



July 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

As we come to the end of another extraordinary academic year, I reflect back with immense pride on yet another incredible year. I remain so impressed by how much we achieve together as a result of the strong relationships that exist here amongst staff, parents and students. We can be really proud of our school community for the way in which we have supported one another through the ongoing challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, working together to ensure that we focus on doing everything possible to maintain the highest standards of education possible, both academically and for your child's personal development too.

It has been a delight over the past few weeks to watch the production of Pan! realised after months of hard work. As I said in my remarks after the final performance, I believe the production represents all that is good about education - Creativity, Fun, Support, Progress, Teamwork and Challenge.

The activity week last week was another huge success, the fact that almost the whole of KS3 were on residential trips and most of Year 10 were involved in work experience was a huge testament to the commitment of our staff to ensure all students were given amazing experiences. Year 7 Camp is so important in bringing the cohort together. It was fantastic to be able to give year 8s a similar experience at PGL as they had missed out on their opportunity to camp last year. Year 9s too had missed out on so much and they benefited so much the chance to go to Amsterdam. We are all hugely indebted to the staff who put in so much time, energy and expertise to make these trips happen at the end of a challenging school year.

Literally as I write, I am having my face painted in preparation for our sports day. The first with our new house system. The students (and staff) have certainly bought into it and I believe this innovation has the potential to add another opportunity for development, enjoyment and competition into Life at Langtree.

It only remains for me to wish our whole community a fantastic summer holiday. I am already looking forward to the next academic year with optimism and excitement about the plans we have to develop our excellent school still further.

Simon Bamford, Headteacher

Lino cut prints—Year 9





Pan! It was a great pleasure to welcome so many of our school community to watch our performance of 'Pan' on 5th - 7th July, including a matinee performance for Year 6 students on their taster day. Re-imagined from J M Barrie's 'Peter Pan' by Head of Drama, Gill Pimm, this original production focused on us spending less time on our screens and more time playing and laughing with each other - to keep our inner-child alive! Our show boasted a cast of 55, student technical team and a live student band. A total of 120 students (all ages 11-15) were involved in creating the production - almost 25% of our student population at that point in the school year! This fun, action-packed performance was spread across 2 stages and included audience participation, a full-sized boat, and original music created by the students and Head of Music, Stephen Henderson.

Both Mrs Pimm and Mr Henderson feel incredibly proud of what our amazing students have achieved in just 7 weeks of rehearsal. It has been a privilege to work with such a talented, creative and hard working group of young people. Seeing the way our audiences, old and young, have responded to the production has been a real thrill for us all.







YEAR 7 CAMP







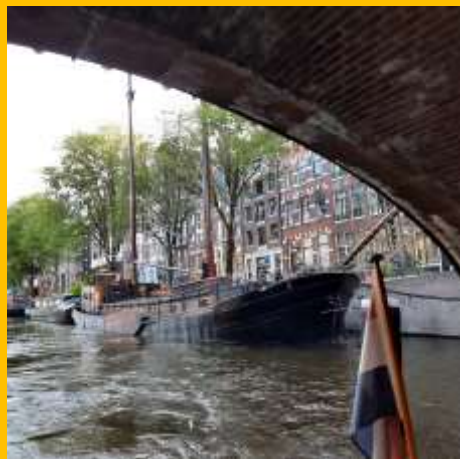
Year 8 Isle of Wight





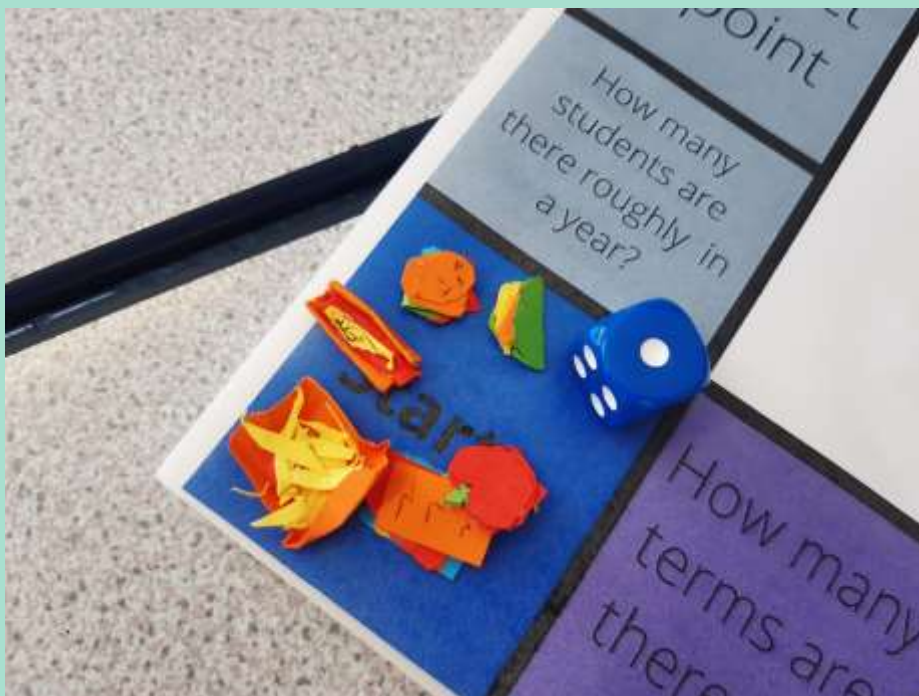


YEAR 9 The NETHERLANDS





Activities Week in School





Food and Business trip to Folly Farm #FarmMyFood

#FarmMyFood is an annual event at Folly Farm, North Waltham bringing local food producers, rural businesses and experts in nutrition, marketing and business management together to inspire GCSE students to understand local, national and global food markets. Year 10 Business and Food and Nutrition students from a number of schools enjoyed a wide variety of interactive workshops within the Rural Business Hub (Rural Business Hub: Business experts from a wide range of specialities will help students understand the practicalities of sourcing finance, managing a diverse workforce, investing in new technology, marketing produce and operating within the global commodities market), the Food Hall (Food Hall: A wide range of local producers, including a trout farmer, bakery, vegetable grower, cheese producer and butcher, will share their produce, personal business successes and challenges, whilst they bring to life the realities of food production) and the Nutrition and Cooking areas. As well as a tractor and trailer ride around the farm, students competed for prizes as they worked in small teams to complete a curriculum linked challenge. Langtree took the top honours in both the Business and the Food competitions

Herbie, Harri and Auryn's winning idea was for a drone of the highest technology which maximises the amount of seeds in the area available. It does this by the layout of the fields are computerised and seeds are laid out in exact measurements. Then, the drone which has tentacle-like arms scans the field and knows where to plant the seeds. On top of the drone there is a solar panel which helps reduce the use of fossil fuels and therefore, producing solar energy. Every five years, there will be new autoculture prototypes to maximise the latest technology used. To increase popularity, there will be multiple social media sites testing and building parts of the drone. All prototypes will be trailed at folly farm. (Words by Auryn)

In the food competition students were set a challenge to design a new food recipe that had to include at least 3 of the ingredients / food products available in the food hall at Folly farm on the Day. Jolene Parsons' idea for a Cheesy Trout Lasagne with Roasted Sugar Snap Peas and Spelt Garlic Bread was the judges choice of winner.



The Langtree School Association—The PTA

It's been a busy term all round with school moving much closer to being able to get back to normal with face to face events and welcoming people into the building again.

As a PTA we have been delighted to be able get alongside staff and students to provide refreshments at several events including the amazing orchestra and drama evening, the Yr 8 parents' evening, the GCSE presentation evening and, of course, the fantastical production of Pan held at the beginning of July. This event involved providing and running the bar for all three evenings and we were very grateful for the parents and students who volunteered to help, several of them for more than one evening, some for all three. It was a brilliant production and we were so pleased to be able to play a part in such enjoyable evenings.

On a very hot afternoon on Sat 9th July, we held a purely fun and social Rounders event. Enough families came along to make up two teams and we played three games. Alongside the fun came a healthy level of competitiveness, seen most keenly in the adults verses children game which was taken by the children by just half a rounder! Us adults will never live it down! The whole event was really enjoyable and lovely to get some new families to meet, relax and have a good time together. It is certainly an event we hope to run again next year.

This will be the last newsletter for several of the key members of the PTA as for many of us our children have left Langtree this Summer. We can all hugely recommend getting involved and being part of the Langtree PTA as it provides a chance not only to make a difference to the provision our children receive at school but also the opportunity to get alongside other parents you may not otherwise meet and to make new friends.

So please consider getting in touch to find out more and joining us in September – your PTA desperately need you so we can continue to operate with the legal amount of positions filled on the committee and enough people to support events in the future. If we don't get the volunteers, the PTA may sadly need to fold and none of us wants that to happen!

For now though, we wish you a very happy and peaceful Summer holidays whatever you may be doing.

The PTA Committee.

Please get involved if you can, The PTA support many aspects of school life, supporting all staff in their work with your children at Langtree School. The more parents who get involved the easier it is for the PTA to continue to do everything they currently do. All staff at school are hugely grateful to them for this vital help.



Report on The Big Plastic Count by Charlotte Binns, 9HQu (May - June 2022)



Langtree School KS3 pupils were among 250,000 people across the country who from the 16th to the 22nd of May, took part in the biggest plastic investigation to ever take place in the UK, in a phenomenal effort to produce concrete proof that it's time to act.

I made Mrs Brockwell aware of the initiative and she got the support of Mrs Belcher and Mrs Godfrey (as well as from Mr Bamford) to get KS3 students involved.

Action needs to be taken by the government to change for the better the workings of our throw-away country. The hope is that action will be taken to reduce single-use plastics usage by 50% before 2025. This could be achieved by switching to reusable options that work for everyone.

Another aim is to ban sending our waste to other countries, which currently only delays the issue in our country and worsens it in others. The final goal being asked of the government is to implement an all-in Deposit Return Scheme. Since the government is about to decide new laws about plastic, it is believed now is the best time to produce evidence that the plastic problem is larger than previously believed.

The **Big Plastic Count** was inspired by Daniel Webb, who for 12 months collected and counted all his plastic waste. When it totalled 4,490 pieces, he realised the importance of an investigation in helping to understand the extent of the plastic problem in our country. He commented afterwards: "The Big Plastic Count is a simple yet impactful way to discover your household plastic footprint, whilst contributing vital evidence to push the government for long overdue change." It has been tried before by *Everyday Plastic* who have successfully piloted the plastic count since September 2019 with individuals, families, community groups, schools, youth organisations and businesses.

Some facts about plastic:

Did you know that the UK produces more plastic waste per person than almost every other country in the world? If we don't change our ways, the amount of plastic produced around the world is set to double by 2040.

- In 2018, the UK generated an estimated 5.2 million tonnes of plastic packaging. 3.5 million tonnes of that was waste – this is enough to fill Wembley stadium six times!
- 50% of all plastic produced each year is single-use. This plastic is often called 'pointless plastic' because it packages products that don't need it, like fruit and vegetables.
- Plastic breaks down into tiny pieces called microplastics. Almost all of the plastic ever created still exists somewhere on Earth as it takes roughly 450 years to fully decompose.
- Almost all plastic starts as a fossil fuel like oil and gas. When burned, these fuels release greenhouse gases, like carbon dioxide, which contribute to climate change and can cause health problems.
- Only 9% of plastic worldwide can be recycled, the rest is either incinerated, taken overseas or sent to landfill.
- Unlike glass or metal, most plastic can only be recycled once or twice. After this, the quality isn't good enough so it becomes plastic waste.
- Animals can become tangled in plastic waste or accidentally eat it. This can injure or kill them.
- Plastic was invented in 1869. It's cheap, long-lasting and can be made into all sorts of sizes, shapes and colours. That's the reason why it's used to make many everyday items like clothes, food packaging, medical equipment, toys and technology,

The idea of the movement, organised by *Greenpeace and Everyday Plastic*, is to produce evidence on how much plastic is thrown away to encourage the government, big brands and supermarkets to change their ways to more reusable alternatives that are better for the environment and reduce plastic waste. After you submit the results of your seven-day count, Greenpeace calculate your household's plastic footprint and reveal to you exactly what happens to your rubbish once it leaves your home, showing the true scale of the UK's plastic problem. It'll also provide tips on how to reduce plastic in day-to-day life.

The issue *Greenpeace* is trying to solve with this campaign is that it is unknown how much plastic we really throw away, or what happens to it. The government says 46% of the UK's plastic waste is recycled however investigators think it is less, as much of what is claimed to be recycled is instead shipped overseas and dumped or burned there. They believe that recycling isn't going to solve our plastic pandemic, as there is too much plastic for the recycling systems to cope with and the reusable options aren't suitable for all walks of life. To combat the problem, they launched the nation's biggest ever investigation into household plastic waste, to discover just how much household plastic is thrown away and how much is really recycled. To know what happens to the plastic waste, they've used the best industry and publicly available data from RECOUP and WRAP (two leading authorities in the plastic recycling industry), the data is based on national averages so it doesn't take into account local collection rates or individual behaviour.

Over the investigation, the idea was for KS3 students to sort and tally up all the plastic used by their household that day and write their results on a categorised tally sheet, each category included different types of plastics with different uses and some examples of each to make it easier to know what goes where.

This is the combined results of the data collected by KS3, the total yearly amount is **4.5 times** the capacity of Wembley Stadium! Each tutor group received a certificate with their Plastic Footprint totals on it.

7CDA were the tutor group that collected the most data and as a reward they planted some seed balls in an area of the courtyard next to their tutor room. We look forward to seeing the wildflowers that grow here.

PLASTIC FOOTPRINT OF LANGTREE SCHOOL

IN ONE WEEK, 122 STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES THREW AWAY:

7740

PIECES OF PLASTIC

OVER A YEAR THAT'S EQUIVALENT TO:

402,480

PIECES OF PLASTIC

WHAT WAS THE PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE USED FOR?



84%

FOOD & DRINK



10%

TOILETRIES & CLEANING



6%

EVERYTHING ELSE

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE?



13%

RECYCLED IN THE UK

Plastic waste that is sorted and processed in the UK, then turned into new materials.



19%

EXPORTED

Plastic waste that is shipped overseas for processing, but much of it also ends up being dumped or burned.



44%

LANDFILLED

Plastic waste that is disposed of by burying it in the ground.



24%

INCINERATED

Plastic waste that is disposed of by burning it. This releases carbon, toxins and pollutants.

Please remember - this is not about individual responsibility. Too much single-use plastic is produced without reusable alternatives that suit everyone's needs.



Year 8 - Theme Park Project in English

Year 8 have done a fantastic job working on their Theme Park projects in English this term. The winning group from each class used their spoken language skills to present their project to the whole of Year 8 and a panel of judges - including our guest judge, Sarah Parish, who is a governor for our school. Huge congratulations to all the Year 8 finalists, and especially to the winning team, Joe P, Jess QK, Evie L and Oscar BG, who really impressed the judges with their levels of confidence, organisation and ability to answer questions from the audience in detail. We hope your trophies are standing pride of place on your mantle piece!



The Langtree Challenge

On the 23rd of June, the first Langtree challenge evening in over a year was held. Over 140 students! received their bronze, silver, gold, and platinum awards. This event was very well received by Parents and students. It also included a lot of clapping. Matthew Mccoy, 8MSA

Not sure what The Langtree Challenge is.....?

Recognising Achievement and Celebrating Character
At Langtree School, our mission of 'Putting Learning First' quite rightly emphasises the importance we put upon academic achievement. Securing the best GCSE outcomes possible will enhance the life chances for every individual student, and this is our core purpose.

However, we are also acutely aware of the skills and qualities all students will need to develop if they are to realise their full potential later in life: leadership, independence, team-working, resilience, communication, confidence, organisation and initiative.

The Langtree Challenge has been designed to recognise the importance of these characteristics alongside academic attainment, and to celebrate the achievement of each individual student in these key life skills. In this way, the Langtree Challenge will encourage students to participate in leadership skills and activities within school and the wider community, which will in turn enhance their employability when they leave full-time education. The challenge is open to all irrespective of academic ability; it is fully inclusive and the Gold challenge is achievable for any student who can display the attributes mentioned above.

All the details of what you need to achieve to receive a Challenge award can be found on the school website:

<https://langtreeschool.com/the-langtree-challenge/>

Class of 2022



Congratulations to you all, we look forward to seeing you on exam results day.



2021—2022 Term 6 Sports Results

U15 South Oxfordshire softball tournament	Tournament Winners. Beat St Birinus 9-5 Beat Icknield 7-6 Beat Chiltern Edge 10-6	A
Year 7 Quadkids Athletics	All South Oxfordshire Schools A Team 4th overall B Team 7th Overall	B
Year 9 Cricket 6's	Beat Wallingford 71 runs to 70. Beat Aureus 39 runs to 27	C
U15 Super 6 Athletics	South Oxon Schools	D
Year 8 Quad Kids	South Oxon Schools A team 4th Overall B Team 7th Overall	E
U14 Cricket	Icknield	F
Year 8 Cricket 6's	Top of group	G
Mixed Rounders Year 8	Beat Icknield 11 rounders to 10.	H



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H

Congratulations to Olly Offwood who has been selected to represent Oxfordshire County Cricket during their 2022 tour.

The selection for county level is extremely competitive and the process started with over 700 boys from across Oxfordshire competing for 30 places in the 2022 squad over a 9 month process. Olly was selected in June this year. He is also a member of the Oxfordshire Bull's team that represent Oxfordshire County players from the state school system who compete against the independents through the summer season. He captained the Bull's recently to a win against Abingdon School. This is a great initiative from Oxfordshire Cricket helping to level up opportunities for cricketers from all backgrounds.

Olly was selected to represent the county on their 2022 tour – only 15 of the 30 squad members were successful. This is hugely important for his personal development, continued growth in the sport he seeks to reach professional status and a very significant achievement.

British Karting Championship—Jake Humphrey.

After setting up on Friday Jake was able to take part in the remaining practice session of the day. There were then 4 practice sessions and qualifying on Saturday. Qualifying went well and was extremely close. With only hundredths of a second separating some of the competitors, and saw Jake qualify in 13th place. Sunday was race day, and there were 2 heats and a final. You are awarded points from your finishing positions from the heats, and this gives you your starting position for the final. So, Jake's starting position for the final was 16th. There were two false starts and then the rain started to fall. With them all being junior drivers and all on slick tyres the race was red flagged. They were then allowed to change to wet tyres in the assembly area and the race was restarted. Conditions were extremely tricky, but Jake managed to keep the kart on track and finished the final in 9th place. After two rounds of the championship, Jake is currently in 9th position, and we are extremely proud of him as this is his rookie season. Jake is now looking forward to the next round of the British Karting Championship at Rissington Kart Club in July.



2022 – 2023 Term Dates

Please note that there are **TWO** additional inset days to be added to the 2022 - 2023 calendar.

Thursday 1st September	Inset Day
Friday 2nd September	Start of Term 1 for Year 7 students - Induction day
Monday 5th September	Start of Term 1 for all other students.
Friday 23rd September	SPONSORED WALK
Friday 30th September	INSET DAY
Monday 3rd October	INSET DAY
Friday 21st October	End of Term 1
October Break – Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October 2022	
Monday 31st October	Start of Term 2
21st November to 2nd December	Year 11 Mock Exams
Monday 5th December	INSET DAY
Friday 16th December	End of Term 2 (Half Day)
Christmas Holiday – Monday 19th December 2022 – Monday 2nd January 2023	
Tuesday 3rd January	Start of Term 3
Friday 10th February	End of Term 3
February Break – Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February 2023	
Monday 20th February	Start of Term 4
Friday 31st March	End of Term 4
Easter Holiday – Monday 3rd April – Friday 14th April 2023	
Monday 17th April	Start of Term 5
Monday 1st May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 26th May	End of Term 5
May Holiday – Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023	
Monday 5th June	Start of Term 6
Friday 21st July	End of Term 6 (Half Day)

LANGTREE SCHOOL IS NOW CASHLESS for TRIPS / VISITS / BOOKS and 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.



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 unnamed 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.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

The school office keeps a supply of second hand uniform for students and parents / carers to purchase. We are always happy to receive donations of good quality uniform to add to the second hand cupboard.

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

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