

# Lockyer's Middle School Newsletter

## March 2023

### Spring Term 2 - Issue Number 68



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

#### Headteacher Update

As we approach the end of the Spring Term, I would like to congratulate our students for their continued **perseverance** and **excellence** towards their studies.

#### Parent Evenings

It was delightful having our parents in school for parents' evening last week. It was so important to us that you were given the opportunity to discuss your child's fantastic learning and, of course, meet teachers face to face. Thank you for all your kind words and messages. We have thoroughly enjoyed returning to some normality.

#### World Book Day

We love having a reason to celebrate our love of reading at Lockyer's! For **World Book Day @ LMS**, we have had a range of activities throughout the day: both children and adults have had the chance to match staff to their favourite childhood books; pupils in Years 7 & 8 have carried out book 'speed dating' in their English lessons, while younger children have been sharing quizzes and picture books. In an homage to the great British author Douglas Adams, teachers have also been sharing page 42 of some of their favourite books in lessons. World Book Day vouchers have been issued to the children - these are now electronic for Years 7 & 8, but still in paper form for Years 5 & 6 so please do check the bottoms of bags!

A reminder that our latest Scholastic Book Club is now online at <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/lockyer/digital-book-club> There are hundreds

of fantastic children's books to choose from, and every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club will earn 20p for our school in Scholastic Rewards, to buy books for our library. Please place your order online by March 10th, 2023.

#### School Library

We recently had an overhaul of our school library and we have donated all our unwanted books to a charity that takes them to Africa for distribution to schools.

#### Friends of Lockyers

We had our first Friends of Lockyer's meeting earlier this term. We are excited to share that FOL are holding a school disco on Friday 24th March. Years 5 & 6 from 6 pm to 7.15 pm and Years 7 & 8 from 7.45 pm to 9 pm.

#### Staffing Update

I am pleased to be able to share that **Mrs Seddon** will be returning after the Easter holidays. She will replace Miss Stark whilst she is on maternity leave. We are very excited to have Mrs Seddon back.

I am delighted to share further exciting baby news: **Miss Patino** will be taking maternity leave at the end of June. We are in the process of recruiting maternity cover for Miss Patino and will update you as soon as we can.

I do hope that you enjoy the upcoming Easter break with your families and we look forward to **welcoming children back to school on Monday 17th April**.

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 King**

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

**Miss A. Dufek**

**Mr R. Ettling**

**Ms F. Locke**

**Mrs H. Pugh**

**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.**

## 'What Parents & Carers need to know about SnapChat' - Safeguarding information

Snapchat is a photo and video sharing app through which users can chat with friends via text or audio. Images and videos can be shared with specific friends, or as a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) which is visible to a person's entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose significantly during the lockdown periods, with many young people utilising it to stay connected with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an even larger audience and emulate current trends, rivalling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

In the attached guide, you can find tips on avoiding potential risks such as sexting, visible location and contact from strangers.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact a DSL at school.



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#### READING AT LOCKYER'S

*At Lockyer's, we love to read, and reading really is at the heart of our school day. We are lucky enough to have a wonderful school library, maintained by dedicated staff and pupil volunteers. Pupils who are working incredibly hard to improve their skills have requested more books at the 'yellow' level, so that everyone is able to access books that they are able to understand and enjoy. This term, Tesco Fleetsbridge are donating funds from their Community Book Sale to help us achieve our aim of providing a wide range of reading material for all children. An incredible £415 has been raised.*



*Our thanks to the staff at Tesco, and everyone who has contributed!*

#### SCIENCE CLUB

A group of students spent their Epraise points on a Slimy Science session on Monday afternoon. They had a wonderful time making a variety of weird and wonderful slimes and gooey non-Newtonian fluids and playing with them.

(Second 3 pictures)



Our CREST award students are halfway through their extended experiments in Science Club. They had to choose their own investigation ideas; design the experiment; carry them out safely; and write up their discoveries. The different groups are looking at how shampoo works; investigating pitch using homemade instruments; reaction rates of bath bombs; forensic science techniques and the reaction rates of yeast in bread dough. They have come up with brilliant experiments using their STEM skills and are all on track to receive the Bronze award at the start of the summer term.



Mrs Snaitth



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## THE GREAT LOCKYER'S BAKE OFF 2023

*We've had 60 entries this year and the standard has been amazing!  
All entries are displayed (as photographs) on the hall windows and have attracted a lot of attention and conversation.*

*The judging was tough, but the final 8 have now been decided.  
They will have until the 23rd March to get ready - the judges are invited, the prizes purchased and the stage is set for a brilliant event - we'll feature the results with photos in the next newsletter.*

Mrs Alison Shivas

Mrs Shivas



## YEAR 6

Thanks once again to the generosity of the Friends of Lockyer's, The wonderful Paul from PS Productions recently visited our Year 6 children to share his production 'Virtual Reality'.

A 'cautionary tale of young people and social media', this play is a contemporary fairy tale of how certain social media sites and video games can impact on young people's lives. Complementing our e-safety curriculum, the performance and workshop allowed the children to approach this important issue in a different, fun way.



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## YEAR 8

We were happy to have Bournemouth University bring their 'Options' performance to our year 8s.

The presentation inspires young people to see the benefits of making the right choices for their future.

The main key messages are aimed at helping students to:

- Realise for themselves the importance of choosing their options and making the most of their choices
- know where to go and who to talk to for help, guidance and support
- understand the decisions they make now really can affect their future
- realise the importance of a broad-based education
- understand the value of staying in learning
- be aware of all pathways available to them in KS4
- identify potential barriers in choosing the right learning route for them and ways in which these can be overcome.



*Mr. Greg West*  
*Head of Year 8/Computing Coordinator*

## YEAR 8 SCIENCE

Year 8 have been enjoying the huge challenge of extracting DNA from a kiwi fruit in their science lessons! They loved carrying out the many stages which finally resulted in the DNA resting on the top of their solution, in suspension.

*Mrs Whittaker*



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## YEAR 8 ART - STILL LIFE PROJECT

Year 8 have been working on a project related to the theme "Still Life". A Still life is an artwork of a group of objects, which do not move, arranged together in a composition. They created some fantastic observational drawings using a range of tonal shading techniques and then created a still life painting in their chosen art style. Pop Art, Cubism, and Vanitas were the most popular choices. Some pupils combined multiple styles in one painting.



*Miss Patino*

## SCHOOL SPORTS UPDATE

**Year 7 Boys** qualified for the county finals in rowing - well done!

More school sports news to follow in the next newsletter.

*Mr. Miller*  
(Subject Lead - PE)

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## Special Recognition Award

In the whole school assembly we acknowledge the achievements of somebody within our school community, who deserves a special mention. This award is aimed at recognising excellence in a particular area, whilst also identifying those who make a particular contribution or effort. Below are details of those who have been recognised since I last wrote to you. All of these achievements are recorded in our school special recognition book to provide a record for the future of achievements across our school community.

**Ryan Lay 7HR** - Ryan qualified to race for Dorset in the South West England Cross Country. He ran brilliantly, finishing 16th out of several hundred competitors. Ryan was also part of the Dorset team that won overall. A fantastic result!



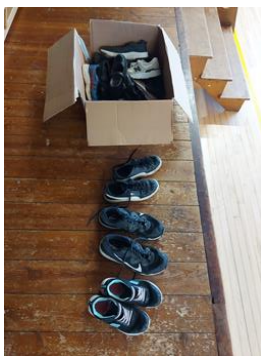
**Riley James 6SB** - Riley took part in his Premier League Futsal Tournament @ St George's Park. What an amazing experience for him & out of 27 teams who qualified their team came 4th, which is an amazing experience. He made lots of incredible saves to keep Southampton in with a chance. Well done!



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## LOST PROPERTY

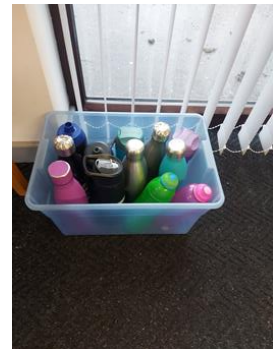
Due to the poor weather conditions this week, we will be extending our deadline for collection of lost property to Tuesday 14th March. Here are



pictures  
the items



of a few of  
we have:



### Hegarty Hero

### Millionaire Reader

### Tassomai Titans

All children at Lockyer's Middle School can work towards becoming a Hegarty Hero, Millionaire Reader and Tassomai Titan (*Key Stage 3 pupils only*).

- **To be a Hegarty Hero you need to have answered 700 questions correctly** on the Hegarty Maths platform,
- **To be a Millionaire Reader you need to have collected a million words from successfully completed quizzes.**
- **To be a Tassomai Titan you need to have answered 5,000 questions correctly.**

**How many badges can you collect this academic year?**



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## Attendance Reminders

- From the start of this academic year the Department for Education has confirmed that School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school.
- Lockyer's Middle School expects pupils to maintain an attendance figure of at least 95% across the academic year and we will communicate with families if their child falls below this expected level to work with you and the Local Authority to bring about an improvement.

Please follow us on **Twitter and Facebook**.

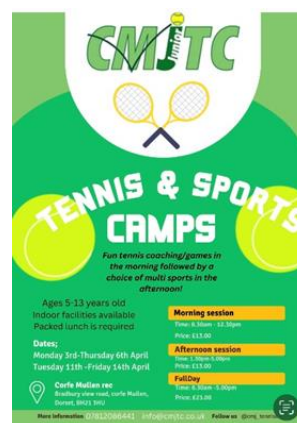
We aim to provide regular updates. You can also use our **school website** to learn more about our school:

<https://www.lockyersmiddle.org>



## EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES ON OFFER IN OUR AREA

There are numerous Easter holiday activities being offered to children in our area. Here are a examples of activity offers for your information:



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## Dates for your diary

20th March	5EM & 5JG Paultons Park visit
24th March	5AG & 5JW Paultons Park visit
24th March	FOL school disco
	Years 5 & 6 - 6.00 - 7.15 pm
	Years 7 & 8 - 7.45 to 9.00 pm
9th May - 12th May	Year 6 SATs
7th June	Year 8 HPV Immunisations
16th June	Class and Year 8 leavers photo sessions
3rd to 7th July	Y6 Adventure Okehampton Residential Visit
7th July	Transfer Day
19th July	Year 8 Leavers' event

## School term and holiday dates 2023

### Spring Term 2023

Last Day of Term	Thursday 30th March
<b>Staff Training Day</b>	<b>Friday 31st March</b>

### Summer Term 2023

First Day of Term	Monday 17th April
May Day Holiday	Monday 1st May
Extra Bank Holiday	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May (Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III)
Half Term Holiday	Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June
<b>Staff Training Day</b>	<b>Monday 5th June</b>
Pupils Return	Tuesday 6th June
Last Day of Term	Friday 21st July

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

