

LANGTREE SCHOOL SCOOPS TWO NATIONAL AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT!

Woodcote academy listed in the top 20% for attainment and progress!



Headteacher Rick Holroyd receives two awards for student progress and attainment on behalf of the staff and students of Langtree School, from SSAT Director Jude Chin

It's official! Langtree School is one of the best in the country for student progress and attainment at GCSE! As a result of outstanding outcomes in 2014 – the very best results ever achieved in the school's history – Langtree School has received national recognition for the value it adds to enable students' high achievement at GCSE.

SSAT, the Schools, Students and Teachers Network, recently undertook its annual in-depth analysis of official Department for Education data on all state-funded schools in England and identified Langtree School's success. In 2014, 84% of students secured 5 or more grades at A*-C, with 76% doing so including English and Maths. Furthermore, 39% of all grades awarded were at A* or A which placed Langtree fourth in the country in The Times' list of top state schools with no sixth form. Consequently, the school qualified for two SSAT Educational Outcomes Awards by being in the top 20% of schools nationally for progress made by pupils between key stage 2 results at primary school and GCSE results at age 16, and in the top 20% nationally for high attainment. Headteacher Rick Holroyd was invited to receive these prestigious awards at a celebration event hosted by the SSAT at Holland Park School in London on Tuesday, 12th May.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said: Langtree School should be congratulated for their exceptional achievement. They have proved themselves to be leading the field in improving GCSE outcomes for their students. There is so much good practice that this school could share, and I hope they will join us at the celebration evening for the chance to network and share strategies with award-winning schools.'

Following the celebration event at which the awards were presented, Headteacher Rick Holroyd added that: 'These results are testament to the commitment and hard work of the students, teachers and the leadership team at Langtree School, and show what can be achieved when skilled teachers have high expectations and ambition for every young person. Most importantly I am delighted for the students in our class of 2014, as these results will open up so many opportunities and choices for them all in the future. I am also very pleased for the staff and the school, as these national awards serve as recognition for all the hard work which has been going on for so long to bring Langtree to this level of success.'

Langtree School Astro Turf Pitch

As I am sure you are aware, the all-weather astro turf pitch at Langtree is now in the final phase of completion. This exciting development will mean that all our students will continue to have access to high quality PE lessons and activities all year round, irrespective of the weather or ground conditions. The contractors hope to be finished by 1st June, and commercial hire of the pitch is scheduled to begin on 1st July.

Although the cost of the pitch has been covered by the school with the help of a successful bid to Sport England for £110,000, there will be ongoing maintenance costs to ensure that the pitch is serviceable for many years to come. In order to cover these maintenance costs, I have recently written to 150 local companies, inviting business owners to sponsor a square metre of the pitch. The response has been quite remarkable; within the first 48 hours many companies had already pledged sponsorship, and we hope that more will decide to do so!

Find out who has sponsored us by following us on twitter: @Head4094

I am writing to you today to see if you can help us to extend the publicity of our sponsorship scheme. If you have any business contacts who you think might be interested in sponsoring the pitch, or if your own employer or company might be interested in becoming a sponsor. I would be very grateful if you would pass on a copy of the letter to businesses that can be found on the front page of the school website.

In addition, if you have contacts with any sports clubs, youth groups or organisations who you think might be interested in using the pitch, please ask them to contact the school. We have already booked out a number of slots in the week for hire, so an early response from any interested parties would be recommended!



And finally, if you feel as though you would like to sponsor a square metre of the astro turf as a family or group of friends, then you would of course be very welcome to do so!

Please contact Mary Taylor-Lane if you would like to sponsor a piece of the pitch. mtaylorlane@langtreeschool.com

I also hope that your son or daughter will thoroughly enjoy using this wonderful new facility for a long time to come in the future.

Year 7 Rugby

Unbeaten this season and joint winners of the Oxfordshire County tournament following a 10-10 draw with Burford in the final having beaten Icknield, Gosford Hill, Bartholomew and Chipping Norton in the earlier rounds.

Well done boys!



Langtree School and Email

The way we send email to parents and carers is changing. Emails will come from the following email address: **9314094@capita-intouch.co.uk**
Please check your spam settings to ensure that you are receiving the emails and they are not going into your spam.

Follow us on Twitter @ Head4094

AN EASTER PREMIER AT LANGTREE!

Teacher Talent Show raises £1100 for Helen & Douglas House!



Judges: Livi Nelson, Archie Heelas, George Fry, Alex Smith, Niam Patel, Ryan Barrett-Belcher
Back Stage Crew: Will Hathaway, Ethan Bartle, Ada Nwandu, Liam Rowntree.

What a way to end the term! On the very last afternoon before the Easter break, students at Langtree enjoyed an afternoon of great entertainment provided by members of staff and raised over £1100 at the same time for Helen & Douglas House, the school's nominated charity for 2015.

For the final session, the bells were turned off, lessons were cancelled, books packed away and the entire school community gathered in the Hall for the hour long show of music and comedy. Guest of Honour was Janet Caruzzo, a fundraiser from Helen & Douglas House, who attended to give a brief introduction to the wonderful work of the charity and to enjoy the performances along with the students.



The most impressive aspect of the talent show was that the whole event was student led and managed from start to finish. Student Leaders Ruth Buckley and Lucy Cheng, Lottie Drury, Emily Plumridge, Chloe Beeton and Leilah Whitehead from the Fund Raising Committee came up with the original idea for the show and organised the event from inception to completion, and they will, quite rightly, feel hugely proud of the fact that the event raised in excess of the £1100 target for Helen & Douglas House. The Student Leaders will present the cheque to Janet at the Hospice during a special supporters' visit next term.



The various acts were scrutinised by a panel of student judges, who proved to be very hard to please indeed! For the performing teachers, it was like parents' evening in reverse, as the students delivered their judgements with wit and brutal honesty from the other side of the table. The team was completed by the staff comperes, Debbie Lackey and Chris Hunt, supported by Mr Brown, and they kept the event running smoothly to time as well as finding time to lead the students in a leg stretch by dancing the Macarena!

The event proved to be a hugely enjoyable way in which to end a busy term, and was extremely well supported by the students. In addition, we were able to raise a significant amount of money for Helen & Douglas House, and the intention will be to run a similar event at the end of the Easter term next year. We hope that Janet will join us again as our VIP guest to help us raise some more vital funding for such a worthy cause. For more information about our chosen charity for 2014-15, please visit their web site: www.helenanddouglas.org.uk



Follow us on Twitter @ Head4094

PROUD PARENTS CELEBRATE WITH OUR PROUD STUDENTS!

The first ever Celebration Evening for The Langtree Challenge

'Nothing great is ever achieved without enthusiasm. This is why I've been so very keen on The Langtree Challenge'. Ben Stodolnic, Silver award winner.

Senior Staff at Langtree welcomed some very proud parents at the very first celebration event of the new Langtree Challenge award. The Langtree Challenge, introduced in September 2014, is a new initiative to recognise and celebrate achievement outside the classroom, in team work, sport, extra-curricular activities and community projects. The Challenge has been designed to reward characteristics such as independence, resilience, creativity, communication skills, team work, initiative and self-confidence, as we all recognise that these life skills will be critical to our students' success and employability in their lives after Langtree.



David Taylor from BP, Richard Ford and Eleanor Flood from Invesco with our Silver Award winners.



Our 88 Challenge winners with staff from BP and Invesco Perpetual

Consequently, we are delighted that two major business partners, BP and Invesco Perpetual, have endorsed the Challenge and that representatives from both companies attended the celebration last night in order to congratulate the students on their achievements. Eighty eight students were awarded the Bronze award at the celebration evening, with nine students achieving Silver. Others are busily working towards the Gold award, and senior staff will be interviewing these candidates before the end of the academic year in order to validate the evidence presented. It is hoped that the next celebration event will recognise achievement at all three levels.

We were delighted that our business partners were keen to reaffirm their support for the Challenge at the celebration. Representatives from Invesco Perpetual Eleanor Flood and Richard Ford – both ex-students of Langtree – spoke about their support for the scheme. They were also joined by David Taylor from BP, who explained the reasons for BP's endorsement of The Langtree Challenge as well as more than 250 hours of support the company has provided to Langtree in developing the STEM agenda at Langtree.

The most important presentations however came from the students themselves. Alex Ostridge, Rosie Turtle and Ben Stodolnic all volunteered to speak about their reasons for becoming involved in the Challenge, and their enjoyment of the activities. It was extremely gratifying to hear how much this process is valued by the participants themselves and just how much they had all valued being involved. As Alex put it 'I think other schools will want to launch a Challenge of their own when they find out what we have been doing!'



Ben Stodolnic, Alex Ostridge and Rosie Turtle with Bronze and Silver awards, after addressing the audience of parents.

Our hope is that the first ever celebration event will encourage many other students to take up the Challenge for Bronze, Silver and Gold!



The Langtree Challenge Awards

SILVER AWARD

Tom Ostridge
Jessica Li
Rosie Turtle

David Carr
Lauren Woods

Alex Ostridge
Emily Foster

Craig Moran
Ben Stodolnic

BRONZE AWARD

Will Graham
Lauren Morgan
Niamh Walker
Rachel Brook-Newman
Tom Canning
Zak Clifford-Zyms
Lauren Woods
Lucy Ball
Michaela Driscoll
Connie Hubbard
Tom Ostridge
Scott Purnell
Ollie Sandell
Lewis Whitton
Lewis Beeton
Ed Bloomer
Freddie Draper
Nick Sims

Chloe Beeton
Jack Botham
William Bradley
Alex Burton
David Carr
Ruby Garrett
April Holton
Finlay McAuslin
Adam McBride
Ben Temple
Kinga Moran
Marylou Reed
Erin Stokes
Esme Cummings
Will Cusack
Amy Dean
Anya Decmar

Hazel Drury
Deborah Hanstock
Oscar Hewlett
Joanna Hopwood
Charlotte Mansfield
George Mayo
Frances Wahlen
Madeline Warren
Charlotte Whatmore
Ben Atkins
Sofia Brooke
Gemma Clark
Mungo Leveroni
Annabel McCalman
Emma Munday
Melissa Nott
Jess Roberts

Albert Spencer
Ben Sumner
Alex Ostridge
Mia Allen
Jack Carrington
Saoirse Coveney
Emily Foster
Leah Gordon
Lia Huxtable
Jessica Li
Abigail Mace
Craig Moran
Tierney Rocks
Ben Stodolnic
Rosie Turtle
Jimmy Gladwin
Hannah McDonald

The Nearly Last Day. Year 11 BBQ and Leavers Lunch.

A swat team, superheroes and the spice girls ... only on the Year 11's last day! The year 11's celebrated their last day before exams in style.



With fancy dress, awards and a delicious BBQ lunch we ended our 5 years at Langtree School. Our time at Langtree has gone far too quickly but, we will always remember our time here as we go on to greater things, Thank you to all the staff and teachers for making it such a special day!

GCSE Design Technology



Pictures of some of the final pieces made by the GCSE Design technology students.



A Midsummer Night's Dream

Theseus and Hippolyta cordially invite you to an open air music festival in celebration of their marriage...

Featuring Langtree students performing William Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in the grounds of Langtree school

Monday 22nd - Wednesday 24th June 2015

*Gates open at 6.15pm
Music festival begins at 6.30pm
Play begins at 7.30pm*

Bring your own camping chair, blanket or cushion.

*Tickets available from Langtree school:
£8 adults; £4 concession*



Save the DATE—A Midsummer Night's Dream
22nd, 23rd and 24th June 2015

A Midsummer Night's Dream

22nd, 23rd and 24th June 2015

Attention all Parents!

Perhaps you can help us? Our production is set in a music festival. We would like to have a covered performance area for the musical element of our event. Therefore, we are looking for a flat lorry base (ideally soft sided, which would allow one side to be removed and the rest to cover the performance area). Simply put, a covered outdoor stage is basically what we would like to create!

Alternatively, we would like to source a small performance tent – which could house our musicians, but allow an audience to view the music whilst sitting outside.

The lorry base / tent would be needed from Friday 19th June – Thursday 25th June.

Please, please, get in touch if you may be able to help: gpimm@langtreeschool.com.

Many thanks! Gill Pimm

A Midsummer Night's Dream Poster Competition

We held a competition for students to design the poster for our production of 'Dream'. Thank you to all students who entered – we were really impressed with your talent and creativity! Congratulations to Ellie Peters in year 9, whose design, as you can see, is simply beautiful! Ellie has won 2 tickets to our production. Congratulations, also, to Michelle Bennett and Niamh Walker whose designs were the runners-up. They have won a ticket for the show each. Mrs Pimm, Mrs Buckley and Mrs Bainbriggie

The Stand

On 15th April we went to see 'The Stand' at South Street Theatre, Reading. This was in the verbatim theatre style, which interviews real people on a particular topic, and then the actors speak their words verbatim in the performance. The aim of this form of theatre is to create a real sense of truth. 'The Stand' was really unusual and just had 6 actors, who were mostly seated, half reading from scripts. Despite this, it managed to be very absorbing, moving and thought-provoking about the theme of standing up your rights. Thoroughly inspired, I am now writing a verbatim unit of work for Year 9! Thanks to all students who attended for your thoughtful responses to this unusual piece of theatre. Gill Pimm



A Strange Wild Song

On 5th May, we went to our wonderful local studio theatre, South Street in Reading, to see Rhum and Clay's 'A Strange Wild Song'. Here are some of our favourite bits:

'I loved it! My favourite parts were when the actors used the puppet planes and the chest of drawers to show that the youngest child was imagining himself as a pilot. I also loved the part where the soldier joined in with the children's role play, the use of props was so clever!' - Bella Burbea
'I liked the puppets of the boy flying because it was something we could do as a school it was also funny.' - Esme Cummings

'My favourite part of A Strange Wild Song was when the man was in the plane (the whole scene), because it really looked like he was actually in a plane, it just got funnier and funnier throughout the scene' - Connie Hubbard

'I think the best part in the play was when the youngest boy was dreaming about being a pilot. I liked how they did the little puppet and the humour of the whole play but specifically in that scene. Thank you for organising the trip because it was amazing!' - Amy Dean

Countryside Skills - Year 10 Do you know what a Quern is?

It is a stone hand-operated mill used to grind grain to make flour.

'I liked the contrast between the old and the new method of producing flour. The experience of using the 'quern'



made me realise how hard it was to make flour' said Jack Lovegrove 10AWL. This photo shows Sam Foley, Sam Lomas & Jack Lovegrove using the quern.

'We always do something enjoyable each week. Learning old techniques is more fun than you think! It makes you question modern life' commented Maja Ochcinska 10CN. 'We

made the best pancakes' said Sam Foley 10IB



GCSE Geography Year 10 Fieldtrip

During the week of 13th April, the Year 10 Geography students went on a field trip to the Gower. This field study and the work relating to it accounts for 25% of our final grade.

We arrived in glorious sunshine which continued for most of the week. This area is amazingly beautiful and packed full of geographical features for us to study. One of the days was spent studying the landforms of the River Ilston which we were studying for our controlled assessment, which was a lot of fun. It required some people to do quite a lot of wading across the river. Top tip from others; don't forget to take the tape measure across with you!

We also spent part of a day exploring one of the coal mines of South Wales, Big Pit at Blaenafon. It was one of the largest industrial coal mines in the South Wales coalfield from 1860 to 1980, employing 1,399 people at its peak in 1923. We had a very humorous tour guide who was able to make even the people with a fear of being underground laugh or at least crack a nervous smile. During this day most of us managed to bang into the roof of the mine or nearly slip over on the slopes but it was a lot of fun. We also looked at Swansea steelworks from a large hill, sitting down and drawing a sometimes inaccurate field sketch of the area. We will be studying these at a later date in class as part of the module of looking at the changes in UK's economic activities.

Towards the end of the trip we had a day where we could pick an activity. These were: sea kayaking, caving, climbing and scrambling. I chose scrambling and it was excellent, one of the best things I have ever chosen to do. Scrambling involves climbing without ropes over large rocks on the coast. Some of us found it difficult and repeatedly got our feet wet but we all enjoyed it, especially our lunch on the beach at the end. The other activities sounded excellent as well.

The fieldtrip was excellent, despite some students being unwell, as we learnt a lot geographically. We all owe a huge thank you to Mrs Phipps, Mrs Brockwell, Mrs Protheroe, Mrs Child and Mr Luck for taking care of us so well.

Written by Tom Hubbard



Year 11 Music Coursework

Performance Concert - Wednesday 25th March

The Year 11 GCSE musicians worked extremely hard during the first term up to Easter on completing all their composing and performing coursework. To celebrate the successful completion of all their coursework, the students gave a performance of their pieces in the music department. Congratulations to Ethan, Greg, Emily, Ben, Christian, Daniel, Ben and Liam (pictured below) on a fantastic set of performances and good luck in your examinations.

Stephen Henderson—Head of Music



Please check the website for up to date information.

IMPORTANT

CONTACT INFORMATION

Have you moved house, changed your mobile number or email Address? If yes to any of these please send an email to: parents@langtreeschool.com to update your details.

TERM 6 DATES

A full public / mock timetable for examinations is available on the school website:
www.langtreeschool.com/examinations

22nd May—End of Term 5

1st June - Start of Term 6

10th June—Yr8 French trip parents evening

Friday 19th June—INSET DAY

20th & 21st June—Dress and Technical rehearsal
for Midsummer Nights Dream

22nd-24th June—Midsummer Nights Dream

25th June—Year 11 Prom

29th June—3rd July—Creativity Week

17th July—End of Term, school closes at 12.30pm



Langtree School and Email

The way we send email to parents and carers is changing.

Emails will come from the following email address: 9314094@capita-intouch.co.uk

Please check your spam settings to ensure that you are receiving the emails and they are not going into your spam.

If you have any good quality **School Uniform** that your child has grown out of, we would be very grateful to receive it. Please bring any donations of uniform to reception, thank you. If you would like to purchase any of the second hand uniform please contact the School Office office@langtreeschool.com or 01491 680514

LOST PROPERTY

When lost property arrives in the school office it is checked for a name. Named lost property is then returned directly to the owner. Unnamed property is kept in the school office in the hope that it will be reclaimed. 2 or 3 times during the school year the un-named lost property will be made available in the main hall for the students to look through. please help us to return belongings to students by clearly naming all their uniform and other belongings. Thank you, Langtree School Office.

Please pay on line for trips & visits rather than by cash or cheque.

Paying online is quick and convenient and allows you to see what you have paid and any amounts left to pay, particularly useful for school trips. Paying online also helps the school by cutting down the amount of time needed to process the hundreds of cheques we receive. If you do not have your unique pupil code please email the finance office: finance@langtreeschool.com

