

All members of our wider school community should end a busy year feeling very proud of what we have all achieved together during my first year as Headteacher at Langtree school. Our students have achieved much during the last year, with record numbers completing the Langtree Challenge and so many receiving positive reports from our recent activities week, residential visits and work experience. I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher of such a close knit school where the whole community work together to achieve.

We will be sorry to say farewell to a number of valued colleagues who leave us this summer. Miss Buckley leaves us for an exciting role at Cox Green School. Mrs Ilderton and Mr Luke will be hugely missed in the English and Design Technology departments respectively. Mrs Moss will be leaving the LSB where her calm manner and support for students in maths will be greatly missed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of these members of staff for their hard work and commitment to Langtree School. It goes without saying that they will all be sadly missed, but I am also very excited by the calibre and quality of the replacement staff we have successfully recruited for September when we will again be fully staffed with some outstanding teachers.

We welcome in September; Mrs Maunder-Hand and Ms Quinn in English, Miss Wilford will also be joining the English department on a permanent basis. Mrs Jones and Mrs Bamford will be joining the team in Science. Mr Sinnamon will join us in Design Technology. Mrs Phillips and Mrs Brassell will be joining the Maths department. I am sure that all our new members of staff will quickly become part of the Langtree family.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Lackey for all that she has done for many years in her role as Head of Year. Mrs Lackey has taken the decision to step down from this role, but will still be working closely with students as an outstanding teacher of PE.

In the meantime, as we look forward with excitement to the challenges of a new academic year, I hope that you will also find time to read the reports of such a wonderful term in this newsletter. Many thanks yet again for your unstinting support for our school; I hope that you all find some time relax with your families over the coming summer weeks.

Mr S Bamford—Headteacher

Artist of the Term Nicole Hemming



The PTA have had another incredible year raising lots of much needed additional funding for our wonderful school! With the support of the parent community and the Langtree staff the PTA committee have been able to donate an impressive £4510 to the school (Sept – July) benefiting all of our children in so many ways. Money has been raised through fundraising events; this year we had the fun Quiz Night which alone raised just over £3000; through providing refreshments at all school events and also to several generous match-funded donations from parents. **THANK YOU EVERYBODY WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED!**

Some of the items we have funded include: Trophy Cabinets, Parcan Lights, Chromebooks, Lacrosse equipment, Reading and Latin books and news hot off the press, our next big donation - we are contributing to the decoration of the school hall, the central hub of the school. During the day it is the setting for assemblies, outside speakers, webinars, PE lessons, drama and music rehearsals. The hall is also where a large number of our students enjoy their lunch.

The committee have had a lot of fun and we feel extremely proud of what we have achieved.

We are always looking for new parents to join us, so please come along and get involved, Tuesday 10th September at the Highwayman Inn, Exlade Street, Checkendon, for a meeting at 7.15pm, followed with a social at 8pm for anyone wanting to come & see what we do without the fear of having to go to a meeting! We will be holding our AGM in October.

Joining the PTA does not mean committing to a lot of time or effort – it is surprisingly low key and the more people we have to share the load the better. You may want to simply offer to help at an event or two or just help with refreshments – whatever you can do will have a big impact so do please come along and join in the fun and success!

YEAR 7 CAMP

On Monday 15th July, Year 7 set off on camp to celebrate getting to the end of their first year at Langtree School. Everyone was very excited but also nervous about the challenges to come.

We arrived and immediately got settled into the cosy and rather spacious tents. We then got into our day groups, which were different from the people in our tents to give us the opportunity to meet new people.

A highlight of Monday's activities for me was the **climbing wall**. It was incredibly high and seemed even higher when you looked down from the top! Occasionally it was tricky and you got stuck finding a foot grip but you always had the support from the rest of the team to get you through it. On the first attempt, half of my group got to the top including myself. With encouragement from the rest of the group, two girls who only got about halfway had a second go and managed to get to the top.

On Tuesday we played **Wobblepoly**, a game like Monopoly, but it involves team building activities, such as getting in birthday order whilst balancing on a log, and removing a fake bomb from a circle using only ropes. Once you completed an activity correctly you got money and the team with the most money at the end wins. Unfortunately my team lost but we all had lots of fun! This brought us closer as a group and taught us team skills.

It's hard to pick a personal favourite for Wednesday as all the activities were amazing. The **zip wire** was fantastic. I was very nervous as it was very long and high but I still managed to do it. Our activity instructor gave us a challenge to do on our second go, for example, I had to let go of the rope and someone else had to do a "Mexican scream" whilst on it. This made the activity more thrilling and fun.

After lunch we did the **3G swing**. It went incredibly high and as you swung down your stomach did a somersault. Lots of people went all the way to the top, including some of the teachers! The people who were not doing it counted "1 2 3 G!" and when they said G you swung down.

The instructors got you to do this in different languages which made waiting more fun. I was very worried about the 3G swing and did not want to do it, but my group leader, Mrs Buckley, encouraged me and I managed to do it and enjoyed it.

On our last day we took part in **High All Aboard**. Four people climb up a wobbly pole to a small platform on top, hold hands and lean back. The pole was very high and wobbly. It was very scary standing up there and leaning back but you get an amazing feeling when you do.

After dinner there was always an evening activity, like a game, and you were put in evening groups to meet an even wider range of people. My two favourite evening activities were **World Tour** and **Capture the flag**. To finish off this amazing week, there was a brilliant disco which everyone loved.

At the beginning of the week, many of my group had been afraid of heights but by the end they had conquered their fears. Everyone had made new friends, met new people and become even closer to their friends. I went thinking I might not do everything and left having done everything. Finally, thank you to all the teachers and people who made year 7 camp happen. We all loved it!

Ella Hughes, 7AG0



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7AGO's "Buzztacular Idea"
By Sorcha Boomer

Do people really understand bees?



7AGO were so inspired by 7LCO's plastic pollution assembly that they have come up with an idea to help the bees that are vital to our local natural environment. First of all, we presented a KS3 assembly on the benefits of bees, why they are dying out, what might happen without them and what AGO are trying to do to help them. There was also a comic showing what many people think of bees and why so often they are misunderstood. Bees are essential to our planet; as well as being vital pollinators, they make honey which can be used for curing sore throats, hay fever, burns.

7AGO has worked really hard to make a bee-friendly garden consisting of bee-friendly flowers like lavender and Sedums. Another feature of the bee garden is two bee houses, these are like mini hotels for bees, where the bees can relax and stay safe around the bee garden. If you would like to visit it, you will find it outside the music room and food tech. It is the garden with four lavender plants in the centre. We held a honey-based bake sale which raised a total of £82.75. This money was used to pay for the flowers and bee houses.



Thank you everyone for your support for this project.



Good luck to Josephine and Freya for their trip to the USA for the **World Scout Jamboree**. They left on Saturday and will be joining thousands of Scouts from around the world for an 'an educational event that brings together the



world's young people to promote peace and mutual understanding and to develop leadership and life skills.' We also have a group of students leaving for Uganda on Friday for Project Africa, where they will be helping to build a school in a rural area. Full reports from both adventures in the next newsletter.

Music at Langtree

Another busy term in the music department. Students have been taking exams; GCSE final exam for year 11s and performing exams for the Year 10s. In addition, many students have taken instrumental music grade exams and while not all the results are in there have already been many successes. I will give a full report in the next newsletter.

We also had time to perform to the Arts Society in Goring. Special thanks to Alice Carson, Caitlin Pamar-Sheppard, Jasmine Hogg, Jon Clayden and Freya McDonald. We are particularly grateful to the Arts Society who kindly donated £400 to the music department to enable the Brazilian samba drumming workshop last term.

A select group of musicians performed some exciting



arrangements of Hedwig's theme on the final afternoon of the Harry Potter inspired Activity Week last Friday.

However the highlight for the department was our Summer Concert that contained many fantastic performances, including solos from Ani Archer, Izzy Chandler, Toby Weller, Veia Zanelli, and Jasmine Hogg. There also some outstanding ensemble performances by Year 10 musicians. The choirs and orchestras combined for a memorable performance of Maxwell's Silver Hammer and Africa. We even reprised Africa to include some great audience participation! The evening ended with a fantastic performance by the orchestra of Soul Bossa Nova and Uptown Funk.



Thank you for your support of all the wonderful musical events this year and we look forward to seeing you for more memorable events next year.



Year 8 Trip to France



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Year 8 and 9 Harry Potter Week



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Term 6 Sports Results

Date	Sport and year group	Opponents and venue	Result
5/6	Year 10 Tennis boys and Girls	V South Oxon Teams	Girls beat Wheatley Park 3-0 And Wallingford 3-0 to advance to the County finals. Tina Slovak and Holly Crook
6/6	U15 Softball v South Oxon Schools	MECE / Icknield / St Birinus	Beat MECE 3-2. Lost to ICK 5-4 2nd place overall. Qualified for County Finals. Excellent fielding by Ben Morgan
6/6	Year 7 A&B Rounders	Vs Wallingford	A lost 13-10 / B lost 9-4
11/06	Year 8 Area Rounders	@ Gillotts	Finished 2nd out of 7. Qualified for County Finals Excellent performance with some tight fielding
12/6	Year 7 Quad Kids competition	Vs South Oxon Schools	Year 7 girls came 4th. Ruby King-Cook scored 160 points Year 7 boys came 5th. Finn Walker scored 177 points Overall team came 4th
18/6	Year 10 Super six athletics	Vs South Oxon schools @ Gillotts	Came 4th overall out of 7 schools. 4x100m team won the relay Qualified for school games finals
19/6	U13 Softball	Vs South Oxon schools @ St Birinus	Came 3rd overall. Beat MECE, lost to Icknield. and St Birinus in close games. Qualified for school games finals
20/6	U14 Super six Athletics	Vs South Oxon schools @ Gillotts	Boys came 2nd. Girls came 4th. Second Overall and qualified for school games
26/6	Year 7 / 8 Cricket	Vs Gillotts @ Henley Cricket Club	Lost both matches second game was much closer
27/6	Year 9 A&B Rounders	V's Gillotts	A won 81/2 - 8. B lost 15-9
2/7	Finals Year 8 Rounders	Several schools	5/6th overall in County
2/7	Finals for Year 8 Softball	6 other schools	3rd Place and Bronze medal winners (right picture)
2/7	Finals for Year 10 Rounders	Several schools	1st Place County Champions (left picture)
2/7	Finals for year 10 softball	Several schools	5th Place in county
3/7	Year 10 Super 6 athletics	10 schools	8th in County
3/7	Year 8/9 super sixes	10 schools	8th in county
3/7	U15 Girls Tennis Finals	3 schools	County Champions—Tina Slovak and Holly Crook (middle picture)



The **Year 10 GCSE Food Students** enjoyed a visit from a Waitrose fishmonger to demonstrate filleting rainbow trout. The demonstration helped the students develop skills that they will need for their GCSE. Students commented " It was really fun popping out the fish eyes and the fish tasted amazing after we had pan fried it and then ate it with a homemade tomato sauce." " Chloe and I had a really fun lesson and enjoyed experiencing something new."



Please check the website for up to date information. www.langtreeschool.com

Crisp Packet Recycling

MORE than 10,000 crisp packets have been recycled by pupils at Langtree School, which equates to just over 25kg of crisp packets!! Students began collecting crisp packets the start of the summer term under a scheme run by manufacturer Walkers and waste company Terracycle.

Tutor group teams competed each week to collect the most packets from friends and relatives. Computing and Business studies teacher Emma Morel, who came up with the idea, boxed up their first 2,500 packets and sent them to Walkers by post. The students have since collected another 2,500 in several bin bags to send off.

The school plans to continue participating and hopes to beat the current record of 50,000 packets. It may also join other schemes to recycle other types of packaging.

Students have supported the scheme in various ways: Tommy Stevens has now taken to regularly picking up litter up in the school playground. Classmates Amy Griffin and Hannah Bates collected a large number from friends in the 1st Purley and Pangbourne Scouts while year 8 pupil Niamh Hall carried out doorstep collections in Woodcote. Mrs Morel, whose son Finn is also taking part, said: "We're trying to take more responsibility for making less of an environmental impact and also reduce litter on the playground.

"We did an assembly where we saw pictures of 30-year-old crisp packets washing up on beaches, which brings home the fact that they don't break down and will be around for a long time.

"We'd like to collect other items as well but the big issue is storage as we're keeping these big bags in the school office and the staff are having to work around them." Hannah said: "It's funny to see so many crisp packets in one place but it makes you think about how many are going to landfill and the amount we're generating."

Amy said: "We're just one school and we've only been collecting crisp packets but the pile looks huge so you realise just how much plastic waste must be getting thrown away everywhere."

Tommy said: "Some tutor groups were collecting 200 packets a week, which is amazing.



Mrs Godfrey Visits the Houses of Parliament

Following a lengthy and competitive application process I was selected to join 70 teachers from across the UK on a unique and inspiring Teacher Ambassador Programme held at the Houses of Parliament.

I spent 3 days at the Houses of Parliament immersing myself in the politics of Westminster. My days included meeting and conversing with the House of Commons Speaker and the Lords Speaker and meeting members of both Houses, as well as senior House officials.

I met all sorts of well known politicians and personalities, including Jeremy Corbyn, who happened to be next to me in the lunch queue! Furthermore, I had the daunting experience of going into the BBC studios and being interviewed by BBC Oxford where I made every effort to sing the praises of our amazing school. In addition, our group received training from already qualified Teacher Ambassadors who provided us with strategies and ideas for inspiring our students to become more engaged and aware of how the work of Parliament has a direct affect on them.

You can listen to my interview on the following link 2 hours 36 minutes into the show.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p07d55dx>



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Absence Requests (other than for medical appointments)

Parents may not authorise absence; only schools can do this. Schools may authorise any absence they deem appropriate; conversely, they can refuse to authorise any absence. Parents do not have an automatic right to withdraw students from school for a holiday, and, in law, have to apply for permission in advance. Retrospective approval may not be given. Holidays taken during term time without approval from the Headteacher will be recorded as unauthorised. Removal of your child for a holiday in term time without permission without authorisation from the Headteacher may lead to issuing of fixed penalty notice or even prosecution under section 444 of the Education Act.

What to do:

Requesting absence should be done in writing at least one month prior to the absence. If the child does not return to school after an agreed period, they may be marked as having unauthorised absence. Requests for absence should be made in writing to the Deputy Headteacher Ms S Burman, via the attendance officer: Mrs Debbie Hayward studentabsence@langtreeschool.com stating the dates of absence and the reason for the absence, the school reserves the right to seek further information about the requested absence

2019 – 2020 Term Dates

Monday 2nd September	Inset Day
Tuesday 3rd September	Inset Day
Wednesday 4th September	Start of Term 1 for Year 7 students – Induction Day
Thursday 5th September	Term 1 starts for all other students
Friday 27th September	Sponsored Walk
Tuesday 1st October	Open Evening/students finish at 1.00pm
Wednesday 2nd October	Inset Day
Tuesday 8th October	Open morning for prospective parents (9am-12pm)
Wednesday 9th October	Open morning for prospective parents (9am-12pm)
Friday 25th October	Harvest Festival Assembly
Friday 25th October	End of Term 1
October Break – Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November 2019	
Monday 4th November	Start of term 2
Thursday 14th November	Y11 Henley College Taster day and CREATIVITY DAY 1
Wednesday 20th November	7.30pm GCSE Presentation Evening
Wednesday 11th December	Senior Citizens Christmas Party
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Extravaganza Concert
Wednesday 18th December	End of Term 2 (School closes at 12.30pm)
Christmas Holiday – Thursday 19th December 2019 – Friday 3rd January 2020	
Monday 6th January	Start of Term 3
Monday 6th January–Friday 17th January 2020 Year 11 Mock GCSE Exams	
Thursday 13th February	End of Term 3
Friday 14th February	Inset Day (Disaggregated)
February Break – Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2020	
Monday 24th February	Start of Term 4
Monday 2nd March–Thursday 12th March Year 10 Exams	
Friday 3rd April	End of Term 4
Easter Holiday – Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April 2020	
Monday 20th April	Start of Term 5
Friday 8th May	May Day Bank Holiday (moved for VE day celebrations)
Friday 22nd May	End of Term 5
May Holiday – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2020	
Monday 1st June	Start of Term 6
Friday 3rd July	National Inset Day
Mon 13th July–Fri 17th July	Activities Week Y7 Camp / Y8 France / Y10 Work Ex.
Monday 20th July	Sports Day
Tuesday 21st July 2019	End of Term 6 (School closes at 12.30pm)

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SCHOOL IS NOW
CASHLESS for
TRIPS / VISITS /
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EQUIPMENT**

**If you do not have
your unique
pupil code
please email the
finance office:
finance@
langtreeschool.com**

Paying online is quick and convenient and allows you to see what you have paid and any amounts left to pay, this is particularly useful for school trips. There is a link to the online payment system on the front of the school website.

**PLEASE
PAY
HERE**

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 re-claimed. 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.