

Lockyer's Middle School Newsletter

May 2023

Summer Term 1 - Issue Number 69



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

Headteacher Update

As we settle into the summer term, I would like to congratulate our pupils for their continued perseverance and excellence towards their studies.

Revisiting our School Values

This term we have a really exciting opportunity to redefine our school vision and values, making them more reflective of our community. Who better to shape our future than our pupils, parents and staff of our community?

We have already gathered the thoughts of our staff and Pupil Voice. In the months ahead, I will be sharing a Google form with all stakeholders to gather thoughts on what values best represent Lockyer's Middle School. Please watch this space for further information.

Epraise Shop

You will be aware of the success of the Epraise shop to reward the endeavours of our pupils. The school ethos is centred around catching children doing the things we ask them to do. Thank you to Friends of Lockyer's for their financial support, for the activities and prizes we have been able to share with our students. Feedback from students and staff has been extremely positive and visitors often remark about the atmosphere in school.

SATs Week

Next week, our Year 6 pupils will be taking their end of KS2 tests; as with all our children, they have been working very hard to be ready and we know they will do their very best.. Thank you for all the work families are doing to support their children, including looking through practice papers that children have completed at home. Our message is consistent: the SATs are not life-changing tests for the pupils. However, as educators, we are aware that they do, however, influence upper school setting and GCSE expectations therefore we want all pupils to fulfil their potential.

The Year 6 team works incredibly hard to ensure the SATs week itself is as enjoyable as possible. A popular feature of this time of year is the squash and biscuits we provide in the mornings. It is very important that pupils attend school all week unless they are too ill to complete the tests. Any missed tests are required to be made up before they have contact with peers. If you have any concerns about your child being able to attend school, please contact the school as soon as possible so any reasonable adjustments can be made.

Addendum to Trust Behaviour Policy

The Trust, working with Headteachers, have made an addendum to the Trust level Behaviour Policy which focuses mainly on the law. We have the facility to screen pupils who may have made an error in judgement by bringing a vape into school. This is a national issue which is frequently on the news. In more extreme circumstances this has resulted in toilets being closed and pupils being restricted in accessing toilets. We do not have any restrictions in place but have dealt with vapes being brought into school and, in some cases, being used. This has been dealt with under our school level behaviour guidance. I must stress that screening (by using a wand) is in place to serve as a deterrent rather than turn into a normal, regular practice, and it will only be utilised in cases where we have significant reason to believe a student is either carrying a vape or has used a vape.

For further information, please visit our website where the policies are available to read.

I hope you are able to enjoy some of the nice weather over the upcoming bank holiday weekend.

Best wishes

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.**

Year 5 Coffee Morning



On Wednesday 19th April, we once again welcomed parents, carers and grandparents to our Year 5 Coffee Morning. It was a fantastic opportunity for Year 5 parents/carers to meet with one another, and staff, over a coffee in the hall whilst listening to our Chamber Choir (who sang beautifully). Visitors then explored the hall and library, watching science experiments and speaking to a number of year 5 pupils about Accelerated Reader and art. Parents/carers were then invited to our Year 5 block to see all of our pupils working in their English lessons. Year 5 had just begun their new English work around the Lewis Carroll poem 'Jabberwocky'.

It was wonderful to see so many of you and the children were incredibly excited to show what they had been learning.

Children with Cancer UK

On the last day for the Spring Term, we raised money for Children with Cancer UK as decided by our pupil voice group. All fundraising activities were decided by our pupils, for our pupils. This included a sports theme non-school uniform day and a large game of Capture the Flag. We are thrilled to share that we raised £841 for this charity.



Our pupils (and staff) had a great afternoon which ended with every pupil and staff member receiving an Easter egg. There was wonderful 'buzz' around the school on this day. Well done to our Pupil Voice for organising such a fantastic fundraiser afternoon.



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School Disco



Prior to the Easter Holidays, Lockyer's children partied at our Spring Disco! Everyone had a fabulous time, dancing along to all our favourites. We were thrilled to be told by the Friends of Lockyer's that over £700 had been raised to enrich our children's school life. Thank you so much to everyone who came along to help out.

Year 5 Trip to Paultons Park

Our Year Fives were very excited to learn all about forces at Paultons Park in the Spring Term! They spent time in the education workshops and of course had to apply their learning by testing the forces on the rides. Thank you so much to the adult volunteers who came along to join the fun!



SCHOOL SPORTS UPDATE

Gymnastics Tumbling Competition

On Friday 24th March, we took 2 teams to the East Dorset Schools' Gymnastics Tumbling Competition. The teams consisted of Year 5 and 6 gymnasts who were a real credit to our school and to themselves. Both teams were fantastic with our Yr 6 Mixed Team winning first place. This team also received the highest points of the whole competition out of 29 teams! Well done everyone.

A big thank you to our Year 8 Sports Leaders who supported with the coaching and encouragement.



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Congratulations to the **Year 6 football team** who have qualified for the plate final on Friday 19th May at the Hamworthy ground, we wish them the best of luck and hope to finish the season well.

Congratulations also must go to the **Year 7 Boys Rowing team** who won the East Dorset indoor rowing competition and will represent East Dorset at the School Games County finals on 21st June.

Our **year 6 mixed sportshall athletics** competed fantastically well across all the events and were narrowly placed as runners up! A brilliant effort.

Our **Sports Leaders** continue to do a superb job with the clubs that they are running for KS2 pupils and they are looking forward to their training with Mrs Cole soon.

Good luck to all our **KS3 athletes** who are attending the PEDSSA athletics trials in the next few weeks.

We are looking forward to the summer term and a busy term of sport where we hope to compete in athletics, cricket, rounders and handball to name a few.

Thanks again to the pupils and parents for supporting our clubs and teams.

Special Recognition Award

In our weekly 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.

Ava Wilson 8GW - Ava completed her Gymnastics National Grade 4, achieving a distinction and placed 3rd overall. This meant that she qualified for one of the 5 places in the South West regional team and will be competing at the national final in Stoke on Trent on the 20th May. **Well done and good luck for the national final!**



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Anashe Lynch 8PB - Anashe's work "Time Was Running" has been chosen for publication in a book, showcasing young adults work called Interger-Authors from the UK. A copy of her story writing will remain in the National Archives of the British Library forever. **A fantastic achievement Anashe - well done!**



Archie Jones 5JG - Archie has qualified for the National Finals of the National Schools Ski Race Leagues by attaining a top 3 place in their regional heats. The Finals are on Friday 12th of May at Gloucester. **Well done Archie and all the best for the finals!**



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>.

Dates for your diary

9th May - 12th May	Year 6 SATs
7th June	Year 8 HPV Immunisations
16th June	Class and Year 8 leavers photo sessions
28th June	'Welcome Walkaround' for parents & pupils of Year 5
	September 2023 - 4 - 6 pm
30th June	Sports Day (all years)
5th July	Year 5 September Induction Evening 7 - 8 pm
3rd to 7th July	Y6 Adventure Okehampton Residential Visit
4th to 6th July	Enrichment Days
7th July	Transfer Day
19th July	Year 8 Leavers' event

School term and holiday dates 2023/2024

Summer Term 2023

Extra Bank Holiday	Monday 8 th May (Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III)
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 JulyAutumn Term 2023



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Autumn Term 2023

Staff Training Days

First Day of Term

Half Term Holiday

Staff Training Day

Pupils Return

Last Day of Term

Staff Training Day

Christmas Holiday

Friday 1st September

Monday 4th September

Tuesday 5th September

Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October

Tuesday 31st October

Thursday 14th December

Friday 15th December

Monday 18th December – Monday 1st January

Spring Term 2024

Staff Training Day

First Day of Term

Half Term Holiday

Staff Training Day

Pupils Return

Last Day of Term

Staff Training Day

Easter Holiday

Tuesday 2nd January

Wednesday 3rd January

Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

Monday 19th February

Tuesday 20th February

Wednesday 27th March

Thursday 28th March

Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April

Summer Term 2024

First Day of Term

May Day Holiday

Half Term Holiday

Pupils Return

Staff Training Day

Last Day of Term

Monday 15th April

Monday 6th May

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Monday 3rd June

Friday 21st June

Tuesday 23rd July

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

