges, World Book Day celebrations, an Art Exhibition and Portrait Competition, and a number of stimulating educational trips.

Our students have also excelled as performers. This half of term kicked off with a brilliant performance of 'Shakers & Bouncers' from our talented Senior School students, and that was followed by a really successful Hereford Performing Arts Festival. Particular congratulations to Jess in Year 12 for being selected by the Festival to perform at the annual Gala event for outstanding performers. Our students also achieved a fantastic set of LAMDA exam results, with all students passing across the age range, from Year 2 to Year 13.

On the sports field, we have enjoyed the usual busy calendar of training, fixtures

and competitions. The Prep School Tercentenary Cross Country was a real highlight, with over 200 children enjoying a super afternoon, and there have been real successes higher up too; just last week, our U15 girls were runners-up at the County Netball Tournament and earned lavish praise from Mrs Connop for their great team effort.

There have been so many other highlights in recent weeks too. The CCF are currently away at their Sennybridge camp as I write this, and I must reiterate my congratulations to Amelia-Sky for completing her two years as Lord Lieutenant's Cadet. Our Middle School students put together an absolutely outstanding Enterprise Showcase under the direction of Mrs Bennison, showing a real flair for business. And I'm not even sure quite how to describe our unique House Pancake Races, but all typically good Lucton fun.

After all of this, I hope that our students can enjoy some well-earned rest over Easter, and I wish our students in exam years the best of luck with their revision.

**Mr Tyler**  
**Headmaster**



# Prep School



**Another packed term whizzes to the end. Reflecting, I think that our second week after half term may well have been the busiest; what do you think?**

Year 5 kicked off the Friday Assemblies with a great explanation of Chinese New Year; each student was one of the characters in the race as directed by the Jade Emperor and we also learnt all about the traditions as well.

This week saw our first swimming gala against Abberley Prep School. Alas, after a determined effort,

we did not reach victory... this time. And then it was the whole school Pancake Race with Pre-Prep kicking it off; a shuffle relay, keeping the pancake on the paper plate. The overall winners in the Prep, were Rodney. We then had great fun watching the Seniors who had to toss the pancakes three times using a badminton racket!

Wednesday 2nd March saw the entire Prep School disappear off to Techniquet in Cardiff (pic right). It was brilliant with all sorts of interactive activities, the highlight being



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the hurricane room closely followed by the earthquake simulator. It was finished off with an excellent forces show where we even witnessed a levitating George!

Not content with that, we arrived the next morning dressed for World Book Day; from Dracula via Pippi Longstocking and Mrs Twit (and that was just the staff). We were delighted to welcome Meriet Duncan who came in to talk about bees and her book, Betsie Valentine and the Honeybees. To finish off the day, Reception and Year 1 visited the Courtyard to see The Selfish Giant.

World Book Day Assembly followed with class 3D performing I Open a Book by Julia Donaldson, with some excellent interactive performances, as well as telling us the history of World Book Day: it has been going for 27 years!

Busy? Yes, but then it was Hereford Festival the following week with all of Years 3, 4 & 5 doing whole class duologues or performances or poems, and that doesn't include all the individual classes for those from Year 2 upwards. Whole classes disappeared and then reappeared, often clutching medals. We finished off the week with Year 1 starting Science Week with a truly fantastic Science Assembly full of facts and experiments followed by the Prep Choir



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disappearing to Hereford and coming a successful 2nd.

Into Science Week itself and the Whole School Egg Drop. Very successful indeed with over half of the Prep School keeping their egg intact; no mean feat considering they were dropping eggs from 6 metres!

Science Week passed in a blur of experiments from making rainbows from skittles, trying to get an egg in a bottle to seeing what makes the best paper aeroplane. Meanwhile, Years 4 & 5 went to visit a Mosque in Birmingham and had an excellent time. The week also included the return of the Tercentenary Cross-Country Run with over 200 contestants and we fared very well winning a clutch of medals in all age groups

And then it was Red Nose Day with everyone coming in dressed in red and Year 4 completely outdoing themselves this time with a puppet show featuring them as the puppets!

So, which was the busiest week? I haven't even mentioned the learning we've done this term- no space left but I can assure you that we have! With that, have a very Happy Easter and we'll see you all on Tuesday 26th April.

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



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## Year 5 Science Week

Year 5 got thoroughly involved with Science Week this year, carrying out lots of exciting experiments throughout the week including making lava lamps, newspaper structures and more.

We made our own chocolate ice-cream using just milkshake, ice and salt. Mixing ice with salt causes the temperature to drop and allows the ice and salt mixture to get colder than pure water ice. In turn, shaking the bag of milkshake, which is inside the bag of ice and salt mix, allows the mixture to move around for better freezing.

We also looked at rainbow skittles. Skittles are coated in food colouring and sugar and when the children poured water over the skittles, the coloured coating dissolved, spreading



through water and taking on the colour of the skittle.

We finished the week off by creating a "fire snake" that appeared to grow out of nowhere. Setting lighter fluid on fire caused the sugar and baking soda mixture to burn, in turn, causing gas bubbles



which got trapped, resulting in the black "snake" structure that rose out of the flames. A very fun week had by all!

**Mrs Leonard**

## Mother's Day

On the Thursday before Mothers' Day, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 held a tea party to say a big thank you to their amazing mums.

The sun shone and the children were superb hosts, enthusiastically serving the food they had helped prepare. Altogether a wonderful event!

**Mrs Fower**





# Middle School

**It has been a very busy Spring Term and the students in Middle School are most certainly ready for a rest!**

There has been an array of different events from our Oaker Wood low ropes challenge course trip to music concerts, sports fixtures, house competitions, World Book Day, Hereford Festival and of course, the Enterprise Project Showcase Event! The Oaker Wood trip was most certainly a highlight of the term with students displaying some super team work and very keen to return as soon as possible to try their hand at the other challenges on offer.

Another event where the Middle School students showed their individuality and skill was the Enterprise Project Showcase Event. All term, the students worked incredibly hard in their groups to create some wonderful business proposals and it was amazing to see them come to fruition. They should be incredibly proud of what they achieved and how successful each and every stall was; the amassing of over £1400 total of funds shows just how accomplished our Middle School students are.

Alongside all of these wonderful extra-curricular activities, they have, as always, worked very hard in their

academic and timetables tabled lessons. Year 6 have been learning about Medieval villages and the Black Death in history; mountain ranges in geography; algebra, fractions and percentages in maths and clothes, food and school in French; and Sikhism in RS.

Year 7 have studied a wide range of topics from Tudor England and the English Civil War in History to Oliver Twist in English, chemical reactions in chemistry and sustainability in geography.

Year 8 have also had a very busy academic term studying protests in 19th Century England in History; adaptations in biology; literary features of the Fabulous Five in English, and displacement reactions

involving metals in chemistry. This is only a very small selection of the varied and interesting curriculum topics studied this term!

The students really have taken part in a wide-ranging and varied school life here at Lucton, and we all look forward to providing them with the same opportunities next term. Hopefully, we will be graced with even more sunny and warm days as we head towards the Summer.

To end, I would like to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable Easter holidays and I look forward to seeing you all in the Summer Term!

**Miss Cockburn**  
**Head of Middle School**





# Music

**It has been an exciting half term for the Music Department, culminating in two public events in the final week.**

On Tuesday we had a lunchtime concert at Croft Castle; always a lovely concert venue and multiple students performed solos at a very good standard. The concert finished with three pieces played by the Rubato band: Themes from Handel's Water Music; Rondeau

by Purcell and Offenbach's Can Can. Many thanks to Mrs Berry and Mrs King for their help.

On the final Wednesday of term the Chamber Choir and friends sang Choral Evensong in Hereford Cathedral. We had a really good turn out from parents, which was tremendous and so lovely to sing to a congregation! The music was great and the quality of the sound got better

and better. Mr Maxim played the organ stunningly and Sameer R sang a solo in Mr Wall's Anthem "If ye love me". The service opened with the ferial responses, followed by Stanford's Psalm 150.

Thanks to all of our guests for lending their voices.

**Mr Wall**  
**Director of Music**





# Senior School



**We are at the end of another very busy and rewarding half-term in the Senior School; one filled with many highlights and achievements. As always, our students have excelled in so many areas.**

We started this half term with the amazing production of "Bouncers and Shakers". The cast, crew and staff should be very proud of putting on such a well-polished play. The Hereford festival, where our students walked away with numerous medals, was just another opportunity to showcase the talents of our

students in music and drama.

Sport continues to play an important part in life in the Senior School and there are many outstanding achievements to celebrate (more in the sport report) but I would like to highlight the success of our netball players: this year, all three of the senior teams (Year 9, 10 and 11) have made it through to the finals in the County tournaments. Well done!

I would also like to congratulate our CCF cadets on their efforts and

commitment. They have enjoyed a very successful weekend at Sennybridge (see CCF section). Furthermore, a number of cadets have completed their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award this term, which requires a lot of hard work and commitment; congratulations!

As always, within the full and busy life in the Senior School, our academic endeavours do take priority. Well done on all those who received academic awards in the final assembly and also to everyone who is working hard in lessons and on revision for end-of-year exams. We wish our Year 11s every success in their forthcoming GCSE exams - follow a structured revision plan during the Easter holidays and ensure that you build in time to relax and have some fun, too.

Happy Easter!

**Mrs Elmien Niblett**  
**Head of Senior School**





# Maths



**This term, Lucton School has hosted 3 mathematical events.**

The Year 9 Maths Picnic and the Year 10 Maths Feast, which are run by the Advanced Maths Support Programme; including problem solving of recreational and traditional maths as well as requiring teamwork in a competitive environment.

Additionally, for the first time, Year 4 had their own Challenge with 11 visiting schools from the local area battling out shape problems and "Make 24".

Our Year 9 and 10 participated in the online UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge, with Tristan gaining a Silver Award, Bronze Awards went to Evie, Theo, Zoe, Henry and Jonathan D.

Following on from the success of the Tercentenary Run, Year 9 collected data from the race. They then discussed how to analyse and interpret the data before making posters to represent the data.

the winning poster.

**Mrs House**

Well done to Isla and Ottie for





# LAMDA



**After a frustrating postponement due to Covid, Lucton hosted an enjoyable and rewarding exam session in early February.**

Many students from Year 2 to Year 13 took their Acting solo/duologue or Verse and Prose exams, and did so in style! We had a range of levels, from Grade 1 in Year 6 all the way up to Grade 8, which is a gold medal.

All students performed to their optimum and this was reflected in some outstanding scores across the board, many in the

90 bracket! Do remember too that when you get to the medal levels, these awards carry UCAS points. More information can be found at [www.lamda.ac.uk](http://www.lamda.ac.uk)

The Prep School have been particularly successful with every child achieving at least one distinction

If you would like a taster session or to begin Speech and Drama in the Middle, Senior or Sixth Form, please get in touch with the office who will be happy to assist..

**Mrs Sharman**





# Sixth Form

**As we head off for the Easter holidays, Sixth Formers will no doubt be unfolding their revision plans and reviewing their daily timetables.**

This is the start of the sharp end of the stick for our Year 13's, who will be taking public exams soon after returning; a welcome, if stressful, return to normality after two years of teacher-based assessment! Indeed, the Sixth Formers can reflect on some excellent achievements this term; they have continued to contribute to our Sixth Form Assemblies, worked tirelessly on Extended Project Qualifications and participated in sports teams and produced the Sixth Form Magazine.

I particularly enjoyed Hannah and Felicity's assembly on our theme of "History". On top of all that, there was a trip to the zoo for our Biologists and a UCAS day out to Worcester for our Year 12's. Whether working in the tuck shop, assisting with School Council, presenting their art work in the Year 10 and Year 12 Art Exhibition or representing Lucton at the Herefordshire Performing Arts Festival, there has been much to do! That's before mentioning the School Play, which so many of our Sixth Formers contributed to in different ways, whether on stage or from behind the scenes!



Individual accomplishments have also come thick and fast- for example in Maths Challenges or through the RAF; there have been many opportunities to boost credentials and add to already burgeoning CVs.

In and amongst all this,

students have been receiving replies from their universities, more of which we will share later. At the time of writing though, we have one last event to squeeze in before the revision begins - the Sixth Form Easter Egg Hunt; proof that you're never too old for chocolate!

**Mr Wolstenholme, Head of Sixth Form**





# CCF



## Army

**This term has been a busy one and kicked off with our first event of the year; the youth first aid course. We saw 28 students learn how to perform basic life support, how to deal with trauma and basic life-saving first aid.**

All these new skills were put to the test on the Saturday afternoon with all the cadets taking part in some very realistic scenarios, and achieving good scores.

Next up was our junior instructor's cadre where some of our NCO's learnt how to pass on their knowledge to other cadets, this included the

methods of instruction used for classroom-based lessons and practical lessons. The staff saw some of our NCO's deliver some fantastic lessons in a very wide-spread range of activities from drumming techniques to super heroes.

A training day at the beginning of March gave us the opportunity to polish up some of the cadets basic fieldcraft and navigation skills, as well as conduct some skill at arms training ready for a green weekend further down the line.

The term was finished off with a training weekend in the Beacons. 36 Cadets enjoyed

an action packed few days in Sennybridge training area.

The Friday evening was spent gathering intelligence pointing us towards urban combat, training on the Saturday led us to the FIBUA village where the cadets learnt how to assault and clear buildings and the importance of team work.

Saturday night was spent with patrols putting their anti-ambush drill to the test before the final assaults on a radio tower on Sunday morning. This was the first real chance we have had to get out on the ground with blank ammunition in some time and it's safe to

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say the cadets loved every second of it. The contingents NCO's worked exceptionally hard leading their sections through what was a very challenging exercise, and for a change the weather was very kind and we all enjoyed the glorious sunshine.

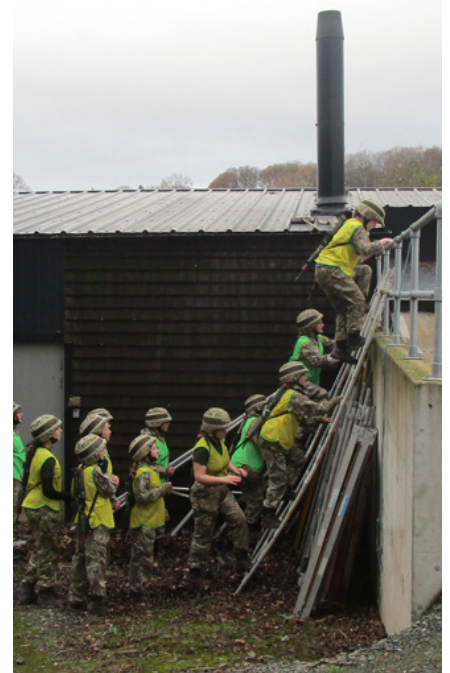
Our Cadets have continued to work hard towards the Duke of Edinburgh awards and this term has seen an amazing 8 Cadets pass Bronze, 6 Cadets Silver and 3 students along with one member of staff passing their Gold award, a massive congratulations to you all.

As always, none of these events could take place without the support of the parents, the School, as well as the relentless hard work of our



SSI WO2 Rich Brown along with our contingent staff and above all, our Cadets, whose enthusiasm truly is infectious.

**Lt Col C. Derrigan**  
**Contingent Commander**



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## RAF

**Although Cadet Warrant Officer Stevens handed over the mantle of Lord Lieutenant's Cadet this term, in February she became the first Lucton School cadet to be offered a place on the prestigious Air Cadet Pilot Scheme.**

After 12 days of flying training at Tayside Aviation, she flew a circuit completely on her own in a light aircraft, gaining her cadet pilot wings.

A joint CCF training day was held in early March in preparation for the Sennybridge weekend - the first joint field training weekend for the RAF and Army cadets. Once there, the Army cadets continued with fieldcraft, while

the RAF were busy gathering intelligence, both visually and through flying a drone, learning to report back over the radio to give Air Support to the ground tasking. They also completed an impromptu nightex after a simulated helicopter crash and enjoyed learning survival skills.

A fun weekend despite the cold nights sleeping in a barn! We have lots planned for next term including the RAF Cosford Airshow and more Air Experience Flying at St Athan, details to follow.

**Squadron Leader (retd) House**





# Sport



**A busy half term, full of tournaments, matches and individual endeavour! After two quiet years, a flurry of tournaments was most welcome and it was good to see students learn so much about themselves as individuals and as team members.**

The annual Tercentenary Cross-Country races returned, with a new course and some excellent races. Lucton students excelled, winning seven medals and finishing second overall to a very strong team from Tenbury Primary. Jackson, Jacob, Haydn and Amelia, set the ball rolling, with

medal winning performances in the Year 3 boys/girls races. Edwin warmed up for the ISA Year 4 boys National Championships with a comfortable win, whilst Isla (Year 4 girls) and Jake (Year 5 boys) ran strongly to claim silver in their respective races. A long, but worthwhile trip up the M1 to Worksop College was a great success for Edwin (Year 4) and Annabel (Year 8/9), as both ran strongly and with confidence, in very competitive races, to finish 7th and 5th respectfully.

Having trained with purpose, under the eagle eye of Mrs Bennison, the U12 girls,

performed well to finish 4th at the U12 County 7 aside Hockey Tournament. Unfazed by the new experience of playing goal keeper, Charlotte impressed, reducing arrears as Lucton drew against John Kyrle, (1-1), Whitecross (0 – 0) and sneaked a 1-0 win against Aylestone. They also finished 4th in their section at the U12 County Netball tournament, where it was good to see Vivvi and Lara grow in stature as the tournament progressed.

The U13s competitive loss against The Elms (10-7) was a good warm up for the U13 Herefordshire County Tournament. Four wins against



Aylestone, Kingstone, Fairfield and The Hereford Academy; two draws (against Whitecross and St Mary's) and three losses (HCS, JKHS and Weobley) was the result of great team work and support in every section of the court. Hedda and Eno worked tirelessly in defence, making many timely interceptions, Annabelle, Mia, Freya and Georgina combined well in the centre court, whilst in the shooting circle, Daisy and Sophie had to contend with some very tall defenders!



The U15s excelled at their county netball tournament, reaching the final in style and surviving two very competitive matches to get through the section and win the semi-final (4-3 against Weobley)- by making strong comebacks in the second half, with some slick, assertive play. Superb defending by Daisy and Fremah, was complemented by solid circle work by shooters Myra and Isla and steady centre court play by Scarlett, Hannah, Nahia and Rachel!



The U16s finished their season with a comprehensive win against Tenbury, whilst the U18s played with style and panache, with competitive wins against Bedstone and John Masefield, and a close encounter with a good team from HSFC. Both teams ended the term, with a head to head at Lucton, an excellent match in which all girls displayed great qualities as competitors,





sportswomen and athletes. Faith has been an excellent captain, organising her troops with aplomb and it has been great to see all students rise to the occasion, playing with passion and skill, especially the shooters, Connie and Felicity!

The boys have been busy on the rugby pitch, learning the art of maintaining composure, speed and tenacity in 7s tournaments at Wrekin, Luctonians, and Bishop's with all teams having an extremely competitive season, making positive progress as teams and as individual players. A special mention must go to the Middle School boys who have demonstrated outstanding progress thanks to their commitment to training. With a full fixture list of friendly football games, the boys had the chance to experiment with various tactics and positions, and produced varying levels of success.

The U18 and U15 football teams had comfortable wins against Bedstone, with U18s Nathan and Jack adding to their goal scoring tally, as did Zac and Grant in the U15s, whilst the U16s finished their season in style with a solid 3-0 win against Earl Mortimer, as Herbie (2) and Nathan (1) added to their already impressive goal tally. A special mention must go to the Middle School boys who, having committed to training on a regular basis demonstrated outstanding

progress. As a result, they enjoyed some closely contested games, learning a lot in the process, with some great football played at Abberley, with the U13s being pipped 5-4 and the U11s drawing 4-4 with Thomas H scoring all the goals!

Under the watchful eye of Mr Richmond and Mrs Bassett, many students enjoy developing their skills on the badminton courts. The U14s enjoyed their first competitive badminton match, a successful venture, with good team work by everyone, we won 13-7. Henry and Maggie won all of their matches and it was pleasing to see Morgan and Hayden back in competitive action.

Many students enjoy swimming and Livia, Mia, Thomas, Sameer, Clay, Annabel and Ted swam superbly to win their races at the Abberley

School swimming gala, with the Year 6 girls winning their freestyle relay in style. There were many good performances by the Prep School swimmers as well, who have also been busy playing football and netball matches against Bedstone and Kingsland. Great progress has been made with skills and game play, with some strong performances on the football pitch against Kingsland.

Indoor cricket is an exciting new venture for the girls who tested their skill and tenacity when they competed in the U13 and U15 Indoor Lady Taverners Cricket Tournament. Although new to the game, great progress has been made and Scarlett P impressed taking a hat-trick of wickets to win the best bowler award at the U15 Tournament.

**Mrs Connop**  
**Director of Sport**

