



### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The year is already gathering pace and the time seems to be flying by, but that is probably all to do with how busy the school has been in Term 3! I hope that you enjoy reading about all of our students' achievements in this edition of the newsletter. Read on for more flying news.

We will all be very sorry to say farewell to two valued members of staff at the end of the academic year. Mr Murray, Head of Design Technology, and Mr Dennis, Head of History, will both be leaving Langtree to take up rare opportunities to work abroad. I am sure that parents will want to join all staff and students in wishing them every success in their future adventures. We have an excellent record of attracting high quality staff to Langtree in recent years, and we remain confident of making excellent appointments in Term 4 to replace such valuable colleagues.

Today we again celebrated the creative talents of our students in our second Creativity Day of the year, and students have been involved in a huge range of activities inside and outside school, with everything from a first taste of Shakespearean comedy at the RSC in Stratford, to a first taste of locusts in a World Food Day Ready Steady Cook! As always, our students have been excellent in their engagement, behaviour and creativity, yet again eliciting very positive and congratulatory comments both from members of the public following their journeys out of school as well as from visitors coming to work with them at Langtree. Look out for reports on all activities in the next newsletter or on the school website.

A great deal of work continues behind the scenes to prepare for the installation of our AstroTurf football pitch. The tender process has now closed, and we hope to agree terms with our preferred contractor very soon indeed. It is still our intention to install the facility for the start of the new school year in September.

As the term comes to an end, we wish our Y10 ski group much fun and much snow as they head back to Arosa in Switzerland. For all other members of our school community, I do hope that you manage to have some enjoyable and restful family time over the coming week. We look forward to welcoming our students back to Langtree on Monday 23rd February!

### **Wing Commander Pip Harding dropping in for Assembly**

We were delighted to welcome Wing Commander Harding to our Y7 and Y8 assembly on Monday morning, he arrived in style courtesy of a Puma Helicopter from RAF Benson. The Year 7 and 8's were given a presentation about the RAF and took part in a question and answer session about life in the RAF.



**In extreme weather conditions school closures will be announced on local radio stations. Parents are asked to listen in to these stations from 7.00am onwards on the day to receive confirmation. In addition a text message will be sent to all parents who have registered a mobile number with the school.**

**A message will also be posted on the school website.**





### Emily Clements 1994 - 2015

The Langtree School community was devastated to hear the tragic news of the death of an ex student, Emily Clements in January. Emily attended Langtree between 2005 and 2010, pictured here in fancy dress on her last day at school. She was a very special member of our school. Emily will be remembered for her positive and spirited approach to all aspects of school life which was always evident in her wonderful smile. Emily's mother Jo was also a teaching assistant at Langtree until very recently, and was a much loved and highly valued member of our staff. In addition Emily's brother Ollie also attended Langtree throughout his secondary school career. Colleagues from the school attended Emily's funeral which was a wonderful celebration of her life. Our thoughts and very best wishes are extended to Jo and her family at this very sad time.

### AIR CADETS

And more on a flying theme ..... Nicola Payne and Jake Minihan looking very smart in their Air Cadet Uniforms took part in an assembly with Flight Lieutenant B Thorrington of 996 (Wallingford) Air Cadets. The Year 8's were told about all the wonderful activities that air cadets can get involved in: gliding, flying shooting, activity weekends.



Would you like to

“Take to the Skies?”

Contact 07970790433

for more information.

[www.966atc.org.uk](http://www.966atc.org.uk)

Following on from the successful and enjoyable Christmas Concert that raised a fantastic **£643** for Helen and Douglas House, the orchestra and choirs continue to rehearse.

Watch this space for news of future performances in March.

Meanwhile our Year 11s are busily finishing their final composing and performing coursework.

The Year 10s are working on composing coursework that will be included in June's performance of a Midsummer Night's Dream.

Stephen Henderson

### A Midsummer Night's Dream

71 students have so far signed up to perform in this production, which will be set in a musical festival, held in the school grounds.

Original music composed by Year 10 GCSE Music Students

22nd - 24th June 2015.

Anyone interested in performing or helping out in anyway, come and see Mrs Pimm or Mrs Buckley



### Theatre trip to “Woman in Black”

On 28th January, students from Year 9 and 10 went to see the stage show of 'The Woman In Black' at The Oxford Playhouse. The Year 9s have been exploring how to create tension in a piece of drama, so this was a perfect production to see, as it used many of the techniques we have been trying out in class. Some students had huge reactions to the performance, which was clearly very successful in immersing them in the drama!

Afterwards, Connor Parrish said, 'I loved the performance. It used all the tension techniques which made it a gripping and scary. The scariest moment was when the Woman In Black was haunting Arthur Kipp's dreams, the scariest of these was when she was on the rocking chair.'

What other students said:

'A thrilling experience that chilled from head to toe' - Sam Clark  
'Tension and suspense were used so well that I felt scared and never knew when the climaxes were going to come' - Jimmy Gladwin

'Chilled to the bone ...the scariest thing you'll ever see - Sophia Allen

## Author Visit

On Tuesday 3rd February Year 7 had an amazing speech from an author like no other: Peter J. Murray. Peter came to introduce the Year 7's to his horror stories.

He started by introducing his first book, Bonebreaker, then his Mokee Joe series. Then came the proper horror in Dawn Demons, 10 O'Clock caller and Scabbajack. These books are amazing and worth a read. I would highly recommend them.

The next day (Wednesday) he returned, this time in the library, to sell his books to us. He also signed them.

He is an amazing author and it was an amazing experience for him to come in.

Benjamin Broadbent



## DARE TO DREAM

A presentation by Marcus Orlovsky  
at Langtree School



It was a great pleasure and a huge privilege to welcome Marcus Orlovsky to Langtree School on Monday 26th January, to give a keynote presentation to the entire school community. Marcus is the founder of Bryanston Square, and is a consultant with an international reputation for advising governments on the design of school buildings and learning spaces.

In a rapidly changing world, Marcus also has a passionate interest in the role of technology in education, and how technology can provide the opportunities for learners of all ages to fulfil their potential and aspire to achieve. Or, to use his own words, 'Dare to Dream'.

During his presentation, Marcus shared numerous examples of how the world is rapidly changing in terms of science and technology. He challenged the students to consider what future contribution they might make to this rapidly changing world, and how exciting the challenges will be.

Furthermore, he went on to share the poignant story of his own childhood and upbringing, which provided a clear message in itself that there can be a positive path out of hardship, if we have the right mind set, as well as the determination and the desire to do so.

As Marcus put it so succinctly in his final slide, it is only one click of the space bar to change the phrase 'Opportunity nowhere' to 'Opportunity now here'. If you are interested in hearing Marcus present for yourself, search for his TEDx talks on You Tube.

Mr R Holroyd



We are very excited to have joined the Science into Schools initiative for the 3rd year running which enabled us to collect and swap unwanted textiles for fantastic new science equipment. Collecting 375 kg we managed to top last year's collection by over 625 kg making a grand total of 1009kg of unwanted textiles saved from landfill and 6.16 tonnes of CO2 saved from the atmosphere, as well as raising over £450 for science equipment. The programme is delivered by: EDF Energy's education programme the Pod, Wastebuster and the British Science Association. By joining the scheme we not only have the opportunity to teach our students about the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling but also to inspire them to get interested in science and engineering with some fascinating new science equipment and resources.

You can find out more about the Science into Schools project at [www.scienceintoschools.org](http://www.scienceintoschools.org) or [cthatcher@langtreeschool.com](mailto:cthatcher@langtreeschool.com) Dr C Thatcher



Our collected  
clothes  
mountain  
THANK YOU

## Hairy Legs X-Country Run. Sunday 10th May 2015 [www.hairylegs.net](http://www.hairylegs.net)

We are delighted to announce that from the ashes of the Hairy Legs duathlon a new x-country beast has arisen! Due to overwhelming demand, we are pleased to be bringing you a x-country running event which will similar feel but with some interesting additions which we think you'll love. Supporting Goring and Streatley Primary Schools

**Please check the website for up to date information.**

## **IMPORTANT**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Have you moved house, changed your mobile number or email address. If yes to any of these please email Kris Allen: [parents@langtreeschool.com](mailto:parents@langtreeschool.com) for your details to be updated.

If you have any good quality School Uniform that your child has grown out of. We would be very grateful to receive it. Please bring any donations of uniform to reception, thank you.

### **Admissions 2015 / 2016**

The first list of allocated places comes out on 2nd March 2015. Please see our website for updates during the Admissions Process [www.langtreeschool.com](http://www.langtreeschool.com) or contact Kris Allen on 01491 683389 or email: [parents@langtreeschool.com](mailto:parents@langtreeschool.com)

## **LOST PROPERTY**

All the unnamed lost property that is currently in the school office will be placed in the main hall during break time and lunch time on:

### **THURSDAY 26th FEBRUARY**

for students to look through and reclaim their belongings. Please help us to help you... please name school uniforms and PE kit, ask your child to use their locker rather than putting their belongings on the top of the lockers.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

### **TERM 3 DATES**

A full public/mock timetable for examinations is available on the school website [www.langtreeschool.com](http://www.langtreeschool.com)

23 Feb 2015—Start of Term 4

26 Feb 2015—Year 9 Options Evening 6.00pm

5th Mar 2015—Year 7 Parents Evening 5.00pm

9th—13th Mar 2015 Year 10 Mock Exams

13th to 17th Mar 2015—Year 9 Italy Trip

23rd Mar 2015 Governors Open Morning

23rd Mar 2015—Year 8 Parents Evening

27th Mar 2015—End of Term 4

13th Apr 2015—Start of Term 5



### **Please pay on line for trips & visits rather than by cash or cheque.**

Paying online is quick and convenient and allows you to see what you have paid and any amounts left to pay, particularly useful for school trips. Paying online also helps the school by cutting down the amount of time needed to process the hundreds of cheques we receive. If you do not have your unique pupil code please email the finance office: [finance@langtreeschool.com](mailto:finance@langtreeschool.com)

