

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES

NEWSLETTER



WELCOME BACK TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

STAFF TRAINING

During one of our September training days our staff attended a valuable session on 'Making Sense of Autism' led by specialist teachers Nicola Al Jassar and Lucy Brookes. The training served as a brilliant reminder of the challenges that pupils with autism face and focused on practical tools and strategies to support them.

The session was a great success, equipping our team with new ideas and reinforcing existing best practices to help pupils with autism to thrive.

Embedding autism-friendly strategies is something that we will continue to develop and work on over the coming academic year.



AUTISM TRAINING FOR PARENTS



We are really aware of the difficulties that families and children are facing with the long waiting lists to be assessed for autism. We know that if a child is eventually diagnosed parents are often left wondering how best to support their child.

The link below is for a really helpful online course for parents of children who have a diagnosis of autism. However, parents of a child on the waiting list for an autism assessment might also find it helpful. The course is endorsed by the National Autistic Society.

<https://www.recoverycollegeonline.co.uk/course/s/adapt-after-diagnosis-of-autism-parent-support-training/>

SEND LIBRARY

Did you know that we have a dedicated SEND library?

Our SEND library features an online catalogue where you can browse and borrow a variety of helpful resource books for you or your child to use at home. Books can be borrowed for up to 3 weeks. Anyone is welcome to borrow from the library.

You can view the full selection of books by using the link below:

<https://www.lockyersmid.dorset.sch.uk/page/?title=SEND+Library&pid=312>



VISUAL TIMETABLES

Visual timetables can be a valuable resource for helping children to see what is going to happen over the course of a day/week. They can be helpful for all children, not just those with special educational needs.

Visual timetables are often used with children who are autistic as they help to reduce anxiety by providing a clear structure and expectation. They can also be helpful for children who have SEN that affect their ability to concentrate or organise themselves, such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or attention deficit disorder (ADD) and dyspraxia. Children who suffer from anxiety can also find them useful.

All children at Lockyer's Middle School have a tutor timetable however, some prefer to use a visual timetable like the one below. These can be accessed using this link:

<https://www.lockyersmid.dorset.sch.uk/page/?title=Visual+Timetables&pid=309>

Monday	Reading	Maths	English		Art	PSHCE		Humanities		
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LEARNING PLANS

If you have a child in Year 6, 7 or 8 and they are on the SEND register we are working hard to complete their new learning plan.

You should receive a copy of your child's learning plan by the beginning of October.

If you have a child in Year 5 we allow the first half-term for them time to settle and establish relationships.

After the October half-term the Year 5 team and SENCO meet to discuss each child. We will then identify which pupils need to be added to our SEND register and work to create individual learning plans with specific, personalist targets to help them to thrive .

Empowered Parenting Path with Rita Bartlett "



"because confident parents
create thriving families"

IN PERSON 6-WEEK EVENING COURSE
25/09/25 7 PM - 9 PM
LONGFLEET PRIMARY SCHOOL POOLE BH15 2HF
OR
INTRODUCING 6-WEEK ONLINE COURSE
6/11/25 7 PM - 9 PM

Parenthood can be extremely rewarding, enlightening, and enjoyable.
It can also be demanding, frustrating, and exhausting!
I offer a 6-week group parenting program designed to support all families with children aged 2-11.

- ✓ Evidence-based strategies from the Triple P Parenting programme
- ✓ Manage misbehaviour and promote positive parenting
- ✓ Practical tips for Neurodiverse children ADHD/ASD
- ✓ Reduce family stress, create calm
- ✓ Teach life skills, build independence and self-esteem in your child
- ✓ Tools to support emotion regulation
- ✓ 20 years in Primary school education/certified Parenting coach
- ✓ Workbook included
- ✓ Recognised by paediatricians for referrals
- ✓ Online and in-person options available

Call or email
me now for a
chat!

Testimonials:

"The sessions were engaging, practical, and full of evidence-based insights. We learned some really helpful strategies and solid foundations that we've already started using at home—and they've made a noticeable difference."



"Since going on this course, I've found the love of being a mum again and enjoying time with my child doing things I used to dread doing."



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MEET THE TEACHING ASSISTANT - MRS JEWELL

What inspired you to become a teaching assistant?

I have always been a compassionate and caring person. When it comes to children's learning and their ability, I feel passionately that with the right support they can achieve. When my daughter started nursery I wanted a job that fitted in with family life and an opportunity came up to work in a special needs school supporting children with complex needs and autism. That was thirty years ago now!

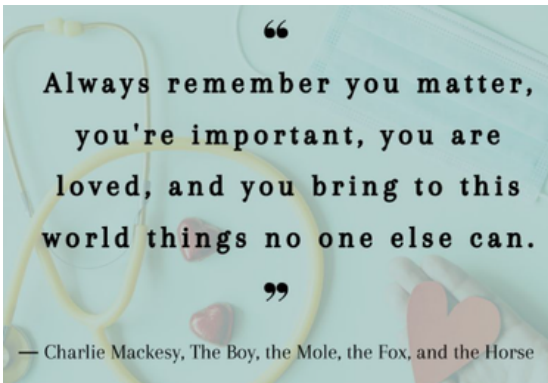
What hobbies do you enjoy outside of school?

I enjoy going away in my motor home with my husband and my two golden retrievers. We love to walk and see different parts of the country.

What is your favourite book to read with pupils?

I adore 'The Mousehole Cat' by Antonia Barber. Despite the storm and hardships, the story emphasises maintaining hope and perseverance. It inspires us to stay resilient.

Do you have a favourite quote or saying that inspires you?



★ Year 6 SEND ★ Parent and Carers Coffee Morning ★



WHEN:
1st October
9:30 - 10:30 am

WHERE:
Lockyer's
Middle School

WHAT:

- Meet other parents/carers
- Emotional and practical support
- Lived / Shared Experience
- Signposting

Enjoy Coffee and Cake!

COFFEE MORNINGS

If you have a child on the SEND register in Year 6 you will receive a google form invitation next week. Simply complete the google form to let us know you will be attending. We are looking forward to seeing you then!

Save the date:

The Year 5 SEND parent and carers coffee morning will take place on Wednesday, 3rd December at 9:30. More information will follow closer to the time!

**HERE'S TO A BRILLIANT
AUTUMN TERM AT
LOCKYER'S!**

Mrs Adams