

Easter 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers, Students,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you've had a lovely term. We have much to celebrate and update you on since our February Newsletter.

Learning

Our Year 10s are busy preparing for the exams and the Year 11s are in the final stage of preparing for their upcoming exams. We wish them well and hope that their hard work is rewarded.

However, it is not just in lessons where learning is taking place. The February ski trip was a huge success, the year 10s improved their skills on the slopes - but, as importantly, developed their independence and resilience. Ms Maunder-Hand continues to coordinate a brilliant Reading Buddies Scheme. It is phenomenal to see our older students supporting the year 7s and 8s to embrace the joy of books. With thanks to Chris Arnold from the Oratory and our own Fiona Hoff we have started a Latin Club every Tuesday lunchtime. Our two Duke of Edinburgh groups are working hard

towards completing the programme. And, it's not just the students, Sue Pemberton, a brilliant, creative and inspirational member of our maths department, has sourced a grant and has been delivering functional maths skills to a group of adults on Monday evenings. The sessions have been so popular we may repeat them next term - see [MultiplyxLangtree](#) on instagram for more details and contact the school if you are interested in joining the next group.

Love Our Langtree Day

Also huge thanks to the wonderful parents, grandparents, students and staff who attended the "Love Our Langtree" day which is so integral to keeping the gardens blooming and school grounds looking as tidy as possible. Keep an eye on our weekly bulletin for more details on how you can participate and contribute to the next event.

Charity Days

Events such as Comic Relief and World Book day provided a little light in the recent gloomy weather. As always students and staff entered into the fun by dressing up, getting involved in events such as staff vs students Ready, Steady, Cook and raising significant amounts of money for worthy causes.

PTA Quiz Night

Our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) organised another fabulous event for our school community - the annual PTA Quiz Night! Teams came together for an evening of friendly competition, brain-teasing questions, and plenty of laughter.

Talent Show Success

A huge thank you to all the students, and staff, who made this week's talent show such a resounding success. It was heartwarming to see our students showcase their diverse talents with such confidence and enthusiasm. From musical performances and comedy acts to poetry recitals, every participant truly shone on stage. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them.

Drama Studio Construction Project

You may have seen the Henley Standard article about our drama studio construction project. If we are able to raise the money to build this incredible, environmentally regenerative, beautifully designed new facility, it promises to provide our students with a dedicated space to explore their creativity, develop their performance skills, and bring their imaginations to life. Please contact the school if you feel you can join the team as we work towards the completion of this important and exciting addition to our school.

Social Media

We have moved away from Twitter/X as our main Social Media platform. We are now using Instagram and our page can be found at [#Langtree Oxfordshire](#).

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in our school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards,

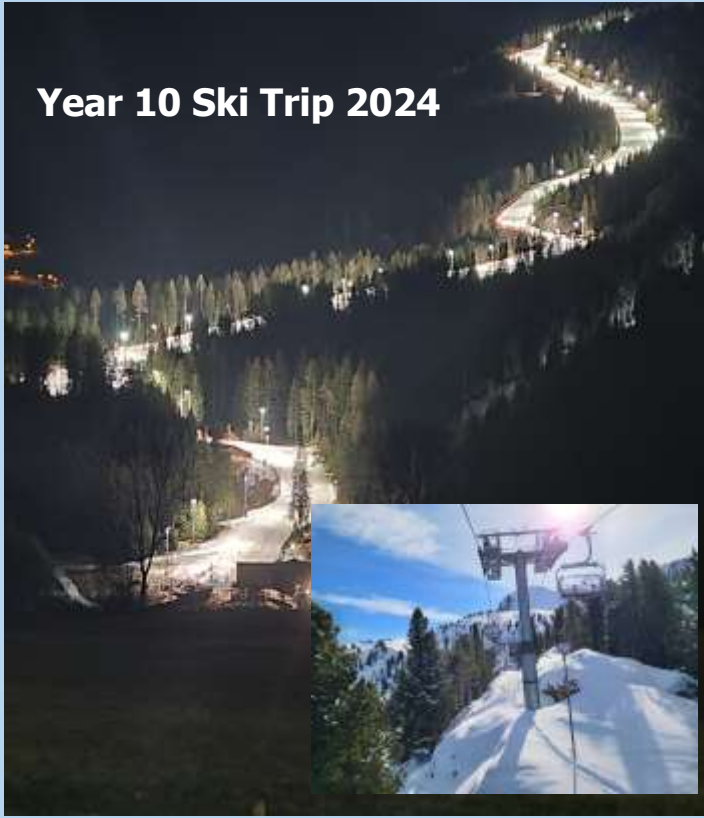




Artwork by Year 7 Henry Matisse inspired still life.



Year 10 Ski Trip 2024



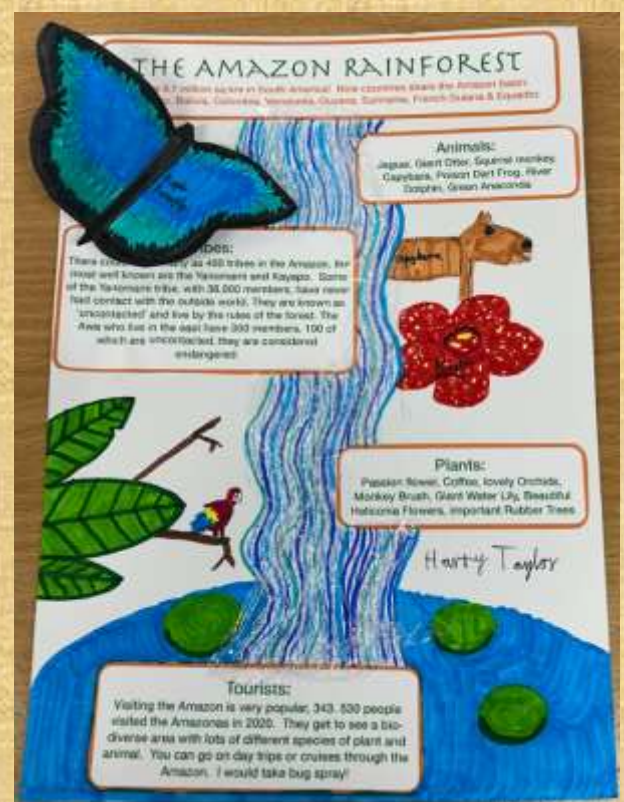
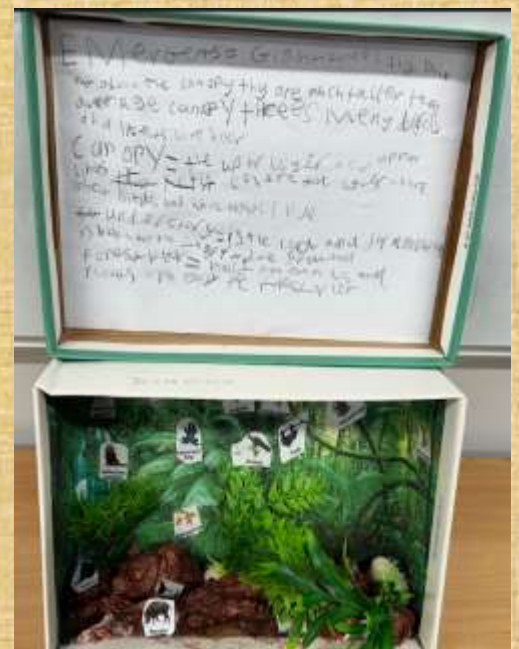
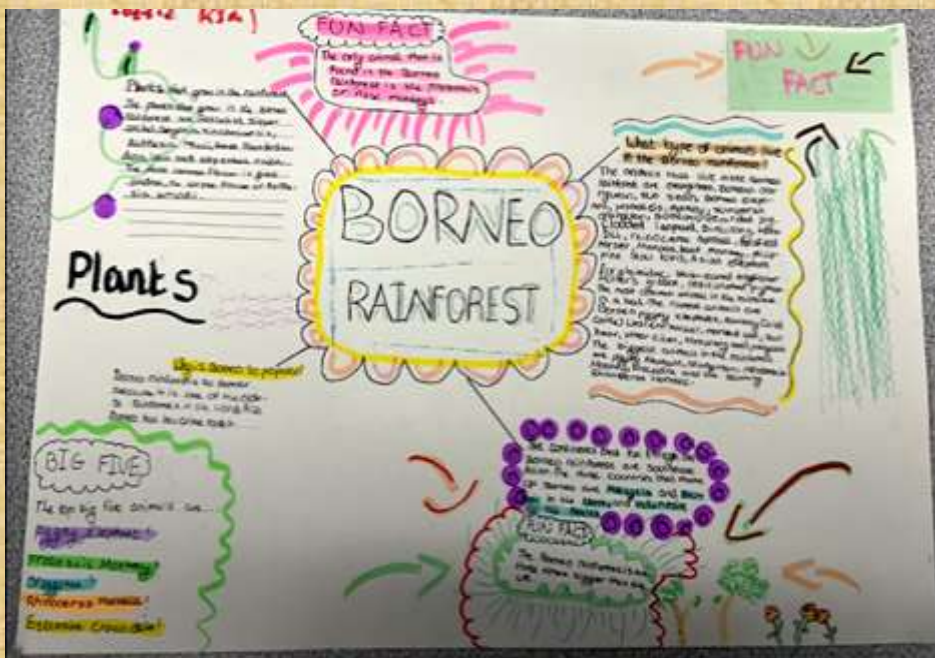
Ski Trip 2024—another fantastic ski trip, we were really pleased to go back to Hotel Panorama, Cavalese, Italy - they look after us so well. The weather on days 1 and 2 was a bit miserable but the rest of the week was perfect, beautiful blue sky and good snow.





Year 7 Geography—Rain Forest Projects





Langtree adds a sprinkle of learning,
Adding in some tweens and teens,
Next we stir in some different styles of learning,
Great school values we put in,
Teachers healing you along the way,
Respect we blend in,
Everyone happy we cook it now,
Enjoy your amazing school.

By Keira T, Layla B and Summer M-F

Take some tweens and some teens
Now let them settle at langtree
Mix some subjects and some fun
Add lots of laughter and excitement
Now let them simmer for a while
Sprinkle rules to set a boundary
Then add it to a pot
Bind some drama with some music
To make a school play
Combine some students with some p.e
To come back with a good trophy
Serve with some canteen food
For your toppings set a good learning attitude
Now get some sleep
Ready for a brand new school week!

By Jess S and Sophie S

Life at Langtree

Take some teens tweens and teachers
And let them settle
Then overrun with homework

Remove chatting and all things silly
Add lots of fitness games and brains
Mix some hot pastries some pizza too
Stir vigorously

Take a blend of friends of all types
Short, tall, smart and silly
Turn up the heat and add some gossip
Sprinkle some tolerance respect and integrity

Serve with kindness
and enjoy

By Sophia Cand Sara S

Poems
by
Year 8

Take some tweens and teens and let them mix ,
add some teachers and sprinkle some school books.
Learn all day with friends and get taught all things out need.
Combine sports with the arts then leave to cool.
Remove from fridge and leave fights behind.
Take a blend of science, maths and English bind, then to history,
geography and ethics.
Turn up the heat with school trips. Collect in school buses.
Add some kindness values and serve for 5 years.
Now you have your Langtree meal!

By Ellie R and Emmy R

UK Intermediate Mathematics Challenge – 2024

Some awesome mathematics students in Years 9, 10 and 11 entered the national Intermediate Maths Challenge competition this February, with some outstanding results.

The Challenges are run annually by the University of Leeds and over 200,000 students across the United Kingdom participated, with the top 6% receiving a gold award, the next 13% receiving silver, and the next 21% bronze.

Overall there were 6 Gold Awards, for Aidan W, Melissa L, Dom J, Laurie M, Alex H and Seth S, 22 silver awards and 30 bronze awards.

Congratulations to all who participated!

Mr Jones

Year 9		Year 10	
Anais	Silver	Aidan	Gold
Spencer	Silver	Melissa	Gold
Harry	Silver	Dom	Gold
Eleni	Silver	Laurie	Gold
Joshua	Silver	Josie	Silver
Noah	Bronze	Hannah	Silver
Lydia	Bronze	Leo	Silver
Ella	Bronze	Louis	Silver
Eli	Bronze	Jack	Silver

Year 11			
Alex	Gold	Oliver	Silver
Seth	Gold	Olly	Bronze
Liam	Silver	Sophie	Bronze
Leith	Silver	Gabriel	Bronze
Panna	Silver	Olly	Bronze
Samuel	Silver	Freya	Bronze
Ben	Silver	Iris	Bronze
Cale	Silver	Matthew	Bronze
Mikey	Silver	Dylan	Bronze
Megan	Silver	Harrison	Bronze
Jimmy	Silver	Tom	Bronze
Hugo	Silver	Murray	Bronze
Eleni	Bronze	Lucy	Bronze
Erin	Bronze	Betsy	Bronze
Nina	Bronze	Adam	Bronze
Pavan	Bronze		
Lucy	Bronze		
Joseph	Bronze		
Bethany	Bronze		
Emily	Bronze		
Grace	Bronze		
Francesca	Bronze		
Evie	Bronze		
Nathan	Bronze		



Book Club

This term we have been reading Drone Racer by Andy Briggs. It is a book about friendship and finding your inner hero. Set in a future where drone racing is a popular pastime, the main character Carson and his friends set out on a remarkable adventure with a talking drone they found at a local scrap heap. There's only one problem, someone wants it back and they will stop at nothing to get it. In our termly meeting, we discussed what the genre was, the message and whether we liked it or not. Overall it was not our favourite book but we still scored it between 6-8 out of 10.

By Oliver J Year 7

The last book we read at book group was Drone Racer by Andy Briggs. During the online meeting, we discussed the genre + style of writing and overall impact of the book as well as what we thought of the book in general.

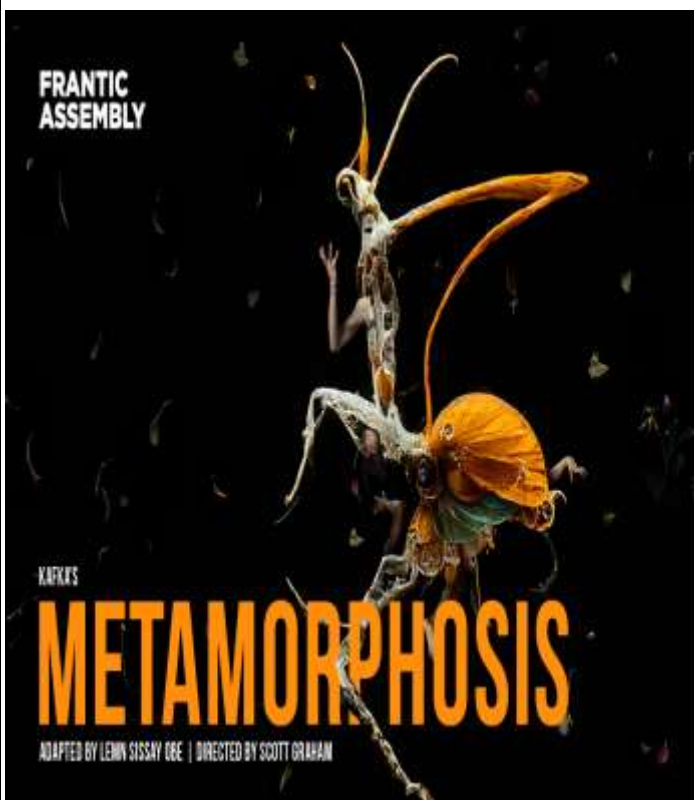
In conclusion, I would rate the book 3 out of 5 stars

By Duncan W Year 7



Metamorphosis Theatre Visit

On 21st February, the Year 10 GCSE Drama students went to the Hammersmith Lyric theatre to see a new interpretation of Kafka's 'Metamorphosis', created by Lemn Sissay with theatre company, Frantic Assembly. The production used abstract movement and design to symbolise the mental decline and exhaustion of the main character. Lucy said, 'I enjoyed the unique movement when Gregor turned into an insect, such as the way he was hanging off the light on the ceiling'. Connie commented, 'The repetition of the movement sequence showing his morning routine, and the way it gradually changed, helped us to understand Gregor's increasing stress'. Costume design student, Molly, observed, 'I liked how in the scene when he got his job, the Dad was wearing the same costume as Gregor had previously, which conveyed that he was taking Gregor's place'.





On Friday 15th March the Food Department held a staff vs students Ready Steady Cook competition. There were 2 staff teams (Mr Bradley, Mr Jupp, and Mrs Parker, Mrs Tontini, Mrs Corrdilet and Mr. Jones) and 2 student teams (Josh Clark, Evie Gainsford, Elin Hayes and Charlotte Binns, Erin Abbott, Thomas Reddington). Each team were given the same 6 ingredients salmon, potatoes, broccoli, eggs, cream and mixed berries - and just 20 minutes to rustle up 2 dishes.

After a tasting panel (3 staff and 3 students) gave the audience some feedback, it was down to the audience to cast their vote - red for students, green for staff.

The unanimous winners were the student teams, and no amount of pancake flipping by Mr Jones could persuade them otherwise!

Thank you to all who took part and we managed to raise a fantastic £52 in the process!

The overall school total for RED NOSE DAY was £759.00



Visit to Vertex

Vertex focus on discovering, developing and bringing innovative medicines to people with serious diseases so they can lead better lives. In pursuit of this mission, they are advancing a robust research pipeline that includes potentially transformative treatments for cystic fibrosis, pain, sickle cell disease, beta thalassemia, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, APOL1-mediated kidney disease, Duchenne muscular dystrophy, type 1 diabetes and more. A group of Langtree students spent a day learning more about how Vertex work to develop new treatments.



Girls in STEM at Reading College.

Reading College invited a group of Year 8 girls to a day of interactive workshops with Mace Construction Company, Morgan Sindall Construction Company, Salt Hill VR LTD – Technology Sector and Sir Robert McAlpine Building Company.



The companies involved showcased the many opportunities for employment within the construction sector. Highlighting the huge range and variety of jobs on offer.

The workshops included trying out VAR headsets, designing a park for a new community development and building a tower from marshmallow and spaghetti.





HOUSE BADMINTON

The latest set of house competitions concluded, showcasing exceptional sportsmanship and skills exhibited on the badminton courts.

HOUSE WINNER: GREEN



2023 2024 Term Dates Calendar

Start / End of terms and inset days

Holiday	Easter Holiday – 29th March – 14th April	
TERM 5	Monday 15th April	Start of Term 5
	Friday 24th May	End of Term 5 (As normal 3pm)
Holiday	May Holiday – 25th May – 2nd June	
TERM 6	Monday 3rd June	Start of Term 6
	Friday 21st June	Inset Day
	Wednesday 24th July	End of Term 6 (Half day school closes at 12.30pm)

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.

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.

2024 - 2025 Term Dates Calendar

TERM 1	Monday 2nd September 2024	Inset Day - no students in school
	Tuesday 3rd September	Start of Term 1 for Year 7 students - Induction Day
	Wednesday 4th September	Start of Term 1 for all other students.
	Thursday 19th September	OPEN EVENING for Year 6 Parents - (Half day school closes at 12.30pm)
	Friday 20th September	SPONSORED WALK - all students expected in school
	Monday 23rd September	Inset Day - no students in school
	Thursday 24th October	END of TERM 1 (As normal 3pm)
	Friday 25th October	Inset Day - no students in school
October Break – 26th October – 3rd November 2024		
TERM 2	Monday 4th November	Start of Term 2
	Thursday 7 th November	Creativity Day
	18th November to 29th November	Year 11 Mock Exams
	Monday 2nd December	Inset Day - no students in school
	Friday 20th December	END of TERM 2 (Half day school closes at 12.30pm)
Christmas Holiday – 21st December – 5th January		
TERM 3	Monday 6th January 2025	Start of Term 3
	Friday 14th February	Creativity Day and END of TERM 3 (As normal 3pm)
February Break – 15th February – 23th February		
TERM 4	Monday 24th February	Start of Term 4
	Friday 4th April	END of TERM 4 (As normal 3pm)
Easter Holiday – 5th April – 21st April		
TERM 5	Tuesday 22nd April	Start of Term 5
	Monday 5th May	May Day Bank Holiday - school closed
	Friday 23rd May	END of TERM 5 (As normal 3pm)
May Holiday – 24th May – 1st June		
TERM 6	Monday 2nd June	Start of Term 6
	Thursday 3rd July	Inset Day - no students in school
	Friday 4th July	Inset Day - no students in school
	14th July to 19th July	Activities Week
	Tuesday 22nd July	END of TERM 6 (Half day school closes at 12.30pm)

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