October 2025 Newsletter

As we come to the end of what has been a busy and successful Term 1 at Langtree School, I would like to take a moment to reflect on some of the highlights and thank our students, staff, and families for their continued support and enthusiasm.

We were delighted to welcome record numbers of visitors to our Open Events this term. It was a pleasure to showcase all that Langtree has to offer and to see so many families keen to become part of our vibrant school community. Our students were, as always, outstanding ambassadors for the school, and I am immensely proud of the way they represented us. They acted as tour guides, demonstrators in departments and some were brave enough to give speeches to a hall full of parents and primary school pupils. Parents were universally impressed by their attitude, pride in the school and general maturity.

The Sponsored Walk went ahead in bright sunshine and warm weather – a welcome contrast to last year's thunderstorms that cancelled the walk and flooded a portion of the school! It was wonderful to see the whole school community taking part, raising funds for good "little extras", and enjoying the beautiful local countryside together. The newly elected Student Council will now meet to decide how most of this money will be spent.

We also held two important events for our current and new families. Our Post-16 Information Evening provided valuable guidance to our Key Stage 4 students as they begin to consider their next steps, and our Curriculum Information Evening offered parents of new students the opportunity to learn more about how we support learning and progress at Langtree.

A particular highlight for our Year 11 students was the Geography Field Trip to Swanage, where 59 students took part in a range of fieldwork activities to support their GCSE studies. The trip was a great success and an excellent example of learning beyond the classroom. I was lucky enough to be able to go along and witnessed first hand the work the students do and the dedication of the staff in supporting them.

As we head into the break, I would like to thank everyone in our school community for their hard work and commitment throughout the term. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of the new term on Monday 3rd November.

Simon Bamford, Headteacher.

The Attendance Cup

Congratulations to all those students who were awarded 100% attendance points. The school has been given an Attendance Award by the Fischer Family Trust for excellent attendance.

The Tutor Group winners for the Attendance Cup this term were:

Year 7 winner: 7NDa with 98.8%

Year 8 winner: 8NPo with 97.1%

Year 9 winner: 9KSm with 95.8%

Thank you to all parent and carers for your support with attendance this term. Good attendance supports learning, the development of social skills and friendships, as well as building good habits that are essential for adult life. Research clearly demonstrates the link between regular attendance and educational progress and attainment.

Attainment Point Certificates

203 students in Years 7 and 8 were awarded Attainment Point Certificates this term—the best ever. An out standing term well done to both year groups. Can you do even better next term?

PERFORMANCE DATES
Tuesday 9th,
Wednesday 10th,
Thursday 11th
Friday 12th December 2025

Ticket will be on sale from mid November

DIGITAL THEATRE+

We are delighted to share with you that Langtree school has purchased a 3 year subscription to Digital Theatre Plus, an online theatre subscription service. The platform has hundreds of recordings of top quality live theatre, including productions from Broadway and the West End. This subscription has been jointly funded by our wonderful PTA, profit made on ticket sales from High School Musical, and the Drama department. Digital Theatre Plus is a superb learning resource, especially in the Drama and English classrooms.

Excitingly, this platform is available to all of our students and their parents/carers. Over half term, why not grab some popcorn and enjoy a home theatre night. My recommendation for this term is to watch David Tennant and Cush Jumbo in the acclaimed West End production of 'Macbeth' - but if this doesn't take your fancy, once you've logged on, you can just click on Browse, Titles, and look for a different production of your choice.

Log in details for parents/carers:
Go to: www.digitaltheatreplus.com
Click on Sign In.
When it asks for email address,
type: user@langtreeschool.com
Password: richink7
Type Macbeth into the Search to find the David Tennant, Cush Jumbo production.

(Please be aware that this log in gives full access to all content on the platform, our KS3 students have a separate log in, which blocks material considered to be inappropriate. Please, therefore, use caution if allowing younger children to browse the platform using the log in here). We really hope that this subscription will enrich the cultural experience of you and your family over the next 3 years!

Gill Pimm. Head of Drama

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Since 2015 Langtree School has collected donations of grocery items for the Wallingford Emergency Food Bank, we have for the last few years given one of the biggest single donations to the food bank. We will be collection again this year. If you are able to make a donation the food bank have asked that all donations have at least 3 months shelf life and no fresh or home-made food can be accepted. The food bank would very much appreciate donations of the following:

Tinned potatoes	Rice pudding	Hot chocolate	Biscuits
Tinned vegetables	Custard	Tea / Coffee	Lunch box sized treats— penguins / twix / cereal bars / cake bars
Tinned fruit	Long life milk	Sugar	
Tinned meat	Long life fruit juice	Jam	
Rice	Breakfast cereals	Toothpaste / soap / shower gel	
Please NO PASTA or BAKED BEANS or TINNED FISH please —the food bank is fully stocked, with these items. Thank you			

Tutor groups will be collecting donations during the first week of TERM 2 (3rd November) and we will be delivering to the food bank on the following Tuesday (11th November). Thank you for you generosity.

WALLINGFORD EMERGENCY FOOD BANK

Thank you for your generosity

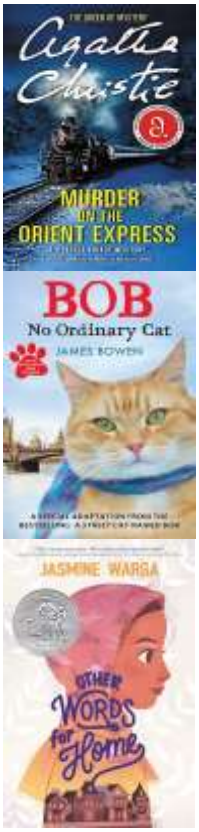
The English Department READATHON

A huge thank you to all those KS3 pupils who took part in Readathon this year. So far, we have raised a completely staggering £913 (and still counting!) This is a huge achievement and a wonderful testament to our avid readers; your sponsorship money has gone to such an important charity! If you still have money to hand in, it's not too late. Simply login in to the following website and click on "donate"; https://readforgood.org. Really well done Langtree readers! The English Department are proud of you.

Read for Good

Motivating kids to read

ONLINE BOOK GROUPS



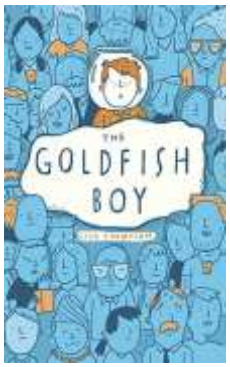
Our online book groups are growing even stronger this year, as we now have them running in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9. The three groups met online on Monday 20th October to discuss "Bob, No Ordinary Cat" (Year 7), "Other Words for Home" (Year 8) and "Murder on the Orient Express" (Year 9).

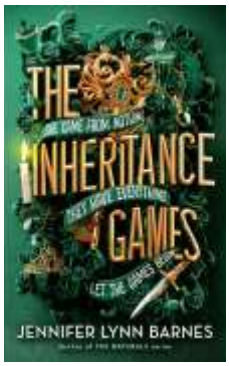
Each group had some lovely, lively discussions about each book, focusing on the character, narrative and genre and reasons why we enjoyed each text. All readers (students, parents and teachers alike) were taken out of their comfort zones and really learned to appreciate a book that they may otherwise not have chosen to read!

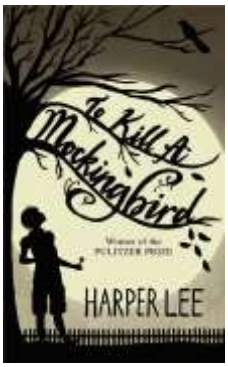
All three groups will be happening again next term, with Year 7 reading 'The Goldfish Boy' by Lisa Thompson, Year 8 reading "The Inheritance Games" by Jennifer Lynne Barnes and Year 9 reading Harper Lee's novel, "To Kill a Mocking Bird".

If you are in KS3 and would like to come along, please come and find me at lunch or break in the English office or email me directly, and I will sign you up!

Mrs Maunder-Hand (kmaunder-hand@langtreeschool.com)







LOVE our LANTREE

The weather was kind to us for the most recent Love Our Langtree afternoon and it was fabulous to be joined by some new, year 7 families! Our brilliant and dynamic team of helpers, including parents, teachers, students and siblings, worked incredibly hard.

Leaves were cleared by the grab bag full, bulbs planted, beds weeded, bark laid, hedges trimmed, shrubs planted, litter picked and tea and biscuits enjoyed!

It's so fabulous to see how our work over the past 3 years really makes a difference.

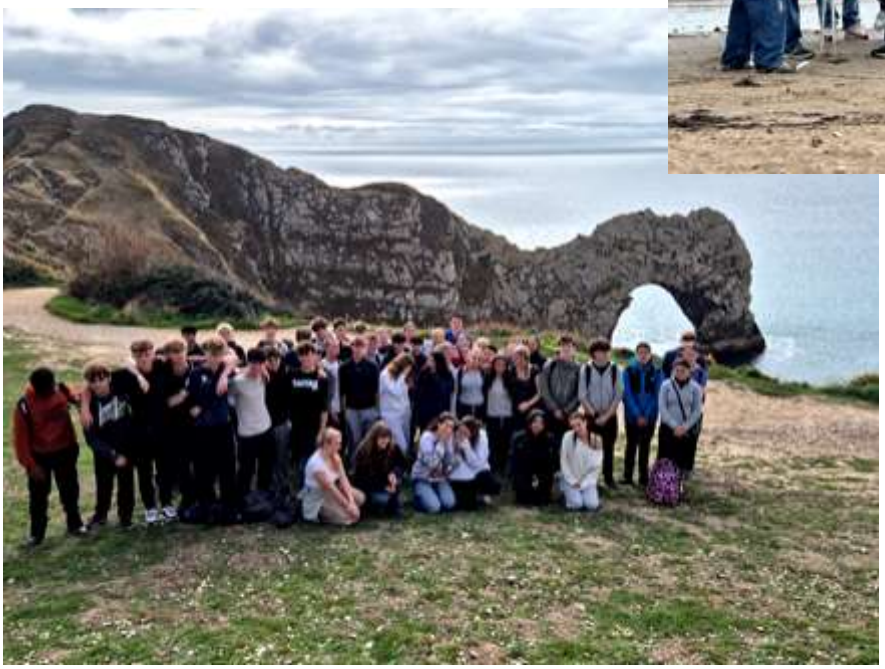
If you'd like to get involved, have new ideas or have any plants you'd like to donate, please contact Jules Woodall juliet_white@hotmail.com

I will be looking for someone to take on leading this rewarding initiative next year, so please do get in touch if you are interested.

We are grateful to the WOODCOTE GARDEN CENTRE for the donation of some plants.

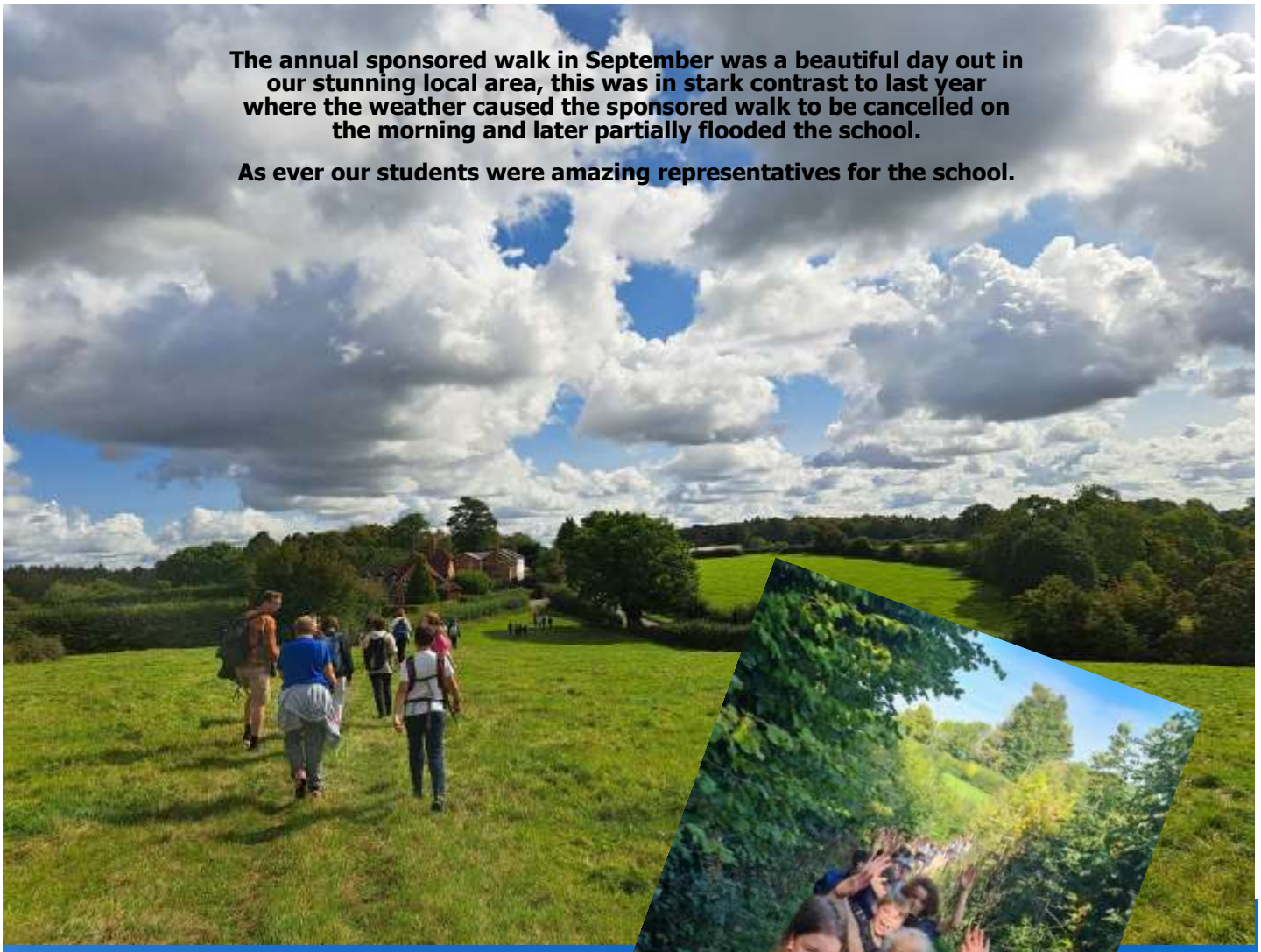
Year 11 Geography Field Trip

The Geography Field Trip in Year 11 is a compulsory part of the GCSE course. The information and data gathered is examined in their final external GCSE exams. Students study a range of geographical issues, learning appropriate ways of collecting the relevant data and analysing the data to reach valid conclusions. They will see 'real life' geographical examples to support their classroom learning. Students travelled to a field centre at Langton Matravers near Swanage.



The annual sponsored walk in September was a beautiful day out in our stunning local area, this was in stark contrast to last year where the weather caused the sponsored walk to be cancelled on the morning and later partially flooded the school.

As ever our students were amazing representatives for the school.

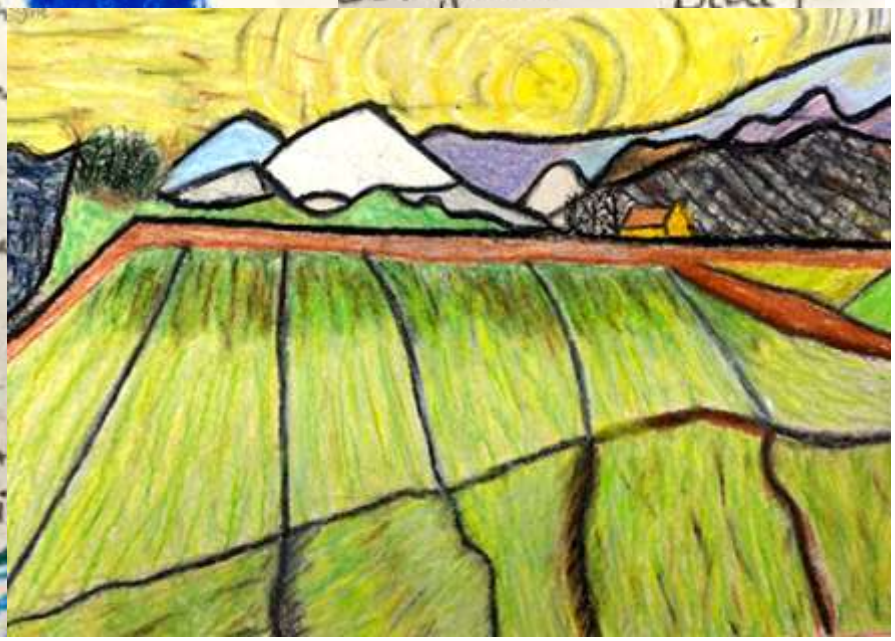


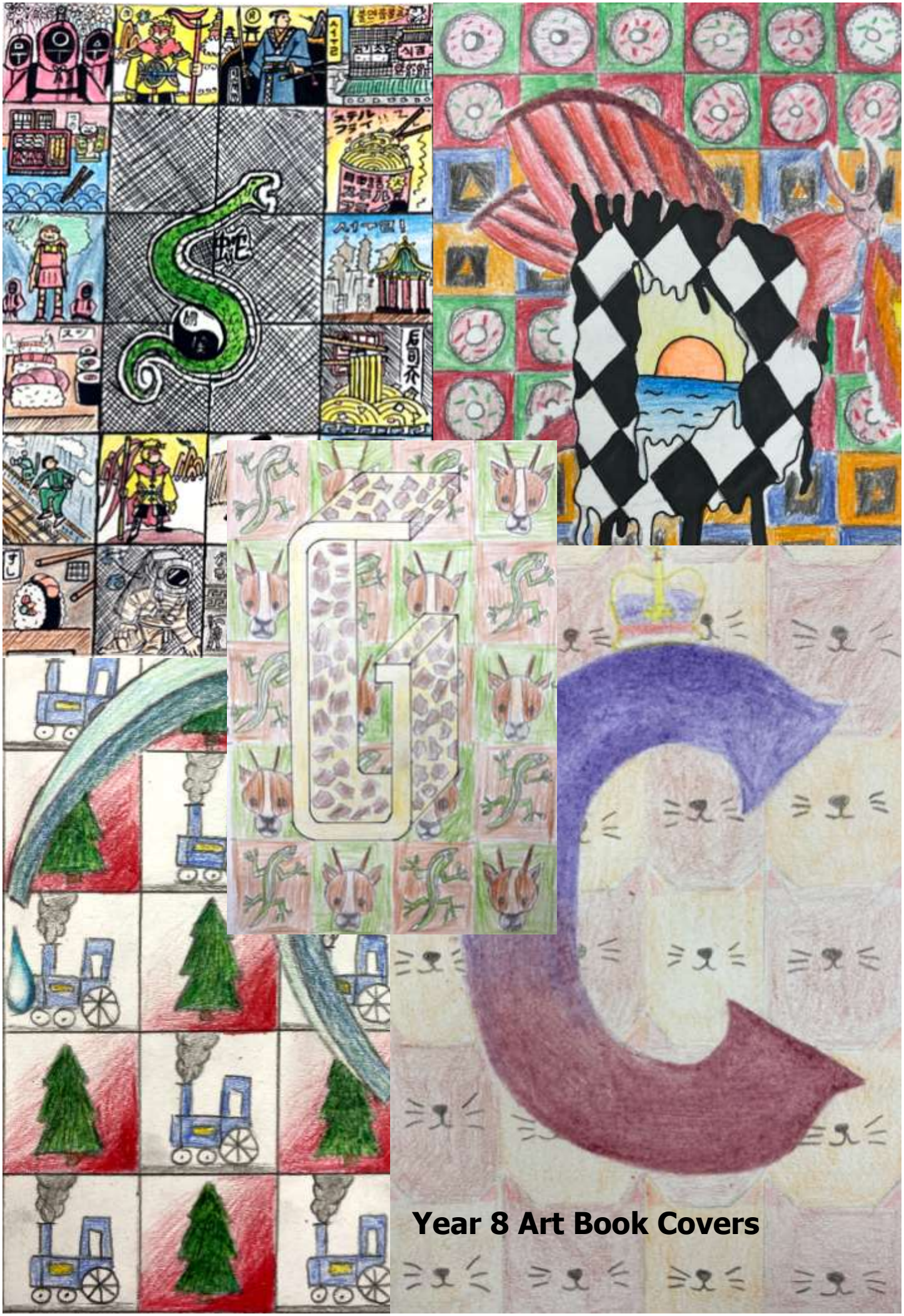
SPONSORED WALK

Current Total £6781
If you have not paid you sponsorship money please use the ScoPay platform to do this as soon as possible.

Year 7

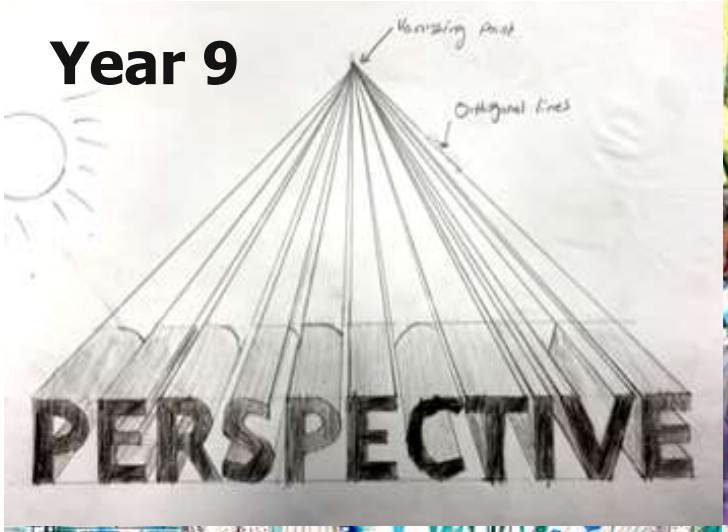
Oil Pastels inspired by Van Gough

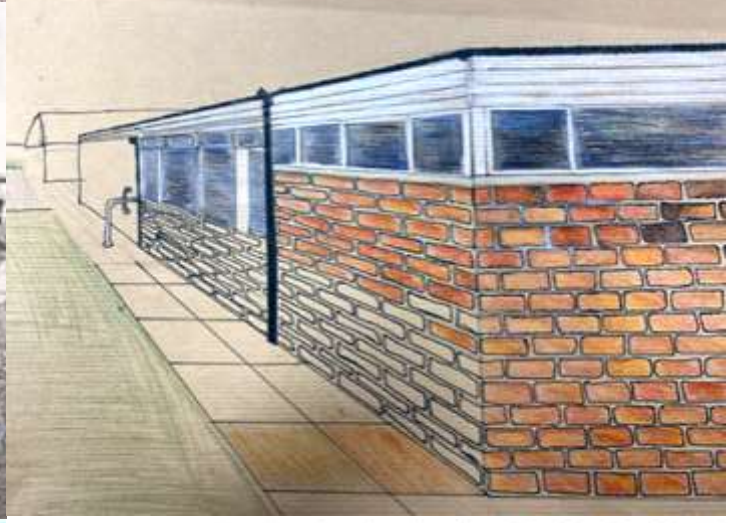


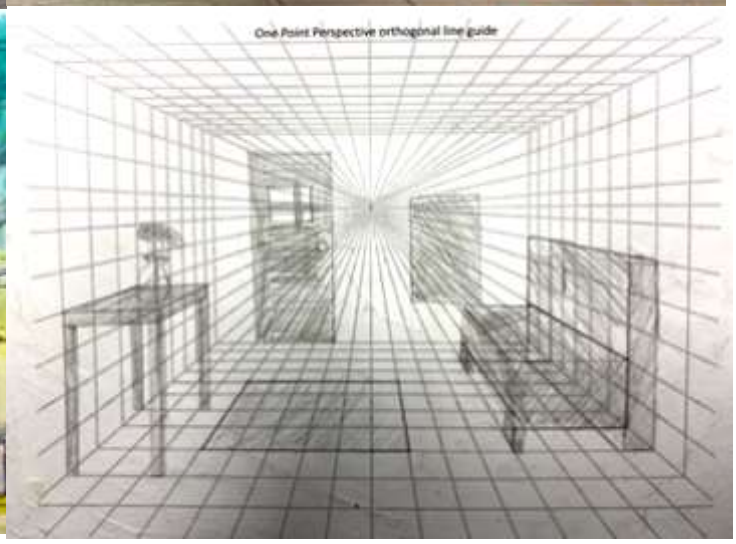


Year 8 Art Book Covers

Year 9


Vanishing point
Orthogonal lines
PERSPECTIVE




One Point Perspective orthogonal line guide

European Day of Languages CAKE SALE raised £137.50

CHILDREN IN NEED CUPCAKE SALE AND COMPETITION!

CUPCAKE sale on FRIDAY 14th NOVEMBER - WE NEED YOU TO HELP OUT BY BRINGING SOME CASH TO BUY CAKES OR TO BRING IN 10 DECORATED CUPCAKES FOR THE SALE

ALL CAKES COST 1 POUND CASH!

WIN A PRIZE AND POINTS FOR YOUR HOUSE!

CAKES TO BE BROUGHT IN A CONTAINER LABELLED WITH YOUR NAME AND HOUSE ON THE MORNING OF FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

PE DEPARTMENT

Outside Langtree….

Three of our Year 8 students are part of the Vale of the White Horse County U13's team. In the recent match against West Sussex all three, Dexter, Marius and Nath played. The match started off a little slow but all found their pace and won with a resounding 9-0 win. All 3 Langtree boys got assists. Nath scored 1 goal. They were ace!

Thank you to Dexter's mum for the match report.

Year 7 Girls Hockey Club— over 25 in attendance

Year 10/11 Hockey vs Wallingford 3-0 Win

Year 7 Girls Rugby taster session.

Year 8/9 Hockey club has been a success.

Year 11 Boys last county cup game as a team!

Langtree School
2025 - 2026 Term Dates Calendar

TERM 1	**Monday 1st September 2025**	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	Tuesday 2nd September	Start of Term 1 for Year 7 students - Induction Day
	Wednesday 3rd September	Start of Term 1 for all other students.
	Thursday 18th September	School closes at 12.30pm (Open evening)
	Friday 19th September	**SPONSORED WALK - all students expected in school**
	Monday 22nd September	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	Thursday 23rd October 2025	**END of TERM 1 for students (As normal 3pm)**
	Friday 24th October	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	October Break – 25th October – 2nd November 2025	
TERM 2	Monday 3rd November	Start of Term 2
	Monday 1st December 2025	**School Closed - no students in school**
	Tuesday 2nd December	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	Friday 19th December 2025	**END of TERM 2 (Half day school closes at 12.30pm)**
	Christmas Holiday – 20th December – 4th January 2026	
TERM 3	Monday 5th January 2026	Start of Term 3
	Friday 13th February 2026	**END of TERM 3 (As normal 3pm)**
	February Break – 14th February – 22nd February 2026	
TERM 4	Monday 23rd February	Start of Term 4
	Friday 27th March 2026	**END of TERM 4 (As normal 3pm)**
	Easter Holiday – 28th March - 12th April 2026	
TERM 5	Monday 13th April	Start of Term 5
	Monday 4th May	May Day Bank Holiday - school closed
	Friday 22nd May 2026	**END of TERM 5 (As normal 3pm)**
	May Holiday – 23rd May – 31st May 2026	
TERM 6	Monday 1st June	Start of Term 6
	Thursday 2nd July	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	Friday 3rd July	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	13th July to 17th July	Activities Week
	Tuesday 21st July 2026	**END of TERM 6 (Half day school closes at 12.30pm)**

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 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.

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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