Autumn 2026 Newsletter

Another successful and enjoyable term at Langtree draws to a close. Our new year 7 students seem to have settled in and are now fully part of our community. Our new staff too, are making valuable contributions to school life.

The term started with us celebrating another successful set of exam results. Our class of 2026 did extremely well in their GCSE and other exams. As we know it is not only the academic achievement of our students that makes Langtree the flourishing school it is - we have had success on the sports field - rugby and netball have been the main sports this term, and all years have had superb results against other local schools.

Building Update

We are delighted that the school is now fully reopened following structural work. The upstairs flooring has been reinforced throughout and a substantial wire grid support system has been installed for the downstairs ceiling to prevent any recurrence of the issues that occurred last December. Decorative improvements have also been completed alongside several key room reallocations.

Open Evening and Open Mornings

Term 1 is always busy with open events. As usual our Open Evening and Open Mornings were exciting, busy, crowded events, with primary school pupils and their families coming from far and wide to witness for themselves what makes Langtree so successful. The answer, as it always is, is our phenomenal students and fantastic staff. The students excelled as tour guides, subject hosts and demonstrators.

Feedback included:

"Our guides were super. It was lovely to see confident, eloquent students who clearly love their school"

"Great school, lovely community feel and lovely children"

"Excellent behaviour across the school"

Thank you to all students who gave up time to support these highly important events.

Curriculum Information Evening

The Year 7 Curriculum Information Evening was well attended and favorably received by parents. Key Staff provided valuable insights into student learning, curriculum in core subjects and our reporting methodology.

Sponsored Walk

Favourable weather conditions contributed to another highly successful sponsored walk. The event ran smoothly, with over 600 students walking the nearly 10 miles, enjoying the beautiful local countryside. Thank you to all the staff and all the route marshalls - all volunteers; parents, ex students, friends and family. Please send your sponsorship money into school through ScoPay as soon as possible.

Year 11 Geography Field Trip

Year 11 geography students recently completed a field trip to Swanage to support their preparation for Paper 3 of their GCSE exam. During the trip, students conducted a study of the River Piddle, investigated the effects and prevention of longshore drift, and reviewed how tourism has affected the town. Huge thanks to Ms Phipps, Mr Wakefield, Mr Sinnamon, Ms Gerrard Carr and Ms Smith for giving up their time to support this trip.

Science Trip

A group of year 8 scientists had an exciting day at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Harwell. They worked in groups to reprogram various systems of the imaginary spaceship they were all travelling to Mars on. Thanks to the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) for hosting such an interesting and educational opportunity.

Oxford Union Visit

Just this week, Ms Thorburn organised another fantastic evening at the Oxford Union for our debaters. Students had a tour of the Oxford Union and libraries, and enjoyed the main debate on the motion “This House Would Leave the European Convention on Human Rights”, featuring former Home Secretary Suella Braverman. Seven Langtree students took the opportunity to address the chamber, delivering speeches during the Emergency Debate "This House Condemns the Protests in Paris". A brilliant experience and a real testament to their growing confidence as public speakers. A great evening of lively debate, challenging ideas and thoughtful discussion. We are very proud of all our students, particularly those who took to the floor and made their voices heard. Huge thanks to the Oxford Union for hosting us once again.

Simon Bamford, Headteacher

History Competition

In term 6 of the 2025-6 academic year, the history department at Langtree School set students a House competition entitled " The most important year in history was…". KS3 students were given the challenge of researching and presenting their responses.

There was an incredibly competitive field in both years 7 and 8 with a host of creative and academic responses submitted.

Year 7 winners: Olivia E & Zoe L **Most Creative Response -** For their well presented video and poster about 1666.

Thea O **Most Academic Response -** for her essay which challenged the reader to think and engage with her argument that the year 1914 and its impact on society was most important.

Special mention to….

Tess Mc and Maya K-W For your creativity and consideration of the impact of Charles Darwin. We loved your video!

Year 8 winners: Saanvika A **Most Academic Response -** The judging panel was delighted with your use of the "R's" to measure the significance of the year 1348. Your response was a highly evaluative piece of writing.

Tess H For your well argued response the judging panel was particularly impressed with your balanced consideration of the use of plutonium for good and bad.

Thank you to everyone who submitted their responses- it was a very competitive field. All those who participated have been awarded House Points. Congratulations to the winners.

Watch out for the next History House Competition- " I was there at the Battle of the Somme". Details to follow.

Mrs Jarvis. Head of Humanities.



Theatre Trip for Year 7
10th December 2026 Letter HERE

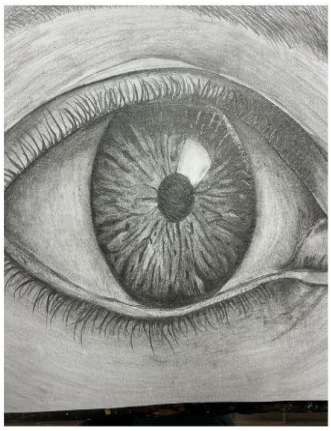
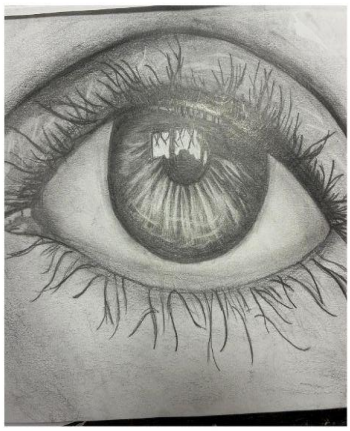
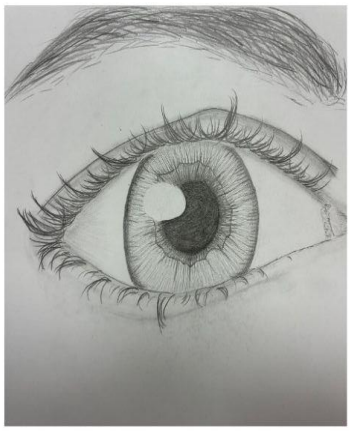
Dad doesn't seem to have all the answers… but perhaps Wonderland does.

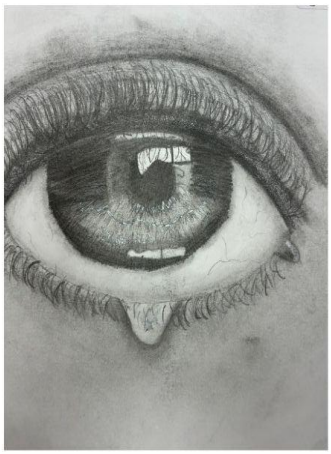
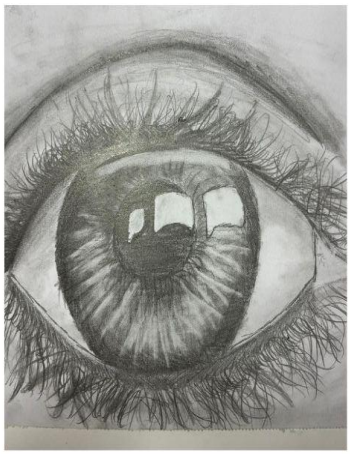
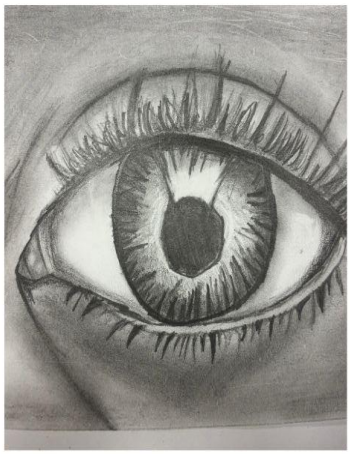
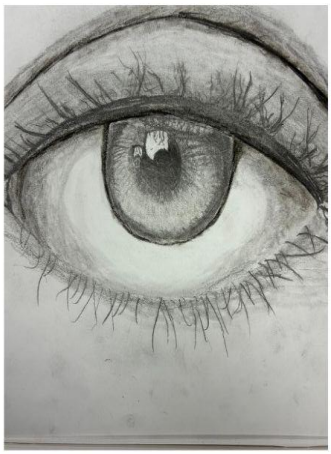
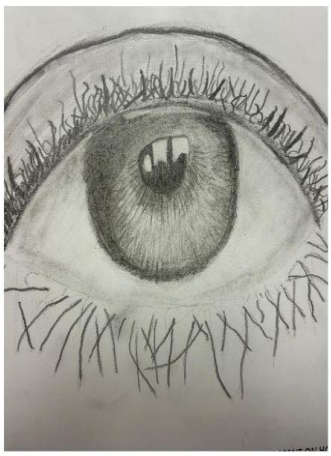
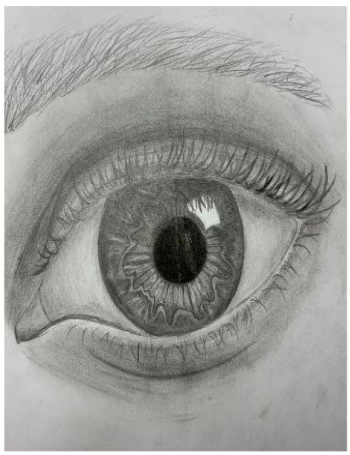
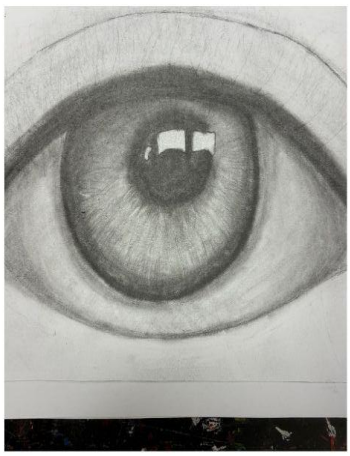
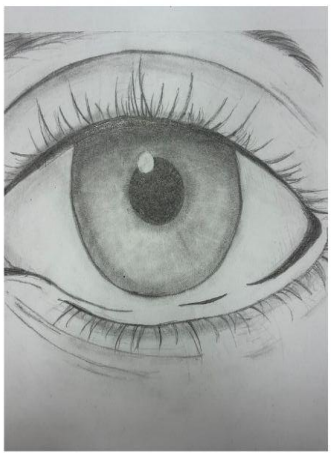
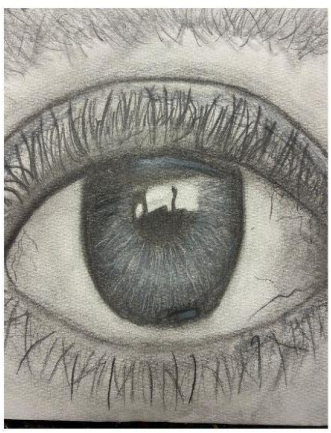
When Alice's curiosity whisks her away into a spectacular winter wonderland, she discovers a festive world stranger and sillier than she could ever imagine. Join her for a tea party with the Mad Hatter — where everyone must wear a hat — meet a dodo who insists he is definitely not a turkey, and beware the Queen of Hearts, who insists that Christmas traditions must never, ever change. After all, Christmas has always been done this way… and that's exactly how it must stay!

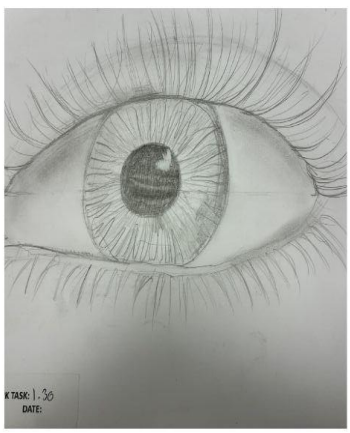




Eye Drawings by Year 8





Love our Langtree

We had lovely weather for the first LoL session of the school year on Saturday. It was really great to meet some new Yr7 families, as well as the LoL regulars too. Thank you all so much for coming along.
As usual we were busy with weeding, leaf clearing and pruning plus other general gardening duties. We even had a group of students collecting litter from around the school.
Everyone worked really hard with a few laughs along the way.



We really do make a difference around the school and would very much welcome more helpers. The next session will be in the spring term so please keep an eye out in the bulletin for the date and come along.
And please feel free to bring new ideas and suggestions for next time.

A big thank you to everyone who joined in at the weekend, and to the Bamford's for an excellent selection of refreshments.











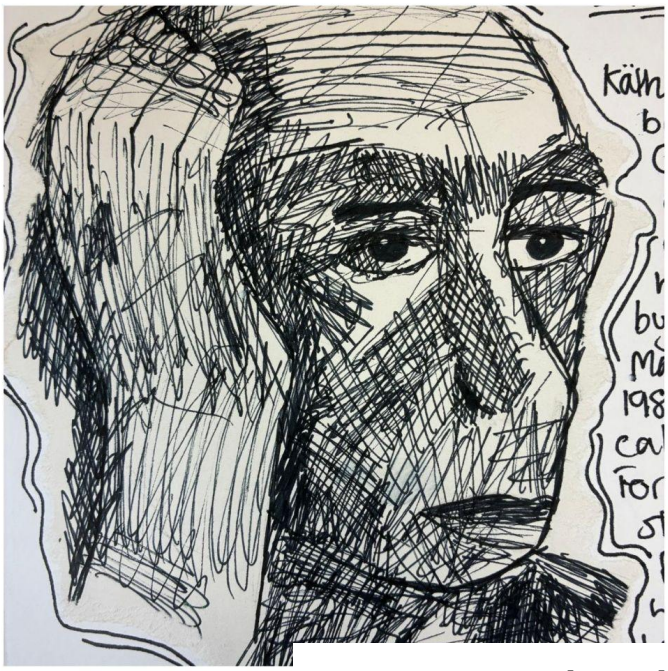
Autumn Term Gardening Club

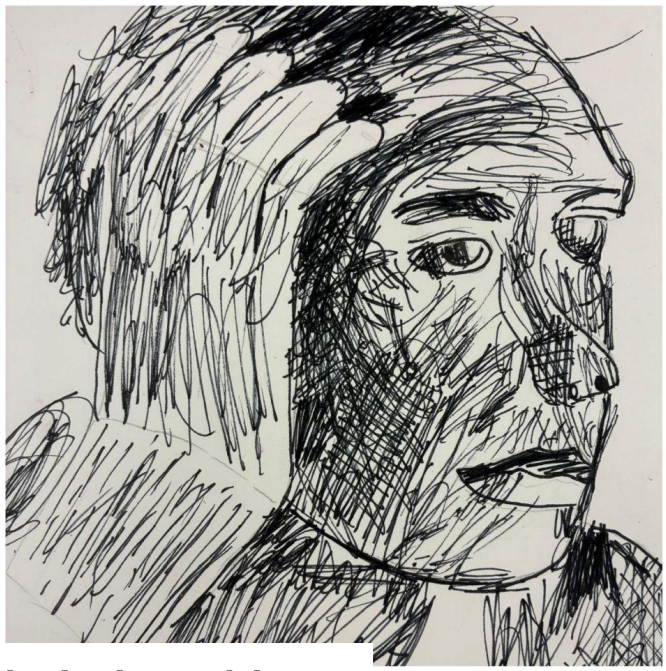
This year has been very productive! We have grown masses of tomatoes which have been taste tested in year 8 lessons on the topic of seasonality and also prepared and eaten as part of a delicious roasted tomato and feta pasta dish - it was very much enjoyed all round!
We have also grown some sweetcorn this year and some gorgeous fresh potatoes. Thank you so much to Mrs Wilford for her help running the club.
We were also very excited to receive a grant of money from Wallingford AGS that we have already started to invest in some daffodil bulbs, new gardening gloves and some gardening tools.
If you would like to get involved in the gardening club we will be starting back up in the springtime, after school on a Tuesday evening. Everyone is welcome.



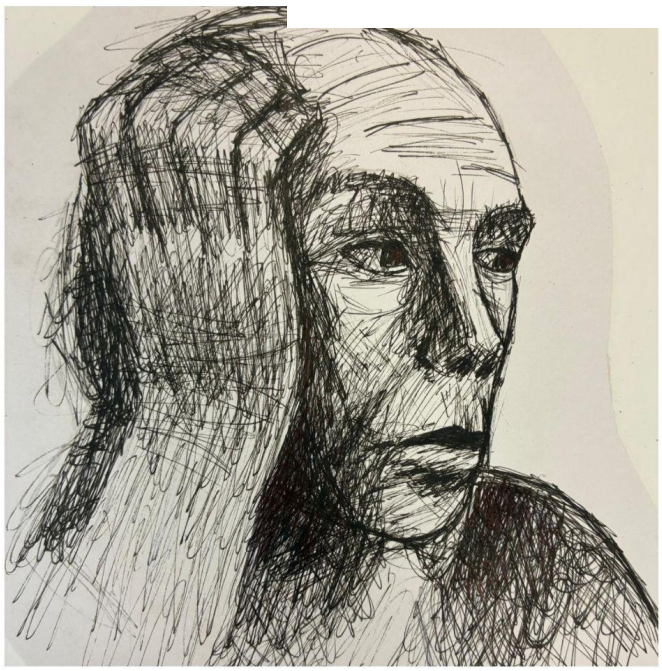


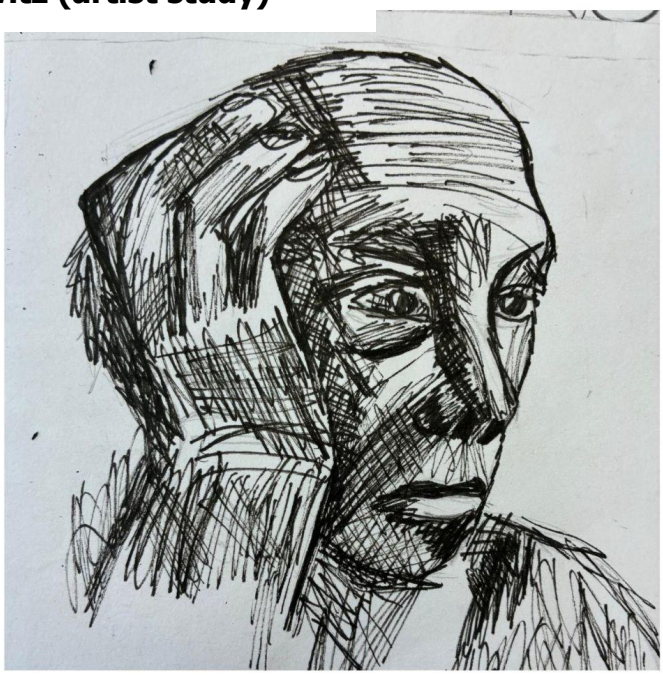


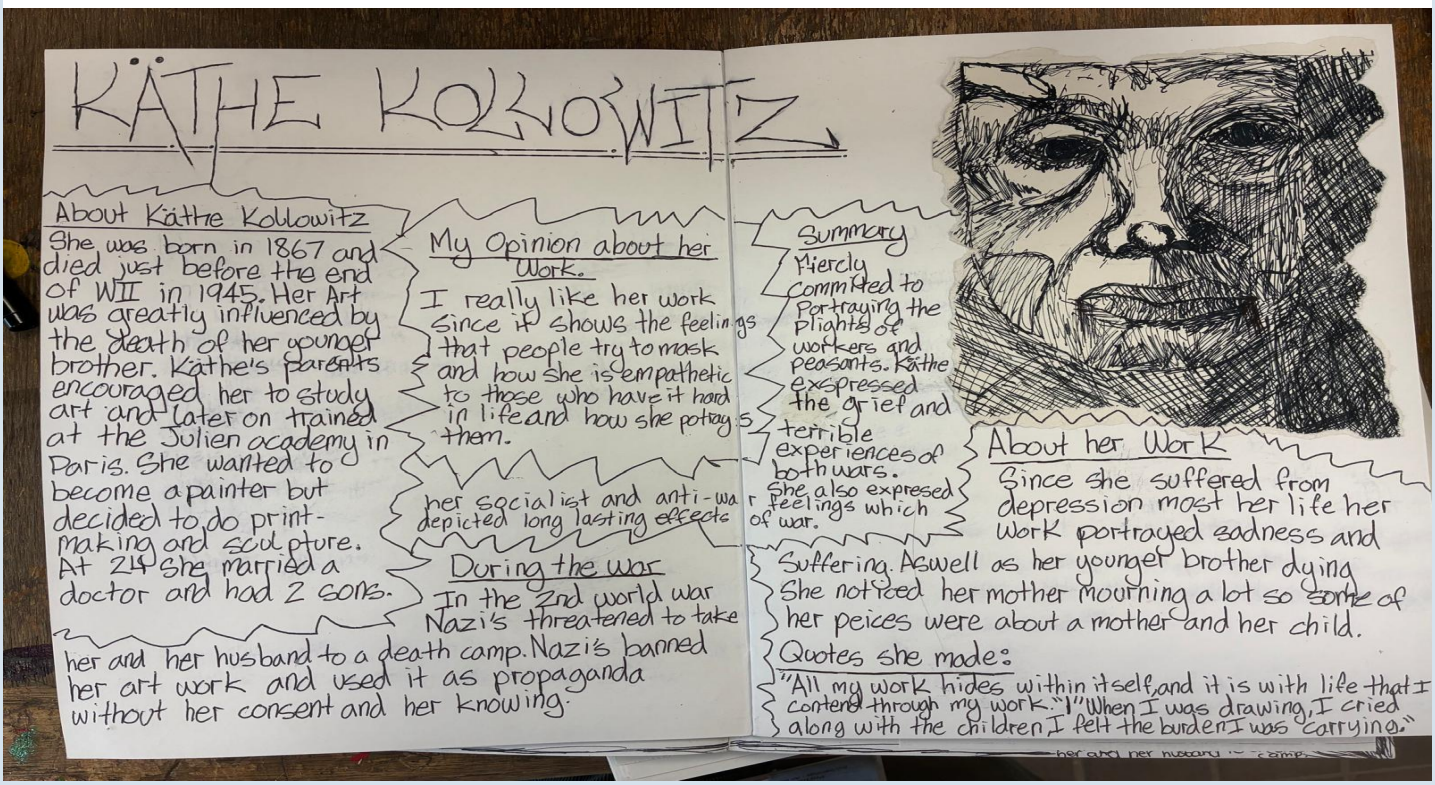




Year 9 Kathe Kollwitz (artist study)







Langtree School
2026 - 2027 Term Dates Calendar

TERM 1	**Tuesday 1st September 2026**	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	Wednesday 2nd September	Start of Term 1 for Year 7 students - Induction Day
	Thursday 3rd September	Start of Term 1 for all other students.
	Thursday 17th September	School closes at 12.30pm (Open evening)
	Friday 18th September	**SPONSORED WALK - all students expected in school**
	Monday 5th October	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	Friday 23rd October 2026	**END of TERM 1 for students (As normal 3pm)**
	October Break – 24th October – 1st November 2026	
TERM 2	Monday 2nd November	Start of Term 2
	Monday 30th November 2026	**School Closed - no students in school**
	Tuesday 1st December	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	Friday 18th December 2026	**END of TERM 2 (Half day school closes at 12.30pm)**
	Christmas Holiday – 19th December – 3rd January 2027	
TERM 3	Monday 4th January 2027	Start of Term 3
	Thursday 11th February 2027	**END of TERM 3 (As normal 3pm)**
	Friday 12th February 2027	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	February Break – 12th February – 21st February 2027	
TERM 4	Monday 22nd February	Start of Term 4
	Thursday 25th March 2027	**END of TERM 4 (As normal 3pm)**
	Easter Holiday – 26th March - 11th April 2027	
TERM 5	Monday 12th April	Start of Term 5
	Monday 3rd May	May Day Bank Holiday - school closed
	Friday 28th May 2027	**END of TERM 5 (As normal 3pm)**
	May Holiday – 29th May – 6th June 2027	
TERM 6	Monday 7th June	Start of Term 6
	Friday 2nd July	**Inset Day - no students in school**
	12th July to 16th July	Activities Week
	Tuesday 20th July 2027	**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, 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

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.

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