

Lockyer's Middle School

December 2023 - Christmas - Issue Number 74

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Headteacher's Message

Dear Parent/Carers,

As the Autumn Term comes to an end we have so much news to share from around the school. This term has been a real success with pupils working very hard in lessons and taking part in a wide range of opportunities available to them across the school.

Positive Relationships

Mrs McEnnerney has worked alongside our pupils to design new "Gratitude Postcards". These postcards can then be sent to each other to instil positivity and promote kindness to others. The seven winning designs have been made into postcards and all pupils in school have written 1 postcard to someone in our school community who may need a little boost of positivity. We are very proud of their creations and for demonstrating care for others.

Anti Bullying Week

Since Anti-Bullying Week a couple of weeks ago, our children have been involved in a number of activities, to instil and promote the Anti-Bullying ethos in our school and the wider community. These activities have included making and sending gratitude postcards to each other and staff, drawing some AMAZING positivity posters and writing some incredible poems.

A short video has been put together to showcase what we have learnt and how to keep it at the forefront of our everyday lives. The artwork and poem have all been created by pupils at Lockyer's Middle School.

Click [here](#) to watch it.

Online Safety Day

All pupils will be taking part in an Online Safety Day on the morning of Wednesday 3rd January 2024. We will be running an off-timetable event to consolidate children's awareness of some important issues. Children will take part in this day alongside their tutor group. Themes covered during the day will include:

Year 5 - cyberbullying & safe sharing

Year 6 - the potential dangers of using Social Media

Year 7 - challenging negative online behaviour & staying safe when talking to strangers (including 'grooming')

Year 8 - the risks and legal implications of sending inappropriate images (including 'sexting')

It is our hope that the event will prompt some discussions between yourselves and your children and further improve their safety - and appropriate use - whilst using internet-connected devices at home. Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote at Lockyer's Middle School,



and this is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

Equipment Requirements

Please ensure your children have all the equipment they need every day - it is disruptive to start lessons by having to address missing stationary.

We ask that families provide:

- Blue handwriting pens - no biros please
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Pink, green & purple pens/pencils
- Glue stick
- Eraser, sharpener & coloured pencils optional

We will provide:

- White boards and white board pens

Please support your child to be successful in this very important area of self organisation.

Parent Feedback on Report Card 1

Thank you to all those who returned the report card slip confirming you had read and discussed the report with your child. We received a total of 188 responses out of a possible 455, with 80% of the returned slips including a comment. It was wonderful to read such lovely comments made to both your children and the school. These included:

'We are really pleased how [child] has settled in at Lockyer's. [Child] is engaged with their learning and is happy.' - Year 5 parent

'We are really happy with [child's] progress this year. Thank you to all the teachers for their encouragement and support.' - Year 6 parent

'Absolutely brilliant, keep up the good work [child]! Thank you to all the staff involved in [child's] learning.' - Year 7 parent

'Well done [child]! We are very proud of this report and thank you to the school for all your support.' - Year 8 parent

A common trend raised amongst 5% of responses was in relation to attainment information. A second report card will be sent home in the Spring term which will contain attitude to learning and subject attainment information, alongside a subject parent consultation opportunity. However, should you be concerned or want further information regarding your child's attainment and/or progress please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Please note, Subject Parent Evenings next term will be held on Tuesday 27th and Thursday 29th February 2024. Further information will follow next term. Please mark these dates in your diary.

Staffing Update

I am delighted to share with you that we have successfully appointed Mr N Joyce as our new Head of PE. Mr Joyce will be starting with us after Easter and we look forward to welcoming him to the Lockyer's team. We are pleased that Mr Davey will be staying on at Lockyer's until the end of the Spring Term.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to welcoming all our children back to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

Best wishes,



- Headteacher



Look what we've been up to...

Year 5



Anti-Bullying Week in November was an incredibly important part of our school calendar; our Year 5 students were involved in many activities to remind them about the importance of kindness to others. They created posters, gratitude postcards, poems and took part in other activities throughout this term.

Year 6

During Textiles lessons this term, our Year 6s have been designing and making some incredible personalised pencil cases. The creativity, attention to detail and concentration has been absolutely brilliant. Well done Year 6s - super classwork!



Year 7

Our Year 7's have been icing and decorating some FANTASTIC Yule logs over the last few weeks. Even Mr. Wilson couldn't resist getting involved!



Year 8

This term in Science lessons, our Year 8s have been using Molymod Kits to create models of molecules. Mrs Snaith has been very impressed with the students' attention to detail and incredible structures.



What else has been happening at Lockyer's?

Year 5 Coffee Morning



We hosted our Year 5 Coffee Morning earlier in November. It was absolutely brilliant to see so many people and to show some of our Year 6s carrying out musical performances, some of our Year 5s demonstrating activities they have been learning about so far this year, as well as showing how we learn online in Year 5. Parents and carers were also able to watch their children "in action" in the classroom, during their English lessons.

It was such a pleasure to be able to welcome everyone in.



Children in Need 2023

Children In Need was a brilliant success this year, with our non-uniform day and "Who Stole Pudsey's Honey?" activity in school. We raised a fantastic £756 for Children in Need 2023. Thank you for all your donations.

"Time in a Bottle" Performance for Year 8

Following a child's experiences with alcohol and peer pressure, this play showed how a series of choices may affect work, health, relationships and self-esteem, allowing the students to reflect on the choices they make when faced with a difficult situation, and to question the relationship between alcohol and the media. The children watched a performance, followed by a workshop for each class.

There was no charge for this performance, thanks to the generosity of the Friends of Lockyer's, who have funded the full cost.

Visit from Dorset Council's Youth Voice



DORSET YOUTH VOICE



Year 7 and Year 8 children received a visit from Dorset Council's Youth Voice representatives, where they were given the opportunity to consider applying to become a member of Dorset's Youth Council and potentially part of the UK's Youth Parliament.

During the presentation, the children were engaged in recognising the importance of having a voice, especially about the important issues that affect young people, both locally and globally. Our children asked some fantastic questions at the end of the session and we are hopeful that some of them will put themselves forward for this wonderful opportunity to make a difference

Winter Disco



The Winter Disco was an INCREDIBLE success - with record numbers of children attending AND dancing!

It was such a great evening, that even some of the teachers got up and danced (no photographic evidence of this unfortunately!)

Thanks so much to parents and carers for dropping and collecting your children safely and for contributing to such a fantastic evening, to raise vital funds for our school.



Thank you to Friends of Lockyer's for organising such a brilliant event and for Blitz Disco for, as ever, the epic tunes!



Lockyer's Young Carers Group



Some of our Young Carers here at Lockyer's had a wonderful opportunity to go to the Pantomime at Bournemouth Pavilion to see 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'. This was kindly arranged by MyTime Young Carers Charity as part of their 'Making Memories' programme. The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance and also the ice cream in the interval!

Mrs Pugh (Young Carers Champion) started up a monthly Young Carers Group in school in September. Attendance has been really encouraging and each month the children have taken part in a range of fun activities and meeting others.

This month the Young Carers took part in some Christmas craft (making cards and glass painting), playing some outdoor sports and also took part in a Christmas Quiz!

Please do contact Mrs Pugh if you feel that your son/daughter is a Young Carer and would like to be part of the monthly group, or if you would like to know more about what MyTime also offers.

"Top of the Christmas Pops" Christmas Concert



What an incredible day we had at our school Christmas Concerts at St Nicholas' Church.

This year's theme was "Top of the Christmas Pops". Our students did not disappoint, performing absolute classics.

Our afternoon and evening performances were incredibly well attended and the audiences were entertained by our Chamber Choir, Sing! group, Samba band, Looney Tunes Orchestra, some of our fantastic individual singers performing a beautiful rendition of "Do They Know It's Christmas?", plus our ENTIRE Year 5 team!

Congratulations to Mrs Wallace for putting on yet another incredible spectacle, to all the children for performing so brilliantly and to all of the parents and carers who supported this fantastic event. 🎄

Textiles Club

Mrs Shivas and the Year 8 Textiles Club have been making wonderful festive stockings.



St Nicholas' Christmas Tree Festival



Our Year 8 Textiles Club have taken part in the St. Nicholas' Church Christmas Tree Festival. Why not pop up to the Church and check out all of the fantastic entries this year.



Accelerated Reader Quizzing - Non-Uniform Day Winners

All of the students are encouraged to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes for every book they read. The winners of the non-uniform day for most Accelerated Reader quizzes passed for each year group are as follows:

5AG - 250 quizzes passed

6KG - 169 quizzes passed

7JD - 118 quizzes passed

8GS - 163 quizzes passed

Congratulations to you all for a brilliant reading achievement!

Friends of Lockyer's

Friends Meeting took place on Monday 27th November to discuss lots of exciting events for 2024. Keep an eye out soon for what's happening.

There will be another Friends of Lockyer's meeting in January.

Curriculum Overview - Spring Term 2024

Click [here](#) to see what our students are going to be up to in the Spring Term.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 2nd January -

Wednesday 3rd January -

Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th January -

Monday 12th-Friday 16th February -

Monday 19th February -

Tuesday 27th February -

Thursday 29th February -

Staff Training Day

Students Back to School & Online Safety Day

Year 8 Leeson House Residential

Half Term Break

Staff Training Day

Subject Parents Evening

Subject Parents Evening

School Dinners - Cut-Off Dates



Deadline to place order

Sunday 17th December 2023

Sunday 24th December 2023

Sunday 31st December 2023

Sunday 7th January 2024

Sunday 14th January 2024

Sunday 21st January 2024

For Week Commencing

Monday 1st January 2024

Monday 8th January 2024

Monday 15th January 2024

Monday 22nd January 2024

Monday 29th January 2024

Monday 5th February 2024

Extra-Curricular Achievements



Thank you so much to everyone who has sent in their extra-curricular achievements. It has been a brilliant half term, with so many achievements.

Well done to Ben, Izzie, Evie, Milly and Marija, Finn, Maddie, Makani and Leyla on your fantastic accomplishments. We love celebrating these in school and with our Lockyer's Community; please keep them coming in and let us know if you're happy for them to be shared on social media and/or in assemblies!



Meet our Local School Committee

Formally known as Academy Committee members or governors, our Local School Committee members would like to introduce themselves to you and tell you a little more about who they are.



Sarah Lynch - Chair

I'm Sarah Lynch and I'm delighted to be the Chair of the Local School committee having served as a governor at Lockyer's Middle School for the last two years. Contrary to popular belief it's a fascinating role and gives a real insight into how schools work & how they make the decisions that they do.

I'm a parent to 2 sons, both of whom have gone through the local schools in Corfe Mullen where I also volunteered when they were younger.

I now manage the library at Corfe Hills School and am enthusiastic about discovering and promoting books that teenagers will love. I spend far too much time reading and will happily cook, eat & sleep with a book in my hand!

In my spare time I enjoy exploring London and visiting quirky historical locations in the UK. I'm proud to be part of the Lockyer's Middle School community and to share in the school's ongoing success.

Caroline Laird

My role in LSC is to connect with the school in terms of oversight of Teaching & Curriculum. I work for the NHS as a Workforce Programme Director.

I really love how Lockyer's strives for excellence for our children & how their voice is shared in shaping the school values & plans.



Zoe Mole

Hi, I'm Zoë. Mum to Daisy in Year 8 and Max in Year 5. I work at Canford School in the Senior Leadership Team and love that I can also use my knowledge to help and support Lockyer's School. Having been a part of the Lockyer's community for 4 years now it's great to see how much the school has grown and evolved, especially as Daisy started during covid times.

In our spare time as a family, we enjoy taking our dog Digby on long walks down the beach. Also, I am currently in training to take part in a bike ride event next October across Vietnam and Cambodia. I might be aiming high as I rarely cycle a bike, but I do love a challenge.



Road Safety in our Community

Please continue to have conversations with your children about crossing roads and walking safely on pavements to and from school. Especially as the daylight hours are getting shorter, it is even more important to reiterate the need for being aware of your surroundings when out and about.

PLEASE ALSO BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL IN AND AROUND THE SCHOOL CAR PARK.



ePraise App for Parents

Don't forget to download the ePraise app for parents.

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.

