

Lucton News

NURSERY
PREP SCHOOL
MIDDLE SCHOOL
SENIOR SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
BOARDING
CCF
MUSIC
DRAMA PHOTOS
SPORT
STUDENT STORIES
STAFF NEWS

July 12th 2022
Issue 40



Nursery

Nursery children have had a wonderful Summer term, enjoying the warm weather and exploring the vibrant colours of the flowers during their daily walks, and weekly Forest Activities.

All the children from Little Ladybirds, Bumblebees and Transition enjoyed taking part in the Nursery Sports Day, which was well supported by many parents who came to cheer on their children.

Transition class performed their end of term assembly with gusto and included some comical timing. They were each presented with their end of Nursery certificates, which they proudly recieved. We would like to wish them all the very best for their big move into Reception from September.

Emma Dytor
Nursery Deputy Head



Prep School

Five weeks ago we came back from half term ready to get involved in all those wonderful activities that the Summer term has for us. Our first highlight was the Year 3 Assembly who decided that they should actually recreate the pyramids on stage!

Through the excavations of Howard Carter we watched the Pharaoh being mummified (a special mention must go to the implement that whisks the brain!). We witnessed the tyranny of the Pharaoh goading the slaves to build his pyramid and we learnt about the Gods, Isis and Horus, as they marched across the stage measuring our hearts for bad deeds. Well done Year 3! Not content with that, Ms Chapman brought our Book Bingo to a conclusion, confirming that the entire Prep School has read a total of 1,376 books. Isn't that fantastic!

Meanwhile our play rehearsals had started in earnest and the sound of Shakespeare Rocks became the background to the rest of summer. We also finished the first week with our traditional Aquathlon (swimming and running), which was cheered on and supported by the parents. However, the event that loomed large in all our minds was the much anticipated Camp Out for Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 on the second Friday. It had proved to be incredibly hot all day as we watched Mr Wall and his merry band of

Year 7's and 8's (assisted by 6th Formers and Year 11's) putting up our tents. What a wonderful evening it proved to be. A magnificent assault course (erected by our very own CCF) proved to be extremely popular, as was the singalong with Mr Rogers, along with a superb rendition of the reindeer song by Mr Wall that finished us off – the picture of Mr Wall lying on his back, waving his limbs in the air as a dead reindeer will be forever seared into our memories! Bedtime proved to be quite late (12:45) and morning swung round all too quickly (the first risers at 4:00am) accompanied with the wind and the rain. A super Full English breakfast was served up to us by Paul in the kitchen and by 9:30 everyone had gone home, tired and happy.

Monday was Sports Day (don't forget the play rehearsals as well) for Nursery – Prep. Thankfully the weather held and we had a fantastic day organised by our Sports Department. From sack races to the 600m; beanbag balancing and the standing long jump. Not content with just a Sports Day, Reception and Year 1 went to see The Tiger who Came to Tea at the Courtyard Theatre. In addition, there were Speech Day rehearsals, a brilliant Moving Up Day on Thursday, a Curriculum Meeting in the evening and the week concluding with a very emotional Moving Up Assembly from Year 5 on the

Friday morning. And if that was not enough, the whole school headed to Leominster Priory to finish off the with the actual Speech Day in the afternoon. Superb!

The penultimate week opened with a Picnic Concert on Monday, where the Prep Choir shone. Tuesday was the dress rehearsal before the main event on Wednesday of Shakespeare Rocks. It was the first time we had performed back on stage since the summer of 2019 and the cast did themselves proud. As too did Miss Jay on the scenery, and the directing of Mr Rogers and Mrs Rogers, which was excellent. Have we finished? No! We had a wonderful Jubilee party, and Summer Fete on Friday to close out the week.

Tired and happy we entered the last week, with some finishing off, tidying up as well as a wonderful picnic at Croft Castle on the last day.

Thanks must go to all the Prep School Team, Admin Team, Maintenance, Domestic and Kitchen staff for such a brilliant term and end of year. Thanks also, to you, the parents, for all your support. It is time to recharge your batteries and kick back for the summer, ready and raring to go in September.

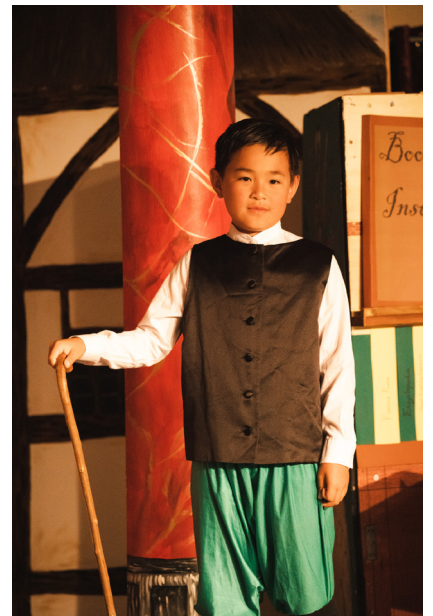
David Bicker-Caarten
Head of Prep School



The School in August (Philip Larkin)



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 'We love football!'?
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

This second half of term has flown by in the blink of an eye; I honestly cannot believe that we have come to the end of another academic year here at Lucton.

We have had a jam-packed term of activities, with a focus on the Middle School Production of 'The Wizard of Oz' taking centre stage. The production itself was phenomenal and a huge well done needs to go to all the cast, crew and the directors: Mrs Sharman and Miss Thompson! I will always be blown away by the talent and determination of both our students and staff in all areas of the School.

Alongside the production, we have had various trips take place for the Middle School this term; the highlight being the French Trip. I have heard many positive and enthusiastic comments about the trip and it has been lovely to hear that they had such a fun and exciting time. There have been Geography Field Trips to Hereford and Mrs Connop's Farm for Year 7 and 8; a CCF residential to Oaker wood for Year 8; and trips to Lifepath at Malvern Priory, Hereford Waterworks Museum and an NSPCC visit for Year 6. The entire Middle School was also treated to a bowling, mini-golf and pizza trip at The Grove in

Leominster, as a reward for their efforts and success in The Enterprise Project. Alongside these trips there have been many matches, fixtures and regional competitions in sports and the Middle School have been well-represented at all of these. It is fantastic that so many of our students are so capable across the academic, sporting and dramatic areas of Lucton.

Nearer the end of term, we finally got to have Speech Day back at The Priory; a huge well done to all of the Middle School prize winners. I would also like to commend the attitudes, focus and efforts of all of our Middle School students who have strived to achieve their best all year; we are very proud of you!

Academically, we have still managed to fit in a variety of interesting lessons. Year 6 have studied the Peasants Revolt in History, Buddhism in RS and have conducted a bug survey in Biology. In Music, they have finished their two years on the Orchestral Scheme with a record-breaking number of exam passes, and an excellent performance at the end of year Picnic Concert. Year 7 have studied the natural world and flowers in Biology and positive relationships and qualities in PSHE. They have also looked at the development

of Science in History and improved fieldwork skills in Geography. Year 8 have just begun to study Drugs and Alcohol in Biology and have been continuing their study of Suffragettes in History.

Finally, I would like to say that I have immensely enjoyed working in the Middle School for the last three years and taking on the Head of Middle School role this year has been incredibly fulfilling. I wish all of the Middle School students and parents a fond farewell and my very best for your future; thank you for making my time here so enjoyable!

**Miss Cockburn
Head of Middle School**



Waterworks Museum

The annual Year 6 trip to the Waterworks museum took place on Tuesday 14th June.

It was an action-packed day, as from the time we arrived we were divided up into groups and set a series of challenges. After a brief introduction on where water originates from, the students were given an assortment of materials to choose from with the task of separating clean water from muddy river water. Then, having achieved a variety of levels of success, we moved on to the

second and toughest team challenge of the day. This was to set up and cost a working model of a water distribution grid. Each group was given a model town, a reservoir, various lengths of plastic piping, and pipe connectors. The aim was to make the most economical system to ensure water reached the town's vital amenities.

After a tour of the pumping engines in the museum and a very pleasant picnic lunch outside in the sunshine, we began the final activities.

Armed with dipping nets, microscopes and identification keys we descended on the pond. Amidst a frenzy of excitement, dozens of wriggling invertebrates were scooped from the pond, examined, identified, and then finally restored unharmed to their habitat before our return to school.

**Mr Richmond
Science Teacher**



Senior School

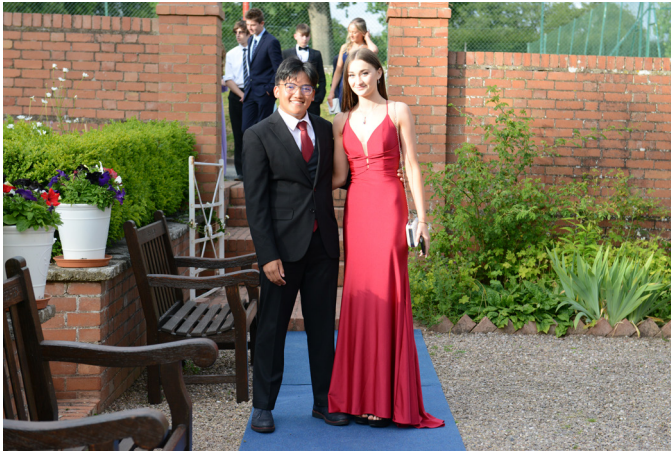
What a busy end of term it has been for Senior School, with public examinations, Speech Day, concerts, sports and the Year 11 Prom.

We would like to congratulate every student in the Senior School for their excellent contributions, hard work and achievements throughout this year. We wish our Year 11's the very best with their GCSE results, and every happiness and success in their future endeavours.

Have a well-deserved and enjoyable summer break!

Mrs Niblett
Head of Senior School





Sixth Form

Another term has rolled by in such quick fashion, it is hard to see just how we squeezed everything in.

There were exams, more exams and further exams, especially for our Year 13's, which after two years was a welcome - if not nerve-wracking - return to the way things were. Having tackled these with admirable determination, we then had an extremely successful Life Skills course. Building off last year's success, this saw students changing tyres, cooking and sewing as well as learning some card games and preparing very funny video presentations of their time at the School.

Our Year 12's have ploughed on with the work ahead, and many of our EPQ students are rolling their sleeves up in preparation for some real research this holiday.

As always, the Sixth Formers have been involved in their usual helpful way; helping to set out for the Jubilee party, serving ice creams on the walk to Croft Castle, and fully participating in Sports Day.

We said goodbye to our previous Senior Prefect Team, and were delighted to welcome in Hershel, Finn, Maureen, Jess, Seren and Katie as our new Senior Prefect Team (some current and new

Prefects pictured below). It's always sad to end the term for Year 13's; though perhaps my favourite moment of the term though was just standing under the Arches with a group of the Sixth Formers, joking about what they were going to do next and laughing about the good times they've had here. It was lovely to see how much they have matured and grown, in often difficult circumstances, and they are a credit to themselves.

We wish them the very best and know we'll stay in touch!

Mr Wolstenholme
Head of Sixth Form



Boarding

Well, we are finally at the end of term, and what a brilliant year in boarding it has been!

We finished the term with a wonderful house BBQ on the weekend, provided by our Lucton chefs. The weather was glorious, so we were able to burn off the burgers with an energetic game of rounders afterwards; before spending the evening toasting marshmallows over an open fire.

Students have also been involved in rehearsals for the

production of "The Wizard of Oz" which took place in the final week. We all enjoyed supporting the wonderful production. It has been great this year, to get back to doing all of the trips and events which have been on hold for the last few years, and our students have been so enthusiastic to get back into busy boarding life.

We have also been glad this term to welcome so many new international students to be part of our boarding community. Friendships have

been forged and memories made and, with bags packed and rooms emptied, we will be sorry to say goodbye, au revoir and adios to some new international Luctonians.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our boarding families happy holidays, and we look forward to seeing you return in the Autumn term after a relaxing summer.

Mrs Webb-Rogers
Head of Boarding



CCF

The CCF (RAF) rounded off a busy year with 2 very exciting events.

On Sunday 12th June, cadets arrived at the RAF Cosford Airshow quickly spotting the Fairground rides, and after an adrenaline packed start to the day, explored the static displays. The Tiger Moth was a particular favourite where the owner kindly gave us a close up tour. Finally, the flying display started and the cadets settled down to be entertained by a Parachute Display, the Grob Tutor formation, the aircraft in which some of them have already flown, a Spitfire display, the Red Arrows and many more including the finale, the F-35 Lightning. A very enjoyable and inspiring day.

The RAF Section travelled to the Vale of Glamorgan on 28th June. The strong wind precluded the long awaited beach games, but despite that and the odd shower, a few hardy soles braved the Barry Island sea. The following morning, four cadets set off for RAF St Athan for their own Air Experience Flights. Sgt Darwood, Aston, Millhouse and FS Taylor-Woodward each took the controls of the powered Grob Tutor aircraft and flew the aircraft under the watchful eye of the qualified pilot. Two of the cadets flying aerobatic manoeuvres themselves. The remaining cadets experienced Adventure Training in the form of Dinghy Sailing, for most of them this was the first time they had been in sole charge of a sailing boat and they all thoroughly enjoyed their piloting experience,

albeit in the sea!

The Senior RAF cadets have also been working hard on their Methods of Instruction this term and look forward to the intake of Year 9 recruits in September as well as more opportunities for flying experience, leadership, adventure training and more.

Mrs House Squadron Leader (retd)



Drama - The Wizard of Oz



Music

What a wonderfully busy half term is has been for our musicians.

On Friday 17th June, members of the music were invited to the Royal Three Counties show to perform in the Church tent. Musicians performed a brilliant set of modern and classical music and drew a crowd in to the tent on a very warm summer's afternoon. Students advertised the school extremely well and were also able to have a small look around the show too.

On Friday 25th June, a small group of students and staff from the chamber choir led a Service of choral evensong at St Bartholomew's Church, Richard Castle. This is an annual event

that is hosted by Sir Humphrey Salwey and this year was presided by The Venerable Fiona Gibson, Archdeacon of Ludlow. The church is extremely special in that there is no electricity and so the service was accompanied by a battery powered keyboard by Miss Grant. Thank you to all the members of staff who join the choir and also it was lovely to see Mr Tyler, who came to support. We have already been booked in for next year and rumour has it that the Bishop of Hereford will be leading the service.

The weekend of 24th June started with Speech Day at Leominster Priory, where the choir sung beautifully to accompany the speeches. Then on Saturday 25th June, members

of the Rubato band once again join together to perform at Stockton Bury Gardens. These are owned by Mrs Westhorpe and has become a lovely summer tradition. This year, the weather was somewhat intermittent, but the band persevered through the showers and wind (very much assisted by lots of clothes pegs). Thank you very much to Mrs Ruth for stepping in and accompanying us. Thank you to Mrs Westhorpe for her lovely donation to the band too. Followed by the End of Year Picnic Concert on Monday 27th June, where over 20 individual and group pieces were performed.

Mr Wall
Director of Music



Sport

What a busy half term it has been for sport, with lots of activity and success on the games field as well as in track and field!

The half term has seen many sporting activities for the students, including cricket, rounders and tennis fixtures, athletic championships, and three Sports Days.

To select just a few highlights from this half term:

The U13 boys won the Herefordshire U13 County Plate Competition, with a comprehensive victory over Kingstone.

The U12's (half of whom were Year 6's) reached the semi-finals of the County Rounders Tournament, a great effort by them given that we have so few to select from in that age group.

The U15's rounders team had a comprehensive win over Luctonians, as did a mixed U14/13 team at Tenbury.

Four U13 girls were selected to compete at the Hereford and Worcester County Minors Athletics Championship, with excellent performances from all, especially Frankie who placed 5th in the 800m with a personal best of 2 minutes and 45 seconds.

**Mrs Connop
Head of Sport**

Victrix Ludorum



Victor Ludorum



Student Stories

Congratulations to all our students who have achieved success in their various areas of interest, outside of School this term.

Tristan and Amy-Rose competed in a Challenge Cup Qualifier at Coventry. Tristan gained Gold in DMT (Double Mini Trampoline) and Silver in Trampolining, Amy-Rose gained Gold in her trampoline class. They have both qualified for the West Midlands Squad and will compete in the National event, The Trampoline and Tumbling Inter-Regional Challenge Cup Final 2022, in September.

Elena competed in the Southwold swimming competition, she received a trophy for being the top swimmer in her age category, she also gained 4 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze medals adding some fantastic times in the process.

Henley competed in the Wyvern League with City of Hereford

Swim Club. He got a silver medal as Hereford finished in second place overall.

Lois competed in the Midlands Taekwondo Championships in Kettering, Northamptonshire, which attracted competitors from across the UK. It was only her second time competing at that level and she was thrilled to receive the Silver Medal for Girl's Green Belt Middleweight Sparring.

Livia took part in the Southwold Open Meet in May with City of Hereford Swim Club. Medals were handed out to the top 8 in each race. She placed 6th in 50 backstroke, 7th in 50 free and got a bronze for her 200 backstroke race.

£185 was raised by Prep School student, Eliška who bravely had her hair cut for The Little Princess Trust. £150 pays for a professional wig fitting, £550 provides a young person with a wig, and £1,000 can buy new drugs for testing. Well done Eliška!



Staff News

Miss Daughtrey has recently started entering a new eventing series competition, The Cotswold Cup, a highly prestigious series of competitions that culminate in a 4-day event similar to the Badminton Grassroots championships at Badminton House, Gloucestershire. Many congratulations to Miss Daughtrey for winning her section in one event and coming second in another, as well as finishing in the top ten in the other two events. This has placed her in sixth place in the league table out of 252 riders, and a likely selection for the 4-day Championships in September.



Mr Helies, is taking part in a Wing Walk for charity on 28th July. He is raising money for Hope House & Ty Gobaith, a charity who aims to help families with terminally ill children. If you would like to support Mr Helies fund raising effort, you can donate on his [JustGiving page](#).



We would like to thank all the staff at Lucton for their work throughout this academic year, and wish them a restful break over the summer.