



Outside the Big Top

Circus invitation

Last week, the owner of Santus circus and to talk to its top Circus kindly invited LGS performers. Turn to **Page 9** to find Headteacher, Mr Les Milton, out more about this marvellous invitation and two students to visit their

What's Inside:

- * **Leaver Celebrations**
- * **Beach School**
- * **LGS Learn to be Global Citizens**
- * **Puzzles and Competitions**
- * **And much, much more !!!**



LGS art student exhibits at O2 Arena

A number of students were entered into the *Festival of Hope 2021 Art Competition*, organised by the *London Tourism Cooperative*. They had to design a piece of art work inspired by 'all things British'. There were some fantastic designs that showed imagination, creativity and skill.

Continued on next page.



Adam's winning artwork

Reading Revamp at LGS

LGS is having a massive new drive to encourage our young people to read more frequently. The evidence is unequivocal: children who read often are more likely to experience greater happiness and success in their lives than those who read infrequently or not at all.

Moreover, emerging research suggests the number of young people reading has fallen as a result of the pandemic.

Consequently, LGS is raising its reading profile. It's a no-brainer!

Starting in September, we will be running a number of new initiatives to create as many opportunities as possible for our young people to enjoy reading - whatever the medium or genre. So if it's popping in the plugs for a podcast, mulling over a manga, performing playscripts, or settling down with *Lord of the Rings*, we aim to find something for everyone.



Discover more on **Page 3**

Headteacher's Letter

Dear **Parents** and **Carers**

Wow what a year! I am very pleased it is behind us but I am really excited about next year. However, alongside the changes and protective measures we have had to implement due to COVID 19, we have still managed an array of activities ranging from Caribbean culture food tasting, trips to Wildwood, paintballing and a trampoline centre (we even managed a trip to the Circus).

Among the highlights for me was Post-16 students' live video call with Anne Hegerty, a formidable quiz mistress from TV show, *The Chase*, and Mr Welsh's virtual interview with the World's Strongest Man, Tom Stoltman.

The school continues to go from strength to strength with significant improvements such as a greatly improved secondary phase timetable, more consistent approaches to restorative approaches, developing support with emotional regulation and of course the new swings in Secondary.



The year has concluded with a bang (literally, in the Science show) with many events including Ms Howard's final Concert, the summer fayre and sports days. I would like to thank all members of our community, particularly pupils, parents and staff for magnificent support in this challenging year. Together we are stronger and even more resilient for the future. Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you all in September. Remember, let's Learn, Grow, Succeed!

Les Milton

**LGS Thought
of the
Term:
Gratitude!**



Art Award

By **Ms Bowen**

During Easter break I was contacted to let me know that **Adam G.** in Year 9 had been selected as the overall winner in the 12-19 years category. He produced an amazing piece of work inspired by historical, fictional and typically British characters, iconic buildings and events.

Adam has won a weekend for four for

him and his family to London including hotel accommodation, travel, lunch at Hard Rock café and he will have his work exhibited at the O2 arena.

Huge congratulations to Adam, he worked really hard to complete his piece of work and put in massive amounts of effort and imagination.

Staff Spotlight



Ms Newman

Exams Officer

Is your job fun?

Yes, I love my job. The best part of my job is seeing the excitement of pupils when they receive their results.

Are there any funny stories you have?

There is one story that always makes me laugh. A pupil was in a room on his own writing an exam and a big fly was annoying him, so he tried to catch it to move it out the room, so when I came to check on him with the exam inspector, we saw him running around the room chasing a fly, we started laughing. I did move the pupil to another room so he could finish his exam in peace and quiet.

How long have you been working for?

I have been working for many years, but been working at Laleham Gap School for nine years.

Has your job ever been stressful?

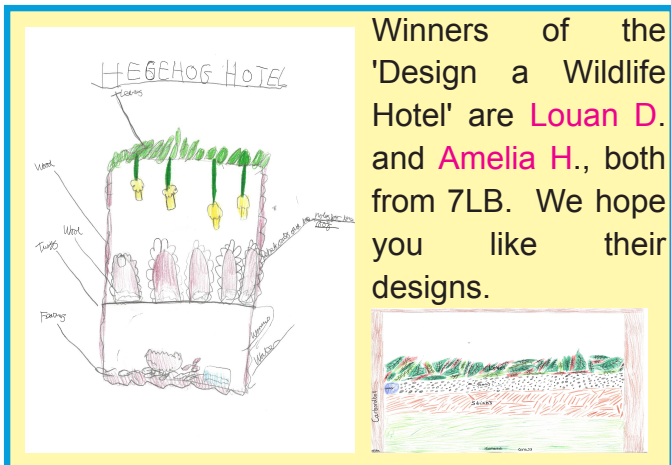
Yes it has. The build up to exam time and during exams can be stressful with lots to think about to make sure the exams are run according to the rules and regulations but also making sure we do the best we can for each pupil. The last two years have been very stressful with all the changes because we have had to wait on decisions made by the Department of Education and Ofqual before we knew what exams were cancelled and which ones were still going ahead.

Have you had any past jobs?

Yes, I have had a few different jobs. My first job was while I was studying at University, I was doing general administration in a car air conditioning company, I worked closely with the engineers. This meant I had to do stock takes too, which meant counting every screw, nut & bolt in the warehouse.

Interview by **Pippa B.**

Design a Wildlife Hotel

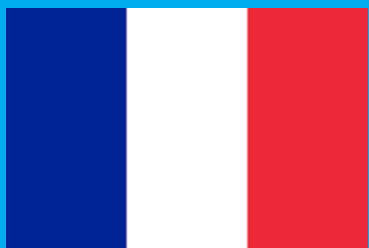


Winners of the 'Design a Wildlife Hotel' are **Louan D.** and **Amelia H.**, both from 7LB. We hope you like their designs.

Student Council donation



Looking forward to ...
vendredi, 24 septembre



Une célébration de la francophonie!

LGS students learn to be 'global citizens'

By **Mrs Schroepfer**

Laleham Gap is proud as a 'UNICEF Rights Respecting School' to support a grass roots project to support children living in poverty in Los Taques in Venezuela. Mrs Schroepfer and Mr Wharley-Payne are keen to embed our mission to teach all children about being a responsible global citizen. This project will allow our pupils to teach the children of Los Taques about their rights and to fundraise for the resources they need to lead healthy and happy lives.



Los Taques is situated on the extreme north west coast of Venezuela on a peninsula called Parajuana that juts into the Caribbean sea.

The area suffers from poverty made worse by the pandemic, and there are shortages of everything from basic utilities to food, medicines and clothes. Malnutrition amongst the children is leading to premature deaths; parents have to make the choice of which meal in the day their children will receive.

The project has secured premises (see pictures) in the less privileged part of the town where meals can be prepared and served to approximately fifty children in two sittings between 12-2.00pm. The identified need is for children between two and ten years old although the majority are aged around four.



There will also be help for four individuals aged around 12/13 who are diagnosed with Autism and deemed to be particularly vulnerable. The aim is to feed the children Monday to Friday before extending into teaching lessons.

A nutritionist is preparing menus which will be prepared and served by 12 local volunteers under the supervision of a local cook who works in the community with elderly people and young children.



Laleham Gap is generously providing some t-shirts, baseball caps and wristbands for the volunteers. Mr Deslandes has just announced we shall also be contributing the money raised from the Summer Fair to the community kitchen feeding the children. We look forward to sending supplies for their classroom in the new academic year.



Thank you to everyone who supported the Summer Fair, please know that you are helping to provide a life-changing community service for this village.



Year 11 Farewell Celebrations

After the most extraordinary year, the Class of '21 was able to enjoy a traditional LGS farewell. The sun shone as Year 11s gathered outside the Phoenix Building to say their goodbyes. A traditional fish and chip and ice cream lunch was followed by shirt-signing, dancing and the chance to say goodbye to their friends and staff, with some students having been at LGS since they were infants. Of course, not all Year 11s were leaving with some returning in September to our Post 16 provision.



Year 11s 'Stand Up, Sit Down' at LGS

Once again, Year 11 Leavers read the text, their eyes took part in the LGS traditional widened and they looked Stand Up Sit Down Story. apprehensively towards their Students listen to a short tale in friend. "Delete it, Annan!" they which every leaver's surname whispered in unison. But it was appears - when they hear their too late, young **buck, Annan**, name they have to quickly stand had clicked on the link ... he up and sit down. This year's was a young buck, afterall!

story relates an intrepid trio's students journey back in time to 'At exactly the same moment learn a valuable lesson. Please as young **buck, Annan**, was read on to find out how the clicking the link, three friends story starts. The full story is were also examining a available on the School message. **Cox, son** of the Website. village butcher, **John, son** of the village baker, and **Tom, son** of the village candlestick maker, were crowded round a poster which had been nailed to a board outside the village of had hurried out to the field to Laleham's only inn, the **Mirwin** find his two pals, **Pockers** and Arms, which stood next to the **Percival**. He wanted to show village shop, **Kins** and Co. them a curious text message **Cox, son** of the village butcher he had received during Period and **John, Son** of the village One. Usually, he would delete baker, listened carefully, as anything he didn't recognise – **Tom, son** of the village he may have been a young candlestick maker, read in a buck, a spirited, adventurous faltering voice: "Reward – One boy, but he wasn't foolish, and Shilling for information leading he knew not to respond to to the capture of two Thanet unknown messages – but poachers – The infamous something about this message brothers, **Will 'I ams** the was different, he didn't know greatest poacher in Thanet' why, but he felt strangely **Stroud** and his little brother, compelled to reply – maybe it **Ben 'et all the pies' Stroud."** was the flashing word 'Reward' that had caught his eye?

Young **buck, Annan**, loved rewards. In fact, unless he was to be rewarded, he was very reluctant to do anything. When pals, **Pockers** and **Percival**,



Best Wishes to all our Year 11s from everyone at Laleham Gap School!

Year 11 Leavers' trips

By Ms Sanders

Unlike last year's Leavers End of Year celebrations, the Class of 21 were able to enjoy a last trip out with their form groups. 11DJ went paintballing at Quex Park, followed by lunch at McDonalds at Westwood Cross. 11SP went off to Prison Island Escape Room at Maistone, with a picnic lunch at Mote Park before heading back to school. 11SL went furthest with a day out at Thorpe Park. Everyone had a brilliant time and hopefully helped end their time at LGS on a high note.



On Friday 11th of June 11SL had their end of Year 11 trip to Thorpe Park. The pupils were looking forward to the day and everyone had packed and dressed for the occasion including the advisory extra set of clothes, ready for one of the most popular attractions, all the class were looking forward to, the giant Water rides where getting as wet as possible seemed to be the main goal! Although it was decided by the majority it should be left until last.

Arriving at the park, (and all security checks completed), pupils and staff were issued with the coveted, 'fast track' passes, and these proved to be a huge asset as, at most of the rides there was a 90-minute wait! The first ride where being upside down, turned around and contorted into twisted positions previously only astronauts had experienced, at speeds only F1 racing drivers reach! was Stealth. The consensus was, 'It was Brilliant.' I watched in awe, as it seemed this adrenaline rush was just the beginning. Nemesis Inferno, Saw and Storm Surge followed then The Walking Dead needed to be experienced and abstractly enjoyed, as being frightened to screaming point was the object of the exercise, before anyone could possibly think of lunch.

How anyone had the stomach to consume anything after dropping from a height that would give a bird a nose bleed, was beyond me, but consume we did and this only seemed to fortify everyone for more of the same.

So, the big moment had arrived and we headed for Tidal Wave for the soaking of the day. Sitting in rows, in a boat on rails, the pupils descended from a great height into a mass of water, that cascaded 100's of feet into the air and the deluge fell back down onto anyone in the vicinity of the ride. Thankfully I was a sensible distance away! Laughing and dripping, pupils headed for the exit, where they then realised if they stood on a bridge and waited for the next boat to descend, they would be in the zone for another soaking, obviously they didn't feel they were wet enough! So, Standing, laughing with nervous anticipation, everyone stood and screamed with great glee as the water obliterated the scene for a few seconds leaving them saturated from head to toe.

Squelching and smiling they all headed off to change into their dry clothes and, sadly, then the minibus for the journey back to school. The opinion of all concerned was the day had been a great success and everyone enjoyed the trip.



Art Builders

By Miss Carey

Classes across Primary and Secondary were offered the opportunity to take part in the exciting and inspiring initiative to become 'Art Builders'. Like we have sport's day, Art Builder's is an arts-in-education programme funded by *Arts Council England* and organised by *Animate Arts Company* to celebrate the arts and creativity in schools.

There were brilliant pieces of art created, inspired by a virtual lesson from an artist who creates story maps from different journeys. The students went on their own journeys around the school and took notes and photos of things of interest and created story maps based on this and linking to topic work.



We also created recipes for our wellbeing, linking to the Art Builder's theme this year of 'Lotions and Potions', aiming to promote better wellbeing through the arts, following the NHS's five ways to wellbeing.



We look forward to being an Art Builder's school next year and creating even bigger and better art!

There were some brilliant quotes from the day including:
'Art is diving into the deepest depths of your imagination'- Harvey
'Art is taking a sip of creativity juice'- Shane
'I'm just getting my creativity started!'- Aden

Art students spread cheer

By Mr Parkin

The students were unable to go out and do a community project. So, they came up with the idea of doing an Art display that would be displayed at Broadstair's

Train Station. They all did two pieces of Art with a motivational quote, to hopefully bring a smile, inspire people to do some art etc.



Beach School Pic



See Page 8 for full story

The Sound of Samba

I think I really like the drumming I did in music. It was really cold but I was having fun on the other hand. The good thing is that everyone was smiling and happy and that's what I really like about it.

If I had a choice of doing drums again I would definitely do it.

By **Harley L.**



Today, I will be explaining my music lesson two days ago. We did something called Samba. For those who don't know, Samba is a genre of music that originated in Brazil. People do Samba because it makes them happy (as it's upbeat of course!)

We did a Call and Response game, just for a practice. Personally, I was really good at this game, but I really don't want to be a show off.

Playing the Repinique was honestly really fun, even shouting "SAMBA!" made me super excited! I sometimes even say out loud or quietly, "I would like to stop eating food", which is the word replacement for "I would like to eat lots of food", which is exactly the beat I used in my Samba lesson.

By **Jess G.**



Music-making at LGS

By **Ms Howard**

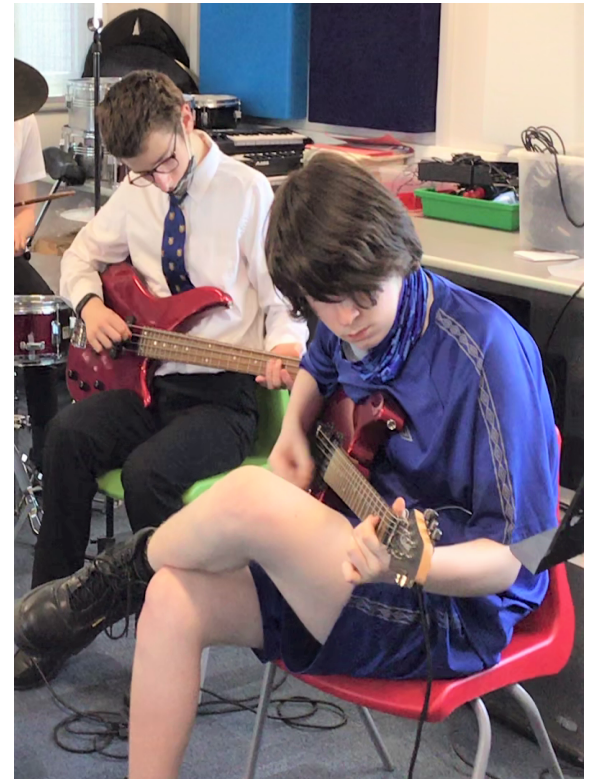
For the last two terms Music lessons have happily been able to take place back in the Music Room, so classes have had access to instruments after a long break due to Covid.

Last term, Year 7s were learning Band Skills, Year 8 explored Film Music using Band lab and Garage Band, and year 9 had a go at Samba (which year 8 covered the term before – see the great photos in this newsletter!), using Samba drums and other percussion. A loud and amazing noise was made by all!



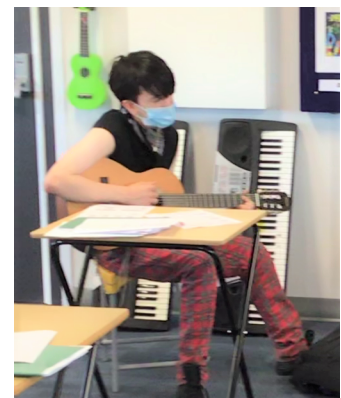
Year 8 have been composing music using the Pentatonic Scale, and Year 9 have been learning about Ravi Shankar and Indian Music.

This term we have been looking at Rap with year 7, and some amazing Rap Kings have emerged including the incredible 'Biggy Cheese'!! I have been really impressed with the standard of lyric writing that many year 7 pupils have shown.



Finally, year 10 have been hard at work on their Btec coursework, and have been working on the song 'Wild Thing' as a class ensemble, and year 11 managed valiantly to complete their Btec work against all the odds that Covid threw in their way.

It is so great to be able to play together again. We are celebrating with an end of term Music Concert, which we will film and then share with parents and fellow pupils. Watch this space!





Beach School

By Ms Clifford

Beach School began again this term, Term 6, for the Primary children in Jaguars, Lions, Bobcats and Panthers.

Last week was our third session of Beach School and we're getting into the routine of it now.

We usually begin each session with a litter pick of the beach. The children always do a fabulous job of this and are keen to do their bit for the community by keeping our beaches tidy!

Next, we set up camp. Looking at the direction of the wind and setting up our wind breaks using mallets and brute strength! Our pop-up tents supply us with shelter from the sun and lovely place to sit for snack time.

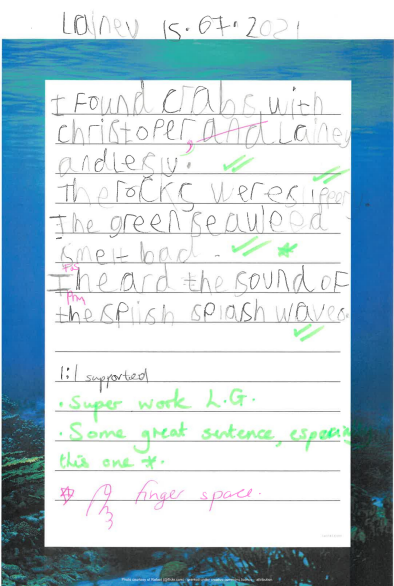
After this, usually do an educational activity, such as: Scavenger Hunt, Beach Art, learning about the tides or discussing any interesting finds.

Finally, we end with a beach games, this might be, 'Crab, Crab, Lobster!' (similar to Duck, Duck, Goose); parachute fun;

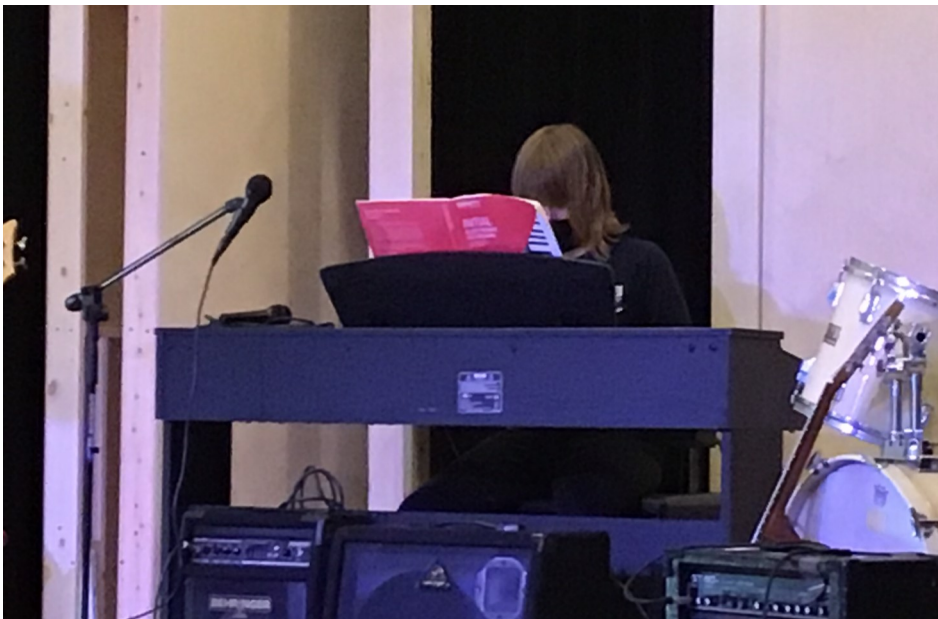
sand castle building; rounders; stone throwing into the sea or Free Time.

The pupils of Laleham Gap School have been an absolute pleasure to take out of school for these mornings' sessions. It has been nice to have the secondary pupils coming along to help out Primary pupils this year, so thank you to them for all their support.

Panthers/Bobcats and Lions are super excited already for next week, our final Beach session this Term, as we are off ROCK POOLING! Looking forward to finding out more about the creatures which live amongst the rocks at low tide! Watch this space.



End of Year Music Concert



Primary Fair



Circus Skills

By Mr Milton

Continued from Page 1

On the 25/6/21, Toby, Leo and I went to Santos Circus which was visiting Ramsgate. The performers took us into the big top and answered questions about their history, dedication and practice routines. The Ring Master (one of the Santos Brothers) kindly invited us to see their Portuguese juggler (one of the Nare brothers).

It was great to pass clubs with a professional and stand in the Ring, we all appreciated their time. The juggler was great and demonstrated 8 ring juggling and did repeated club pick ups unlike I have seen before! Tremendous.

Toby has great unicycle skills and Leo shows promise in learning to juggle. Circus skills are currently being taught in Year 7 Drama lessons.



Young Chef of the Year 2021

By Ms Aherne

The Year 9 *Young Chef of the Year* competition got off to a flying start. All those who took part produced food to a restaurant standard. The judges were overwhelmed by the quality and presentation of the food and it has been very difficult to find our winners. So this year, we have awarded first, second and third places for each form group.

The results are:

In 3rd place: 9HW, Connor K. for his fish and chips; 9BC, Max A. for his spaghetti bolognese, and 9SD, Saul O. for his fresh cream eclairs.

In 2nd place: 9HW, Mia R. for her sausage rolls; 9BC, Ethan C. for his butter cake, and 9SD, Rosie F. for her cannelloni.

And ... in 1st place: 9HW, Ryan F. for his delicious curry; 9BC, Kelvin L. for his steak, and 9SD, Finley D. for his Pannecotta Italian casserole.



Congratulations – and a massive thank you to everyone who took part, including the judges who had the difficult job of choosing the winners.



Science Show

By Mr O'Brien

On Friday 16th July, students and staff of Laleham -Gap were treated to a wonderful Science show from the Royal Institution. Dan the presenter, had travelled all the way from London to take us on an exciting journey through the stores of energy that surround us.

There were plenty of hands-on opportunities and explosive demonstrations of what energy is and how it effects our lives. One of the highlights was the ethanol rocket cannon, which harnessed the chemical energy store of a fuel and through combustion converted it into kinetic energy. We all had to cover our ears at the end of the show, when Dan used electrical energy, to detonate a small explosive. It was very loud, and the sound echoed around the gym. The whole show was very engaging and helped to bring Science alive.

We would like to thank Dan, The Royal Institution and Mr Payne, our STEM ambassador, for helping to secure funding for the show and organising the event.



'The Fellowship of Controversy'

Lord Soper



"Playing music is better for you than sitting in front of a screen all day!"

By Logan J. Year 10

I personally think that music is really important for your mental health.

It is also good for hand co-ordination and it's something you can show off. It helps you to develop as the person you are and you can use it to express yourself.

There is a wide selection of what you can do. For example, you can play any instrument you like, such as the guitar, bass guitar, piano and drums.

There are so many genres to play and it really helps to expand your memory. For example you have to memorize chords and power chords, etc.

It is more productive with your day than staring at a screen all day!

What's your view?

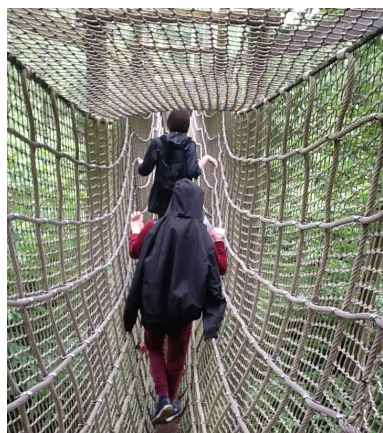
Year 10s go wild for Wildwood



The day started off very wet and miserable. There was torrential rain before we left school and we were all expecting a very wet day ahead.

When we reached our destination, it had stopped raining and had got very warm and humid.

There were lots to see and to explore, but everyone agreed that the highlights were the two adorable otters that were very inquisitive and liked to show off their swimming skills and the bear enclosure which contained two European Brown Bears, both of which had been rescued.



A very tall rope bridge stretched across the bear enclosure, and we were able to rock it backwards and forwards. Zach and Mark used the trip as an opportunity to take photos for their GCSE photography portfolios, the picture of the otter was taken by Mark.

After our picnic lunch we had ice-creams and played on the adventure playground - many of us got stuck coming down the spiral slide. Overall, it was a great day out and nice having the opportunity to spend time with the rest of our form class.

By **Mr O'Brien**

The best thing that happened at Wildwood was when a student got stuck down the slide and the rest of us had to launch a rescue operation to save them although after that they got stuck a second time so we did it all over again.

By **Oliver H.**



We had a wonderful time at the zoo. We saw a bunch of animals and the most interesting thing is we got to see the bears. They were massive! And we even got to see a Raven eating a rabbit dead of course but you could see its insides and guts as the Raven was picking away at it.

By **Stefan K.**

When we was at Wildwood we saw the bears, boars, otters, and lots of other exciting creatures and animals.

We had lunch after seeing all the animals then we went into the small play area and went on the zip wire and down the slide.

By **Chase E.**



I think the best parts of going to Wildwood was when we saw the otters because they looked around for a way to get out of their habitat so they could play with us. (they failed to find one ☹.)

And when we were moving towards the bears we started chanting:

"SACRIFICE! SACRIFICE! SACRIFICE!"

And also, when I howled at some wolves and they just started looking around like. "Brother, I have heard your call, Where are you."

And the final thing I think is noteworthy is when a wildcat (this one was the size of a regular housecat) started staring at some of us as if we were its next meal.

By **Landon M.**



And here's what some of the other boys thought.....

"I greatly enjoyed visiting Wildwood. We were lucky enough to see many different animals. I hope to return to Wildwood at some point." - **Alex T.**

"It was pretty good..." - **Jack P.**

"I liked Wildwood because of the animals." - **Riley K.**

"The Ravens were nice." - **Leo P.**





Growing tomatoes

By Adam G.

As part of our Employability kitchen in Post 16, maybe to work we decided to grow some make a meal out of it or put tomatoes. We've made sure them in a salad, but we don't that we keep watering them as think they will be ready in time the warm weather has come in. by the end of July. We think they will be done by August, which is a shame because Post 16, but they weren't we're not here in August. getting enough sunlight, so we put outside and see how it went.

We think that we put them out too early when it was a bit chilly and a bit breezy, but we thought they may have died.

After Term 5 they started to grow really big! We think its because of the hot weather makes tomatoes grow. As we don't have a greenhouse it harder for them to grow, but we're managing.

Once they've grown we're thinking of using them in the



Visiting Wingham Wildlife Park

My top favourite animals at Wingham Wildlife Park were: Penguins, Tigers, Wolves, Goats, Otters, Giraffes and Flamingos.

By Dora E.

My experience at Wingham was great as we saw many animals, some of my favourites which included of penguins, giraffes and tigers. I enjoyed seeing the penguins the most because they are very cute and it was funny seeing them pooing in front of the others as they watched them do it.

My second-best thing about being there was taking the photographs on the camera

and learning how to zoom in on an image.

We saw other animals such as monkeys, little ducklings that waddled around our shoes and bit at them, goats and many others.

We ate the picnic we made together and it was lovely especially the pesto dough balls. At the end of the day we got to go and buy gifts from the gift shop and I bought glitter slime which was fun to play with and mix into the glitter. That was my favourite parts about being at Wingham.

By Caragh P.

A farewell party for Post-16s

Friday 16th July was the Year 12 students' last day and in the afternoon they hosted a small celebration on the Post 16 floor for staff and students to enjoy some relaxation time and tea and cake.

They were visited by lots of staff who came across to say their goodbyes and give them a good send off. Many staff remembered these young people from when they were in Primary and couldn't miss the chance to wish them well in the future. It was a wonderful afternoon and will be remembered everyone.



GOOD LUCK to OUR POST-16 Students...

and a warm welcome back to Mr URSELL!

Secondary Summer Fair

On a grey, windy morning, Secondary held its summer fair. Sadly, parents and carers were unable to attend due to the pandemic restrictions currently in place. However, none of this dampened the spirits of the young people or staff. Every stall, from Tin Can Alley to a rocket-firing version of a coconut shy was well attended and needless to say the cakes and goodie stalls were a sell-out!

Mr Deslandes, Head of Wellbeing, reported the following: "I am pleased to say that Primary raised approximately £230 and Secondary £210. More importantly, children and staff had fun!

Mrs Schroepfer has been working on collaborating with a small team of volunteers to feed and educate children living in poverty in Los Taques, Venezuela. This fits lovely with our values as a UNICEF Rights respecting School and we are proud to be using raised money to send clothes and items with our school's branding. You will hear more about this next term as we link this through our curriculum and introduce our children to them.

This has been such a challenging year and it is events like this which remind us how important community days and the community spirit is. For those who didn't see, we had a moment today when one of the activities had a crisis. Several hundred raffle tickets fell over in the wind before the activity even got started. These blew everywhere and for a moment it looked like this activity was done for. Everyone, staff and pupils, went into crystal maze mode and ran around collecting these. It was unbelievable to see everyone pull together and retrieve every single ticket. This summed up Laleham in a crisis - team work, community spirit and togetherness which helps us to achieve and overcome challenges.

Such events which bring staff, children and our community together are so important and we will build on this next year to ensure we have the community spirit which makes Laleham Gap School so special."

Chapter Two: After Lockdown

More from *The Amazing Adventures of Ronnie and Arnie* ... by Harvey W.

26/04/2021

So, it's been a while since this diary has been used, but that's because we've been settling in. So, we may as well catch up on everything that's happened. My brother Arnie managed to pee on the teacher's desk, I think Arnie bit someone and I've gone out of the classroom many times so that other people can see me. So now that I've told you everything I can remember, I guess this entry is over.

18/06/2021

Yet again, it's been a while since this diary was used. I think it's because the hoomans forgot about our diary until today. So, me and my brother Ronnie are doing alright, and quite a lot has happened. In fact, the hoomans once gave us lots of treats and also some stuff for us to play with.

Okay, so one of the hoomans took me and my brother Ronnie to this place called primary school, and a lot of people held and stroked us both. We've just come back and I'm feeling rather tired after all that. I think I'll have what the hoomans call a cat nap.

Me and my brother Arnie are both quite different. We're basically what the hoomans call polar opposites. We both like and hate different things, but one thing we both love are treats. We've also done quite a lot of cool stuff. We lived outside for two days, with access to this delicious food that hoomans call grass.

Woah! What was that loud noise!? That scared me! My brother Ronnie is telling me to stop freaking out, but I bet he's scared too. I was having such a nice nap, and then suddenly I was woken up by an inaudible sound! I'm going back

13/07/2021

Today has been quite boring for me. I've been squeaking quite a bit, eating and jumping around in the hay. My brother Ronnie is being quite mean to me and I don't know why. He's even been stealing my food. Maybe this happened because I once bit part of his ear off by mistake. Every weekend, me and Ronnie go to someone's house, and we live in a classroom on schooldays. Well, that's just something I heard the hoomans talking about.

My brother Arnie once bit part of my ear off. It was SO PAINFUL! Ever since then, I've been very careful around him, and I've made sure that he doesn't mess with me by doing things like stealing his food. He keeps telling me that he 'accidentally' bit off part of my ear, but I don't believe him. Me and Arnie are brothers, and sometimes we may not get along, but we do have some good times together. Ever since we got all those treats one Wednesday, Arnie has thought that we would get more treats every Wednesday.

Okay, I'll admit that I'd be a bit angry after someone bit my ear off, but Ronnie needs to let it go. He's been upset about it for ages. I just wish that I knew how to make him happy again. I forgot to say sorry after I bit part of his ear off, so that might be a good place to begin.



Read Chapter 3 in Autumn Issue

LGS Science in Action

By Ms Dixon

Exciting news!

Free trees for schools and communities

In 1972 a group of friends gathered round a kitchen table in Devon to discuss saving a local wood: that day the Woodland Trust was born.

- The Woodland Trust wants to see a UK rich in woods and trees.
- They plant woods and trees to combat climate change, build a greener future for the UK and create havens for wildlife.
- They bring damaged ancient woods back to life and restore these irreplaceable ecosystems so wildlife can thrive once again.
- They save woods from decimation, stand against needless destruction and lead the fight against tree pests and diseases.
- They care for over 1000 woods, keeping them open for us to explore and enjoy. They would like to inspire a love for woods and trees for generations to come.

The Woodland trust wants to make sure everybody in the UK has the chance to plant a tree. They are giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities.

Together, we'll get millions more trees in the ground.

The UK needs millions more trees to reach its 2050 carbon net-zero target. By digging in with them, you'll help bring us nearer this important goal.

Want to plant a tree for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee? Take part in The Queen's Green Canopy.

Our school was lucky to be accepted for the tree planting project. We'll receive 30 trees (tiny ones) to plant around the school. The trees will arrive in November and we need to plan where to plant them. They are small copse trees of 3 different species - silver birch, rowan and wild cherry. Each class can choose one tree and plant it during our planting week, dedicating it to a special event, a person or to our school. Together we can create a fantastic extra habitat for birds and other living creatures around our school.

What is more? When we plant our tree pack, our school will earn two points on the Woodland Trust's Green Tree Schools Award. There are so many brilliant ideas and activities on the Woodland trust's website for all: a planning tool, planting advice and interactive activities too. Please, have a look and spread the word! Any questions, please ask Ms Dixon (Biology teacher).

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>



Post 16 students look back on their year

My year at post 16 has been great. I have had a very good time here going on trips, playing games, cooking, and learning new skills like darts all this stuff has really helped me out ever since I started working here.

I feel I have made really good progress in maths and English thanks to the staff workers for their support.

By William P.



I have been doing lots of work and I am hoping to pass my Maths English. We've had trips that have been really good. You have a key worker that you can talk to.

I have become more independent in my learning and they teach you skills that you want to learn. This will help me when I go to college. I liked to cook here and I found it enjoyable.

By Adam G.

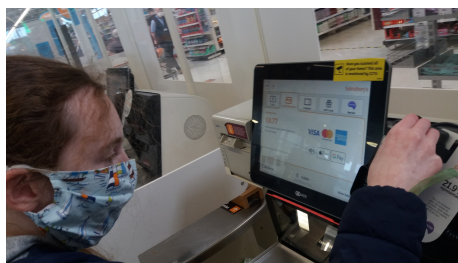


Being in Post 16 was great! We did a lot of work! In Enrichment time we have some time that we do what we like. We had done watching films, going on laptops, walking around the building, sowing seeds, sewing and doing yoga.

The best thing is the staff members! They worked really hard to help us with us with our work! They took their time to take us out on lovely trips, buying us something to eat and to drink. We had done this target sheet that we do every day to get money and at the end of it we spend it on things that we like.

I like going to Post 16! Its fun doing it while doing work! For the new Post 16! Good luck! Do your best in everything that you do! You may not know that they will take you out somewhere nice! I hope you have a lovely time!

By Sam L-W.



I have enjoyed my time at Post 16 because I did well in an English exam, I tried my best in lessons and I gave new things a go as I took a goat for a walk with Sam on a school trip. I also fed it and brushed lots of them whilst on the trip which was amazing as I had never done that before and although I felt a bit anxious around the goats.

I think I have improved on my maths whilst being here as the teachers have helped me through this with the websites we used to work out problems and ways of remembering how to work out sums. I have also had tasks to do whilst being here such as unloading the dishwasher and putting the items back and helping out more around the building which has been enjoyable as I get into routine of doing it each day.

We also have been doing yoga every Tuesday and Thursday morning which I was in charge of as Mr Ursell was out of school and usually did it with me, Sam, Dora and William so I had to take over that for a while. We would get snacks in the morning break and we could choose toast or something out of the biscuit box as that's our treat, then after that we would go straight back into lessons.

A few months ago, we made DIY bird feeders and would hang fruit like oranges and apples on a string to then hang on the gate for the birds to enjoy but we later had to take the fruit down as the birds weren't eating them and they were getting mouldy. We have gone out on many trips such as to the beach, to the park and on general walks if we have no work to do and we do this to stay active and fit. Other things we get up to here is learning new skills in Personal Development like ironing and cooking whereas in Work Experience we do stuff like getting ready for job interviews and work experience.

By Caragh P.

Wise words from Mr Ursell to Post 16 Leavers...

"And there is also your amazing commitment to your fitness routines. I hope you keep that up for life."

"You have to be one of the big characters of Post-16 this year. I bet many people thought you might struggle to complete Post-16. But complete it you did!"

"How I am going to cope next year without your acerbic wit? You have a great mind and have also can be extremely inventive and creative."

"Your jokes kept us amused and you were our most dedicated puzzle finisher. Then add in the fact you are a kind and generous young man."

"You have passed exams, done the 'Daily Mile' regularly and been a super young woman around Post 16."

"You are a kind, engaging young man who will be liked wherever he goes. I think your Post 16 year shows you can make a success of life."



The Hunter

By Pippa B.

The wind howled like a wolf in Pushing forward, she stayed her ears as she unsteadily strong, just through the field to stumbled along, her leather her small cabin, yet crashing boot sinking into the thick wave pushing forward, she snow. Wind pushed her back stayed strong, just through the and the snow hit her like stone field to her small cabin, yet the would, but she kept her ground, feeling of being sat near a no matter what, she knew she flame of warmth seemed so far. had to. White flecks of snow hit her freckles skin as she stumbled.

With pale fingers she clutched her hunter's blade, as her Almost there, as her legs stomach grew restless and screamed for a break she growled like a monster and her wondered had the silent killer tangled soot-coloured hair hypothermia or frost bite brushed her rose tinted cheeks. already had crept in? Maybe With her arms shivering, she she could make an igloo for the pulled her velvet scarf closer to night? No, with no firewood or her to face, her lips dry. She trees trying to get warm in a wanted to scream for a makeshift home made of snow moment, cry out in cold agony would be futile. She heard the that would be near to consume wind laugh as she began to her, but she couldn't, it would struggle to take steps forward. be like silence, a deathly silence. No soul would be there For a moment she froze, was to hears her pleads for help. If this it, a cold frozen demise? someone did, it would be an Her life flashed before her unwanted guest, a pack of eyes, she had been a loner her ravenous wolves or a powerful whole life, with the company bear that could end her in a mealy herself and the land swipe. around her. Should she just consider herself lucky she

Her thoughts felt louder than made it this far? No she had to her voice could be though, stay on this land another day. worries and thoughts flooded in her head like a powerful wave.

To be continued.

The Sunflower

By Matthew R.

The seeds stand, anticipating the day they had planned.
Though they were all different, they stood proud,
For the crowd had one dream that was to be in the clouds.

As days passed, some lost their pride,
But others had something that they weren't going to hide.

The day had finally arrived!
But sadly, a large amount had been deprived
Leaving only one to really shine.
They thought back to their days as seeds,
As it faced the glowing ball in the air.

He had found peace, he had not a care.

Flowers Bloom

By Byron S.

In the field, bodies strew.
But in the rubble, flowers bloom.
Preparing to take a clap into life,
Flowers bloom.
Independent, free from strife.
Flowers bloom.

Waiting to turn into beautiful faces.
Flowers bloom.
At the end of the day their heads drop
like vases.
Flowers bloom.
With seeds dropping out
Glass shards fly about.
Flowers bloom.



coming in september:
The LGS Creative Writing Club!
POEMS, PLAYS, non-fiction, song lyrics ... all types of writing
included.
see you there!

Puzzle Corner

Summer



O	A	U	D	N	S	T	E	K	A	C	S	G	F
I	R	D	F	R	S	P	E	L	I	A	S	G	L
N	C	W	T	R	A	R	H	L	O	T	T	O	O
A	H	I	D	T	C	S	I	T	T	M	E	C	W
S	H	E	A	T	P	I	C	N	I	C	I	R	E
I	K	R	R	U	K	D	D	N	N	I	U	S	R
H	N	P	S	B	S	U	M	M	E	R	C	C	S
N	C	E	L	O	R	D	A	P	W	E	R	U	N
P	E	S	E	S	S	A	L	G	N	U	S	C	R
S	A	N	D	A	L	S	O	B	E	A	C	H	A
C	S	I	T	R	O	P	I	C	A	L	S	K	U
O	L	O	W	R	L	B	I	S	E	A	I	G	C
K	D	A	R	N	U	S	L	S	E	K	P	S	H
L	E	D	C	O	L	D	D	R	I	N	K	M	N

- SANDALS
- KITE
- SUMMER
- TROPICAL
- SUNGLASSES
- FLOWERS
- COLD DRINK
- BEACH
- HEAT
- PICNIC

By Jacob H.

Are you a puzzlemaniac?

Share your knowledge and skills in the next issue of LGS News

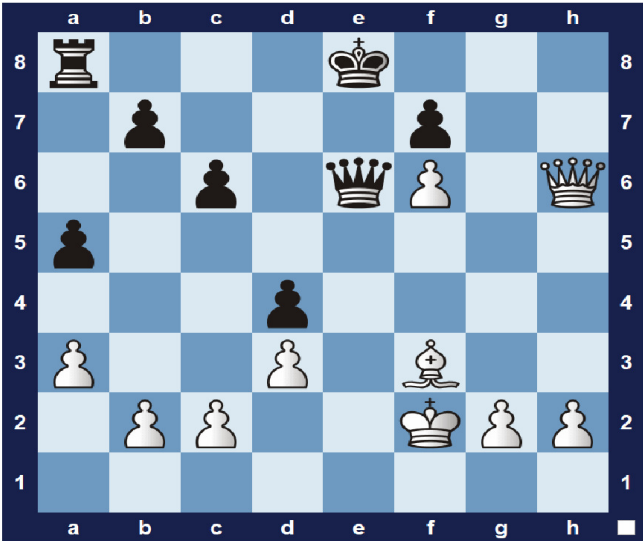
Chess Corner

Beginners' Chess Club corner

Chess can be very confusing to a beginner. What should your next move be? And why? This cheat sheet is a training tool that will help you understand what you should try to achieve at various stages of the game.

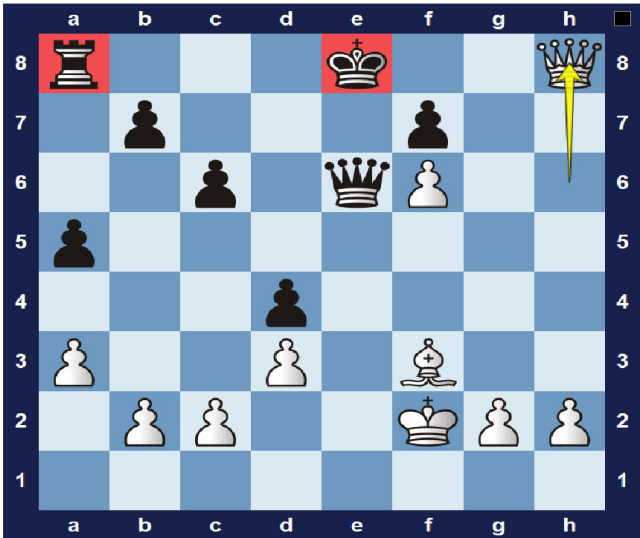


Beginner Chess Puzzle # 2: What is the best move for white? Good luck!



The Solution:

- 1. Queen to h8 → is a skewer tactic that forces the black King to move.
- 2. On the next move white will capture the Rook on a8.



WOULD YOU like to join our chess club?

Talk to **Mrs McClaren** in the science department to find out how!

Secondary Sports Morning



Laleham Gap Secondary School House Sports Activities 2021



All Pupils have been given the opportunity to compete in an 60m sprint, an obstacle course and a relay race during sports morning.

The scoring system is:

1st = 6 points, **2nd** = 5 points, **3rd** = 4 points, **4th** = 3 points, **5th** = 2 points, **6th** = 1 point

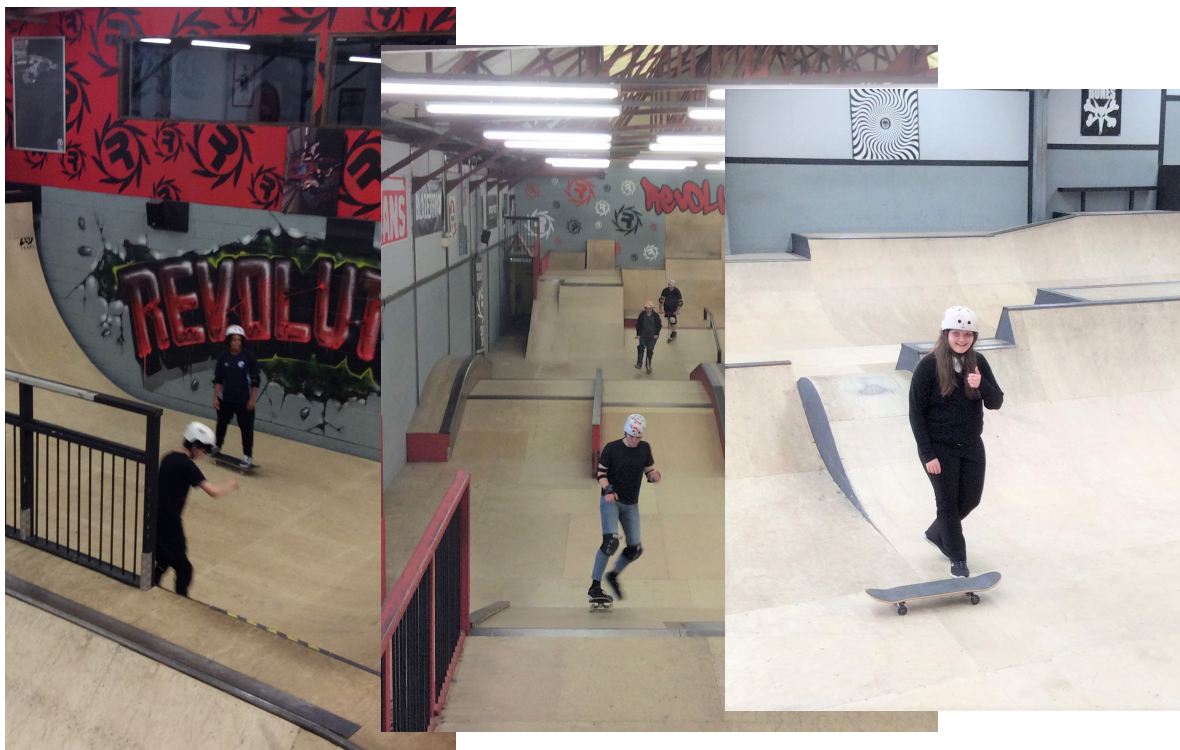
These points will be added to those scored during PE lessons for Shot Putt, Speed Stacking and Standing long jump to decide the overall winner of the Laleham Gap Secondary School House Points Sports Competition 2021.



Keeping active in Personal Development

By Mrs Lambert

This term, students in Year 10 have been going on regular afternoon visits to King George 6th Park, Pegwell Bay Nature Reserve, Viking Ship and Revolution Skatepark as part of their Personal Development lessons. Keeping fit and active is an important part of learning about healthy lifestyles.



Staff Sport Notice

By Ms Brock

Thank you to all who have attended the football sessions this term! It has been a great success and lots of fun. We will continue with the staff football in September. For the first term back I shall be creating multi-sport events for staff to attend if they wish. Each week I will host a different sport for staff to come take part in. More information on this will be posted in September.

Superchamp Spotlight



Tom Stoltman

World Strongman 2021

In December each year I always watch *The World's Strongest Man*, as it is one of my favourite TV shows. During the event in 2020, there was a man called Tom Stoltman competing. He is from Scotland and did incredibly well by coming second in the whole competition, making him the second strongest man in the world. When he received his trophy he gave an excellent speech saying how he is very proud of his achievements and also spoke about his diagnosis of Autism.

Upon hearing his speech I contacted him via social media, where I asked him would he be able to do an interview answering Laleham Gap pupils questions. To my surprise he got back to me in under one minute, saying he would love to do that. As he is a very busy man I had to wait patiently for my opportunity to interview him.

The opportunity came in the Spring where I spent 20 minutes asking him questions which were from Laleham gap pupils. Throughout the interview he was very open and honest in his answers and came across as a very genuine and caring person. If you haven't already seen the interview please go to the school website and you will find it under video resources.

I am delighted to announce that Tom has just won this year's competition and is now officially the World Strongest Man!

Congratulations from everyone at Laleham Gap School.

By Mr Welsh

Staff Farewells

Ms Amy Howard



I am really sad to be leaving Laleham Gap – I have had such a wonderful time here, teaching so many wonderful (and lots of very musical) pupils. I feel like, despite the restrictions imposed by Covid, Music has continued to thrive at the school, and I know that it will continue to flourish - it has such a potential to do so!!

My message to everyone at the school: Keep playing, singing and listening to music, keep learning, and keep exploring! Please send me updates on how are getting on, I will send my own musical news from Vietnam.

To everyone at Laleham gap, I just wanted to thank you all so much for making me feel a part of this School, I've loved working here and getting to know you all. I will miss being a part of this fantastic School but I wish all of you the best for the future and a lovely summer holidays. Much love and appreciation, Kim.

Ms Kim Clifton



Mr Andy Welsh



I will be sad to leave after 9 years at LGS but I am also excited to be starting a new challenge at another school. I will miss the joy of seeing children's faces as they show what they can do is great, especially when it involves the Spacehopper Events!

I have enjoyed teaching at LGS and my favourite memories are of Sports Day. Watching the joy of September.

Ms Sharon Bates

After more than 16 years working at Laleham-Gap School, I shall be retiring at the end of this term.

It has been a privilege to work with and support so many children over the years. It has also been wonderful to work with such lovely colleagues. Thank you for all your help and support.

Although I am sad to be leaving, I take with me so many fond memories of my time here. (The picture is of me dressed as Mary Poppins for World Book Day in 2015.)



I wish everyone at 'LGS' all the best for the future,

Sharon Bates

I started my life here when it was just the Gap School, working in the nursery and the boarding side. I then became a Teaching Assistant in Laleham Gap and have supporting students ever since.

I have many happy memories but the ones that stand out most are from Carrotty Wood

and the amazing support I get for my charity work.

I have been privileged to work with some lovely staff and students over the years and I am now looking forward to spending time with my family in my retirement. I'm also looking forward to spending time in my caravan in my beloved Wales!

With very best wishes for your future success and happiness from everyone at LGS!