

Dear Parents , Carers and Students

The Governors of Langtree School are delighted to confirm that, following a rigorous two-day interview process over the past week, we have unanimously decided to appoint our current Acting Head, Mr Simon Bamford, as the permanent Headteacher of Langtree, with immediate effect.

We are extremely grateful to the staff and students of the school for all their input and support during the interview process, and would like to express our warm congratulations to Simon!

With warm regards,  
Jan Seal-Roberts—Chair of Governors



Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Staff,

I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed as the Headteacher of this wonderful school. The support I have received from all parts of the community since my arrival but particularly, over the last week has been incredibly touching.

I am very excited to maintain and build upon the legacy of achievement left by Mr Holroyd and Mr Doyle. An important part of this legacy was the outstanding exam results achieved by our students in the Class of 2017. Despite the new larger curricula and the greater reliance on examinations our students performed exceptionally well, 78% of them achieved at least 5 GCSE passes, 26% of all grades were at 7 or above (equivalent to old A and A\* grades) Congratulations to all our students and the staff whose hard work and dedication helped them to achieve these results. We look forward to celebrating these results at our annual presentation evening on Thursday 21st November 2018.

I have just left our annual Harvest Festival Assembly led by the Rev Gordon-Potts. The message of the assembly was that we are able to produce enough food to feed everyone on the planet, we just need to ensure it is distributed more fairly. However, we at Langtree have certainly done our bit as the assembly was delivered to the back drop of a stage overloaded with donations from students and staff. These donations have been given to the Wallingford Food Bank.

Another area where we are exceeding all records and expectations is the money raised by the sponsored walk. Mrs Holroyd reports that, not only have we surpassed last years record breaking amount (£8500) we have so far raised over £9000 with some more still to come, the amazing total of £10,000 is within our grasp. This would be outstanding and matches the total raised by other much larger local schools. All the money goes directly to support our students learning so, if there are any monies pledged or collected but not yet returned please do so as soon as possible.

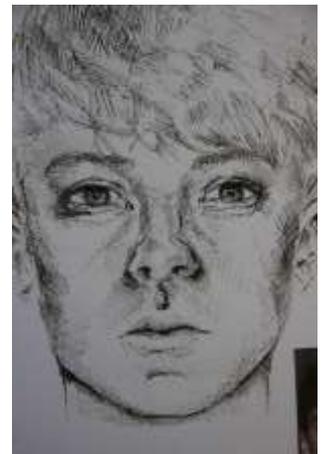
We were delighted to welcome Mr Clark, Mrs Courtman and Mrs Godfrey to the teaching team and Mrs French and Mrs Moss to the TA team in September, our new members of staff have already made a fantastic contribution to the life of the school. All our staff continue to amaze me with their energy and dedication. Not only planning and delivering outstanding lessons but also providing a hugely vibrant programme of extra curricular activities, from Latin to salsa, maths problem solving, to visits from authors and other exciting and inspiring speakers. Please keep your eye on the parent calendar and the weekly bulletin so you do not miss more exciting opportunities that our staff have to offer students in the forth coming months.

It only remains for me to wish you all a wonderful half term break and hope that students will come back refreshed and ready for another busy term.

Mr S Bamford, Headteacher



**NIAMH WALKER**  
Artist of the  
Term



## Piano Soirée - Thursday 18th October

Twenty nine pianists and a bassoonist took part in the fourth Piano Soirée at Langtree School.

The pianists ranged from Year 7 to Year 11 and it was a particular pleasure to introduce nine new Year 7 performers.

In the second half 14 student pianists were joined by local musician Mrs Mary Daniels in a stunning relay performance of a piano arrangement of Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. We were joined by Amelie Wilson on bassoon playing the music for the Grandfather. I would like to thank Mary Daniels for all her work in helping arrange the relay, coaching the pianists and her stunning piano performance.

Well done to all the pianist who were:

Toby Best, Teagan Silva-Tully, Lola

Bint-Savage, Ben Harvey, Isaac Aitchison, Erin Hughes-Williams, Louise Carson, Ella Hughes, Jade Redfern, Finn Bint-Savage, Elizabeth Stead, Grace Picton, Millicent Gatherum, Hannah Bates, Georgina Benham, Alice Carson, Isabelle Chandler, Danny Harris, Katie Harris, Phoebe Lambert, Freya McDonald, George Scurr, Gieve Sporle, Chris Wahlen, Niamh Walker, Finn Walker and Theo Warren. With guest appearance by Amelie Wilson (bassoon)



The music department were thrilled to receive money from the PTA to purchase three sets of tabla drums. These are authentic and professional Indian classical drums that will give the students the opportunity to play the "real thing" when studying Indian Classical music. A big thank you to the PTA.

## Music Examination Success

In the Summer term of 2018 twenty three music students took graded examinations. They all passed. Highlights were Grade 6 for Ted Spencer, Elena Bromidge and Lloyd Singleton; Isabelle Chandler achieving Grade 4 clarinet and Grade 5 piano; and Louise Carson gaining a distinction in her examination. Well done to all the following students and their teachers.

Anna Rowson, Ted Spencer, Will Cusack, Hazel Gainsford, Louise Carson, Ed Swift, Chris Wahlen, Misha Gamanyova, Rebecca Servais, Ramya Evans, Oliver Kerry, Isabelle Chandler, Georgina Benham, Ani Archer, Elena Bromidge, Lloyd Singleton, Toby Weller, Daniel McCarthy, Juno Norman, Niamh Walker, Danny Harris, and Izzy Byron.

## Henry II at Reading Minster

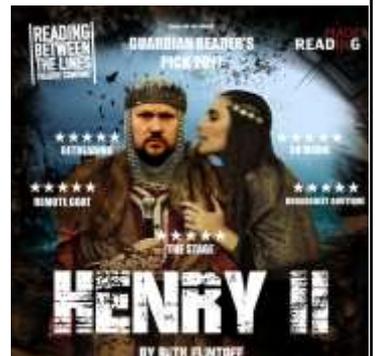
The theatre trip to see a production of Henry II at Reading Minster had a huge impact on all those who went.

"I loved it so much. It made me laugh as well as making me feel really sad at times. It was an emotional rollercoaster. The music was amazing—we've found one of the songs online and keep singing it." Emma Wallace

"A phenomenal piece. It bought to life a little known historical story. The site of Reading Minster was completely transformed and added greatly to the atmosphere." Eve Singleton

"An excellent site specific piece of theatre which was engaging and intimate.

The regular references to Reading's History were fascinating." Esme Cummings.



Please check the website for up to date information. [www.langtreeschool.com](http://www.langtreeschool.com)

### Athletics National Finals

On the 8th of September I competed in the Youth development National Athletic Finals 2018 in Bedford. Our team is Reading AC. Throughout the season, clubs throughout the UK, select members of their teams to compete in various heats. Our team got through to the nationals! We went against 6 teams: Blackheath & Bromley, Cardiff Archers, Edinburgh AC, Milton Keynes AC, Preston Harriers and Sale Harriers Manchester. We travelled by coach and I had to wake up at 6:30AM! My events were the 800m and long jump. My first event was the 800m and I was in lane 3. There were 7 people in my race and I got off with a sprinting pace, so I could get to the lead quickly. In the race I got 5th out of 7, but I was glad I didn't come last. My time in the 800m was 2.39.01 seconds, which is a new PB. The next event was long jump, I was even more nervous because in my last events I jumped 3.30m and 3.16m, and my PB was 4.07. My first jump I think was 3.93cm which I was happy about. The next one was 4.04, then... the next one was 4.10cm. Which is also another PB! Eventually we heard the results, and I won the bronze for coming 3rd.

At around 5pm we waited to hear the results of 'Best Club in the UK.' We had heard that 1st, 2nd and 3rd were really close. And we were in the top 3. 2nd and 3rd drew, and the winner was 7.5 points in front of them. We won! All of the Reading AC team came out to get a massive trophy, I couldn't believe it, we have won the Youth development National Athletic Finals... it was only the second time we won in the club's 150 year history. It felt amazing to be part of a team and contribute to our success.

By Lydia Godfrey 8AAG



### Inter-Tutor Cross Country RESULTS

Year 7 1st—DB 2nd—AGO 3rd—LCO 4th—GC

Year 8 1st—AAG 2nd—SD 3rd—MR 4th KS

Year 9 1st—CN 2nd—WI 3rd—HW 4th—KM

### 'Post 16+' Options Evening

Many Year 10 and 11 students with their parents attended the 'Post 16+' Options evening. There was a real buzz of excitement in the hall about the choices for Year 12 and beyond. There was a wide range of choice provided by the organisations as well as our school careers advisor, Amanda Gill from Adviza, who was available all evening. It was fantastic to welcome back so many ex-Langtree students from these different organisations, all wanting to share with others about what they had been doing since leaving Langtree.



### GCSE Geography Swanage Fieldtrip

All the Year 11 Geographers, late September, went on the 3 day Swanage fieldtrip to cover the compulsory human and physical investigation part of the course which is examined in Paper 3 as well as studying rivers and coasts for Paper 1. The students were really lucky with the stunning weather while out collecting data with many coming back to school with a tan! The students are now using the data collected during the trip to complete their human and physical investigation to find out if their predictions were true. They will need to remember everything they did on this for their actual Paper 3 GCSE in June 2019. Mrs Phipps



## Student Council Conference 2018

On the 18th October we had the Student Council Conference. Ms Burman and the Head of Years took the Student Leaders and Student Tutor Representatives to Mapledurham Golf and Leisure Centre for the day to discuss ways in which the students could improve school life at Langtree. The day was packed and started with a discussion of what made a good leader, before working in groups to discuss their objectives for the year. Students were divided into 4 groups: Teaching and Learning; Student Wellbeing; Extra-curricular and Student Mentors. Each group came up with clear objectives and discussed how to communicate with each other throughout the year. Senior Student Leaders will meet with their groups regularly and then feedback issues to Ms Burman, the Assistant Headteacher. Diana Hathaway, who leads the PTA, also attended in the afternoon to discuss how students can raise funds and what PTA money has been spent on previously. Ms Lackey (Head of Year 9 and 10) and Ms Phipps (Head of Year 11) organised a variety of team building exercises. The day ended with Mr Bamford, our new Headteacher, arriving for a Q & A session. Thanks for all the students and staff who participated in the day. A special thanks to Ms Lackey for bringing the biscuits - Ms Belcher did enjoy them! Ms Burman



### Introducing the Senior Student Leaders

**Bella:** As head of the Teaching and Learning Committee, it is very important to me that all of the students at Langtree feel confident in their learning processes and revision strategies in the lead up to their Mock exams and GCSEs as well as throughout their Key Stage Three learning experience. Our main aims for this year include setting up a scheme in which year 11s advise year 9s on which subject options will be best suited to them; introducing sessions where our GCSE students will introduce year 9s and 10s to different revision strategies that have worked for them and explaining different ways of reviewing their work and finally, to create a free classroom with a quiet, learning environment at lunch times for Key Stage Four pupils to revise for their exams. We are also very passionate about developing a system in which older students assist pupils in their first few years at Langtree who are struggling with reading. Through this system, we hope that students will be able to develop their learning across the board, as reading is a vital component in the development of each and every student's education.

**Will:** My main aim, as head of the Lead Mentoring committee, is to ensure the running of the school is seamless in terms of how confident the students are around each other when it comes to high pressure times. This could be the transition scheme from year 6 to 7 or around the year 9 options. Our aims as a committee this coming year are to run mentoring sessions for students that come into the school mid-year to enable them to start the school with as much ease as possible and for them to find it as easy as possible to become confident in their new environment. Also, to run intermittent mentoring sessions with the new year 7s. Lastly to help out year 9s when it comes to choosing their options and which ones to choose based on their interests, strengths and weaknesses. This particular area of helping out year 9s will ultimately determine what they end up doing later in life; this can have the biggest impact further down the line.

**Jack:** We are the Extra-Curricular Team and we have 4 main goals that we will carry out and improve our school. We would like a trophy cabinet put up for the world to see how successful Langtree School is. I know myself that there are countless trophies waiting to be admired. Another idea we would like to bring into place is an open-mic, somewhere people can share a story, tell a joke or sing a song. Lunch time clubs are also going to be furthered with a greater range and hopefully more attendance as well as a schedule of sports on the Langtree School Website. Furthermore, the year 11s can look forward to an excellent Prom this year. Finally, we want to create a place for people to stay at lunch and break (as it can be crowded in the canteen, especially when the field is out of bounds). This would allow the students to revise and socialise in a comfortable environment.

**Niamh:** As head of the Student Wellbeing committee, I play a role in creating a safe, welcoming environment at Langtree. Our main aim is to implement a support system in school where students are able to talk through important issues. They will be able to talk about issues that concern them, for example, male and female stereotypes, gender identity or debate the issues surrounding Brexit or even whether Donald Trump should be in office! These Open Forums will run every 6 weeks. We also want to discuss with Ms Wood the various ways we can make the LSB more accessible. Furthermore, we want to make the most of our new full time school nurse and ensure that everyone knows who she is and how to reach her. As part of improving the student's wellbeing we would like to improve the facilities at Langtree. The main areas we are focusing on are the canteen and the toilets; we hope to introduce labels so students with allergies have an easier time using the canteen and include more vegetarian options. We would also like to make sanitary products more accessible for students in the girl's toilets. Finally, we are hoping to improve the school uniform by consulting with students and Mr Bamford, our new Headteacher and we would like to organise a uniform bank where ex-students can donate uniform for current students.



Jack, Bella, Niamh, Will

**Follow us on Twitter @ Head4094**

## 2018 – 2019 Term Dates

### October Break – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Start of term 2
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Y11 Henley College Taster day and CREATIVITY DAY 1</b>
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Inset Day 3</b>
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	7.30pm GCSE Presentation Evening
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Senior Citizens Christmas Party
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Term 2 (School closes at 12.30pm)

### Christmas Holiday – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Term 3
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>End of Term 3</b>
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Inset Day 4</b>

### February Break – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 22<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Start of Term 4
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Creativity Day 2
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>End of Term 4</b>

### Easter Holiday – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019

Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Start of Term 5
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	End of Term 5

### May Break – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Start of Term 6
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Activities Week Y7 Camp / Y8 France / Y10 Work Ex.</b>
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Sports Day
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Term 6 (School closes at 12.30pm)

### Absence Requests

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 Headteacher stating the dates of absence and the reason for the absence, the school reserves the right to seek further information about the requested absence. Email requests can be sent to the Headteacher via the Headteacher's PA Mrs M Taylor-Lane: mtaylorlane@langtreeschool.com

## LANGTREE SCHOOL IS GOING 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.

**PLEASE  
PAY  
HERE**

### 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.