



Lockyer's Middle School

September 2023 - Autumn Term 1 - Issue Number 71
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Headteacher Update

A warm welcome to our new families and welcome back to everyone else! I hope you enjoyed your summer, although I will stop short of mentioning any fine weather....

Well done to all our new pupils. Each of them have made a fine start to the academic year, made new friends and are thoroughly enjoying the challenge of a new school and the new routines that come with it. It never ceases to amaze me how much the pupils grow during the break, particularly those moving into Year 8.

Training Days

Our two training days were packed with work on the curriculum and teaching and learning. We were fortunate to have guest speaker Efrat Furst deliver a session on 'How Pupils Learn' bridging the science of learning with what is happening with teaching and learning in classrooms. The staff at LMS will continue to develop their understanding of how memory works and you will hear your children talk about new learning and retrieval practice of prior learning.

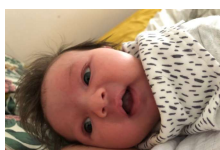
School Values

Our core values of **Ambition**, **Courage** and **Respect** have been well set out during the first few weeks. I have been inspired by a team of teachers and support staff who have welcomed all pupils so enthusiastically and set their expectations to deliver the curriculum with great skill. The pupils have stepped up to the challenge and are already producing some excellent work.

Parents Evening

Following the success of our 'Meet the Tutor' evenings last year, I am pleased to share that we will be holding 'Meet the Tutor' evenings on **Tuesday 17th October** and **Thursday 19th October**. Further information to follow. Please mark these dates in your diaries.

Staffing update



I am delighted to welcome **Miss Nash** and **Miss Goodship** who have joined our established head of year team and **Ms Bibby** who is covering Miss Patino whilst she is on maternity leave.

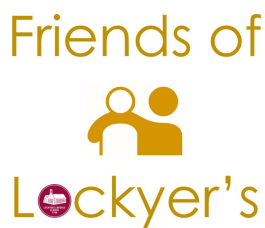
Some exciting news to share: in the summer, Miss Patino welcomed her baby girl, Hali, 13 days late! I'm sure you will join me in wishing the family well.

I hope you have a fantastic weekend and I look forward to seeing all the children on Monday morning.
Best wishes,



A. Dufek

- Headteacher

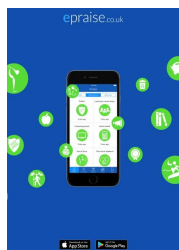


Last year Friends of Lockyer's enabled pupils across the school to participate in additional experiences adding to every child's cultural capital. Thanks to Friends of Lockyer's, pupils were able to take part in events such as the Space Dome, guest discussing important messages around mental health, 'Time in a Bottle' an alcohol awareness workshop, author Maz Evans, Theater trip, Chelsea's Story and anti-bullying workshops with ActionWork Creative Arts. Friends of Lockyer's also supported buying snacks and treats for our Yr 6 pupils during SATs week, the LMS Bake off and the Year 8 leavers party.

We are already beginning to plan events for this academic year in the hope of bringing our community together and raising funds for our pupils. Friends of Lockyer's will be holding a meeting on **Monday 2nd October at 6 pm** at school. If you are interested in joining our friendly team or even if you are able to offer your help on a volunteer basis for various events organised by Friends of Lockyer's, please come along to find out more. Please make your way to reception where someone from the team will meet you at the gate to accompany you to the meeting.

Dates for your Diary

27th September -	Yr 5 Celebration Party
29th September -	School Photos
17th October -	Meet the tutor
19th October -	Meet the Tutor
23rd - 27th October -	Half Term Break
30th October -	Staff Training Day
31st October -	Back to School
6th November -	Flu Immunisations
7th November -	Yr 6 SATs Information Evening
12th December -	Christmas Concert



ePraise App for Parents

As part of the launch of our new Values and to promote the importance of **attendance, behaviour and achievement**, we are encouraging all parents and carers to download the ePraise App to smart phones and devices.

This will give instant access to see how your child(ren) are currently doing in school. The App can be found on all Android and Apple devices.

Achievement Badges



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

- To be a **Maths Master** you need to have answered 700 questions correctly on the Sparx Maths platform,
- **"Read through the Rainbow"** and collect certificates for every 3 successful book quizzes.
- 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?

Coming Soon to Lockyer's...



Science

We are very excited to continue our partnership with the Merck company this year, starting with a visit from their Curiosity Cube Mobile Laboratory on Monday 2nd to Tuesday 3rd October. Merck is a leading science and technology company who want to spark curiosity in the next generation of Scientists and Engineers by bringing exciting and engaging STEM activities to schools. Years 6, 7 and 8 will visit their Curiosity Cube, which will be based in our carpark. There will be 3 different activities based on 'Contamination' run by their team of volunteer scientists. More details can be found on this link: <https://thecuriositycube.com/>. Years 5,6 and 7 will have an opportunity later on in the year to take part in SEM activities with the Merck volunteer team in our school laboratories.



Great
Lockyer's
Bake Off

Bake Off!

Good news! The **Great Lockyer's Bake Off 2024** is in the planning stages. Dust off your chef's hats and start planning your entry.... all of the information you need will be coming to you in an assembly after Christmas. Talk to people who made it into the final last year. In the meantime, channel your inner Mary Berry and start baking!



ePraise Rewards

The new ePraise Rewards for 2023/2024 will be launched NEXT WEEK! So keep earning those ePraise points, check out the ePraise shop and see what fantastic prizes could be up for grabs!

Extra-Curricular Achievements



Thank you so much to everyone who has sent in their extra-curricular achievements. We have loved the entries so far this term. Well done to Evie, Bay and Joel on your fantastic achievements. We love celebrating these in school and with our Lockyer's Community. Please keep them coming in!

Social Media

Please follow us on



Facebook Lockyers Middle School
X (Formerly Twitter) @Lockyers_Middle

We aim to provide regular updates.

You can also use our **school website to learn more about our school**. Visit

<https://www.lockyersmiddle.org>



Uniform Expectations 2023 - 2024

A reminder on our uniform expectations as shared with you in the summer term. Parental support is required to ensure that all pupils are well presented. The standard of dress is important because it sets the expectation for work and provides the opportunity for collective pride in our school community as well as a clear structure for students and parents to follow.

UNIFORM	GUIDANCE NOTES
Skirts	Grey pleated or flared style skirts (No pencil skirts). Skirts are to be worn without being altered or rolled and should finish just above or on the knee.
Trousers	Grey suit-style trousers (No jean type). Trousers should be formal, not fashion in style (eg. skinny or flared).
Shorts	Grey tailored, formal schoolwear.
Shirt/blouse	White shirt/blouse with a top button.
Jumper	Maroon Lockyer's jumper with school logo only. Should any additional outdoor clothing be required, this must be in the form of a coat or jacket as non-uniform jumpers/ hoodies are not permitted.
Tie	Lockyer's tie should be knotted at the top button. 7 stripes as a minimum in length.
Socks	Plain grey or black knee-length or ankle socks.
Tights	Plain grey or black tights.
Footwear	Fully black leather/leather-look shoe style, this includes the sole and any logos. Trainers, high heels, slip on shoes, boots and open-toed shoes are not permitted.

Parents are asked to ensure that school uniform skirts and trousers comply with the above. Where there is any doubt in the suitability of an item of uniform in school, parents are asked to contact the Head of Year before a purchase is made.

Jewellery

- Pupils are permitted to wear one plain stud in each ear lobe only. This must be removed, or taped, if freshly pierced, during PE.
- Pupils may wear a watch.
- Fitbits/fitness trackers may be worn as long they have no messaging or camera facility.

For further information on PE uniform, hair and makeup please visit our website for guidance [here](#).

Attendance Reminders

From the start of last 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.



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

Allergies



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.**

School term and holiday dates 2023/2024

Autumn Term 2023

Half Term Holiday

Staff Training Day

Pupils Return

Last Day of Term

Staff Training Day

Christmas Holiday

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.*

