

Lockyer's Middle School Newsletter

September 2022

Autumn Term - Issue Number 65



Headteacher: Miss Antonia Dufek
Deputy Headteacher: Ms F. Locke

Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome to new pupils, their families and staff. It has been a very positive start to the new year with pupils keen to take part in school activities, looking smart and most importantly eager to learn.

Over the summer holidays, the school has undergone some work. I am pleased to share that we have replaced the toilet blocks in Years 5, 6 and 8, repainted our playground markings, repainted Year 5 & 6 blocks along with the textiles room, the markings have been replaced in the sports hall and on the top playground and the main hall floor has been refurbished.

Staffing Update

I am delighted to **welcome both Miss Giles and Mr Greensmith** who have joined our year 5 team and **Mrs Salmon and Mrs Sewell** who have joined our Teaching Assistant team.

Another new name is **Mrs Wallace**, as Mrs. Rice got married at the end of the summer term. Congratulations Mrs Wallace!

Parent Evenings

We will be holding **Parent Evenings in the two weeks following the half term break**. Further information to follow.

Open Evening

We will be holding our annual Open Evening on Thursday 15th September. Please do look to join us.

Reading @LMS - Whole Class Reading and Accelerated Reader

Reading is at the core of many of our successes at Lockyer's and we love to start our school day by reading our class novel together. This month, children will complete a 'STAR Reading test' so that they are able to choose an appropriate book during our **DEAR** (Drop Everything and Read) **sessions**, that continue to be timetabled across the school week for all children. Please can you ensure that you continue to promote regular reading and engagement with Accelerated Reader from home. Children can still earn certificates, and become a **Millionaire Reader**, by quizzing after each book. In addition to these awards, our year 7 and 8 pupils can also work towards becoming a **Hegarty Hero** and **Tassomai Titan** as part of their successful engagement with these homework platforms. **Whole class reading continues to be a real success at the start each day**. This is a teacher-led session that involves all pupils enjoying a class text with their teacher whilst following with their reading ruler.

We are very much looking forward to working with you throughout this academic year.

Kind regards

Miss A Dufek - Headteacher



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Child Protection

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead with responsibility for Child Protection is: **Mrs K. Whittaker**

The Academy Committee member with responsibility for Child Protection is: **Mrs V. King**

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads with responsibility for Child Protection are:

Miss A. Dufek, Mr R. Ettlign, Ms F. Locke, Mrs H. Pugh

Uniform Reminders

Please can I remind you of a few of our uniform requirements. Full details of our school uniform expectations can be found in our school parent guide on our website.

- Skirts **MUST** be pleated and should be no more than two or three centimetres above the knee. Trousers should not be tight fitting.
 - **Black shoes should be worn. No trainers, slip on or high heeled shoes should be worn.**
 - Children should **not attend school with their hair coloured** or with any other extreme style.
 - Children should **not wear a hoodie to school**. Instead they should wear a school sweatshirt and coat.
 - Children are **not permitted to wear make-up or have any piercings** other than a single ear stud in each ear.
 - We encourage children to leave valuable items at home. Smart Watches are not to be worn in school. However, children may choose to wear a Fitbit fitness tracker as long as they have no messaging or camera facility.
 - Children are **only allowed to drink water** from their school drinking bottle.
 - Black or grey ankle/knee length socks or black or grey tights. No sheer tights should be worn - traditional school tights only are permitted. No trainer socks should be worn.
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Eco Schools Green Flag Award

In July, we were awarded our **Eco Schools Green Flag Award**. This is an accreditation that recognises young people's environmental actions in making positive, lasting change in the





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school community. It is the perfect way to acknowledge, reward and celebrate the ecological achievements of young people.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information

At Lockyer's Middle School, we are committed to offering an inclusive curriculum to ensure the best possible progress for all of our pupils whatever their needs or abilities. If you have any questions about your child's needs please contact Mrs Adams, our school SENCO.

We have a number of useful resources on our [website](#) where you can find information about supporting your child, visual timetables and our fantastic SEND library. We have been loaning out different special educational need books unofficially for some time. Parents have always responded positively to resources that have been shared, which has led to establishing a SEND library.

Lockyer's Middle School now has a well stocked SEND library. An online catalogue for special educational needs books can be viewed on our website. This is a great opportunity to borrow different resource books for you and your child to use at home. For further information on our books and how to borrow them, please click [here](#).

Every child on the SEND register has a Support Plan. Your child's Support Plan is an extremely valuable live document as it ensures that teachers are fully aware of your child's needs and that they know the best possible ways of supporting your child. Individualised targets are also part of this document and are reviewed in liaison with teachers, your child and parents three times throughout the year.

If your child is in Years 6, 7 or 8 then their SEN Support Plans have been shared with you. We are allowing time for Year 5 pupils to settle in at Lockyer's Middle School before reviewing the SEND register and creating their new SEN Support Plan.

IMPORTANT: Please ensure that **children do not bring nut-based products into school.** Please also ensure that **children only have a healthy snack at break time each day.**
Ensuring that our children remain safe in school - Winter preparation

Pupil Safety

We regularly talk with the children about the importance of travelling to and from school safely. Please discuss the following particular areas with your children on a regular basis to ensure that they are safe when travelling to and from school:



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- **Behaviour should be of a high standard at all times.**
- Pupils should not be using their mobile phones whilst walking to school particularly when crossing roads.
- Pupils must remain on pavements at all times and walk with care and consideration for others.
- Pupils using scooters or bikes should take care around other road users and those on pavements.
- Helmets should be worn on bicycles and scooters.

Please can we also ask parents/carers to take extra care when driving around the school area during dropping off and picking up times. Thank you.

***Article 3:** All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for each child.*

Peripatetic Music Lessons

It has been **fantastic to see peripatetic music lessons recommence this half term.** Mrs Wallace has been busy preparing our practice rooms with Mrs Farrow preparing a timetable. These **lessons are now offered by Absolute Music.** Please do contact the school office if you would like further information about signing your child up for lessons during this academic year.



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Please follow us on **Twitter and Facebook**. We seek to provide regular updates. You can also use our **school website to learn more about our school**.



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Term Dates 2022 - 2023

Our full school calendar is currently under review and will be published when it is appropriate to do so.

Autumn Term 2022

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|----------------------------|--|
| Staff Training Days | Thursday 1st September Friday 2nd September |
| First Day of Term | Monday 5th September |
| Half Term Holiday | Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October |
| Staff Training Day | Monday 31st October |
| Pupils Return | Tuesday 1st November |
| Last Day of Term | Thursday 15th December |
| Staff Training Day | Friday 16th December |

Spring Term 2023

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Staff Training Day | Tuesday 3rd January |
| First Day of Term | Wednesday 4th January |
| Half Term Holiday | Monday 13th – Friday 17th February |
| Staff Training Day | Monday 20th February |
| Pupils Return | Tuesday 21st February |
| Last Day of Term | Thursday 30th March |
| Staff Training Day | Friday 31st March |

Summer Term 2023

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| First Day of Term | Monday 17th April |
| May Day Holiday | Monday 1st May |
| Half Term Holiday | Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June |
| Staff Training Day | Monday 5th June |
| Pupils Return | Tuesday 6th June |
| Last Day of Term | Friday 21st July |

