

Lockyer's Middle School

Student Newsletter: First Edition

Welcome to the very first student newsletter, produced by students, for students during this period of school closure.

A number of students have submitted content for this newsletter; if you are interested in contributing to the next one, then get in touch with your English teacher to ask for more details.



Chloe, Year 8, decorated her street for VE Day

Have you produced any art during school closure?
We'd love to see it!

Art by Bethany
(Year 6)



What did you do to commemorate VE day? We'd love to hear from you.

Oblivion by Anthony Horowitz



Oblivion is an unforgettable, breath-taking novel that will have you on the edge of your seat until the very end. It is the fifth book in an action-packed series called The Power of Five. It is about five extraordinary fifteen-year-olds (four boys and a girl) each with a unique power which will help them save the world from the King of the Old Ones- an evil, destructive force with a terrifying army of creatures from your nightmares.

After the events that took place in Necropolis, the five gatekeepers (Matt, Pedro, Scott, Jamie and Scarlett) find themselves all over the world, as well as having jumped ten years into the future in a time of war, terrorism and famine and they must regroup in Oblivion- a desolate land where the World Army must fight the ultimate battle.

This gripping story had me close to tears by the end, but was worth it. The plot is well thought and exciting, and includes a deep description of each of the characters: an English boy with unimaginable power, telepathic twins from a circus in America, a small Spanish boy who can heal people by touch and a Chinese girl living in England, who can control the weather.

If you enjoy reading books about action, adventure and fantasy then it is a perfect book for you. I would recommend this book to older readers, as some scenes would be too upsetting for younger readers.

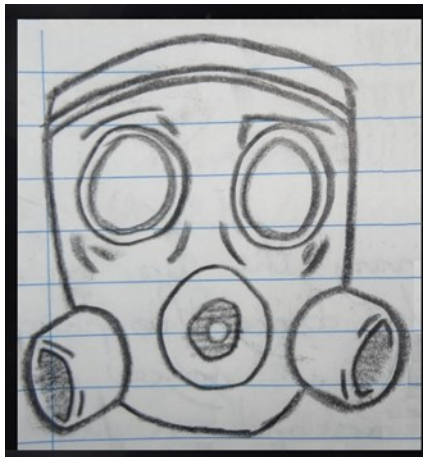
Eden (Year 7)

A comparison between Isolation and WWII

During the war, school was very different to normal. This is similar to now. Lots of Bournemouth schools shared premises with Southampton pupils as they had been evacuated from their home town due to bombing raids. Each alternating week, the schools would do a half day. For example, week one Bournemouth is the morning, week two Bournemouth is the afternoon. This is similar to our current situation, as we are working from home, so not at school either. When the Americans came over and needed somewhere to stay, often the school would act as temporary hostels and be home to the Americans for a while. The children would travel to school, as usual, only to find a teacher at the gate turning them away again. This is quite different to us, as we get notified when the school is closed and don't find out when we get there.

Another opposing point to present is although some people decide to wear face masks, for their own safety, we don't have to whereas during World War II, everyone had to carry a gas mask with them in case of a gas attack. Children also had to take a bag to school containing the following: toothbrush, toothpaste, packet of biscuits and clean underwear, in case of an air raid and they needed to sleep at school overnight. For the younger children Mickey Mouse gas masks were produced that covered their whole body. This was to prevent the smaller children from being scared of gas masks. The gas masks were horrible to wear and you could only see through them a little. Thank goodness, we don't have them.

I hope after reading this, it gives you some understanding of what it was like for school children during the Second World War. Although our situation isn't good, we will still make it through and be on the other side. Thank you to my Grandpa, Grandad and Great Auntie Sally for telling me their memories from the war.



My Friend Ann

One of my daily challenges was to make a phone call to an older relative or friend. I decided to phone a friend of my family, who is called Ann, because she is self-isolating at the moment.

Ann was born in 1935 and lived through WWII. She was my age when the war finished. I asked how different the war was compared to lockdown and asked her some questions:

What was it like in the war?

Ann remembered that she was outside playing with her younger sister and older brother drawing hopscotch until the air raid siren went off. They ran as quickly as they could into their house and went under the stairs into a basement. She said some people hid under the stairs, some under tables and some had air raid shelters.

What activities were there to do?

You weren't allowed outside as much since the air raid could happen at any moment. Ann was lucky enough to not have to be evacuated from her parents since she lived in the countryside already. She always had to tell her Mum where she was going.

What social things did you do?

You weren't allowed to go to your friends as much but when she did have a chance they would play hopscotch.

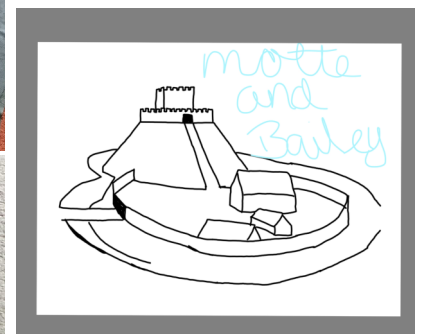
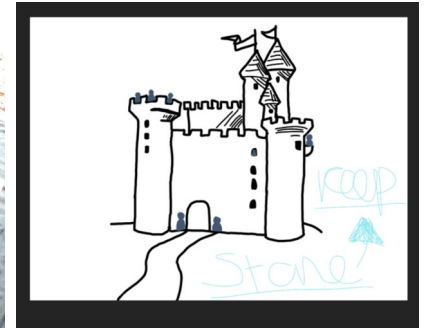
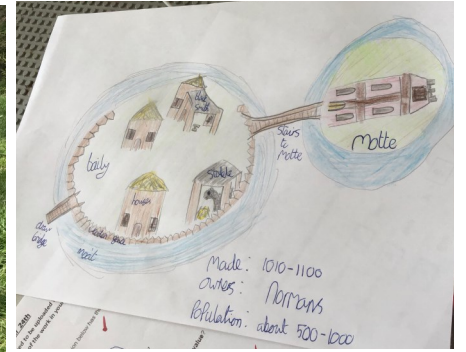
What are the biggest change since you were little?

Transport and electronics have been the biggest changes. When Ann was little people did go on big ships but not on planes and there weren't many cars. Ann remembers first seeing TV in about 1950 but it was very small. When she started work in Liverpool she went on a tram.

Jacob (Year 6)

Castles!

After learning about how castle design develop during the medi-
eval times, Year 7s were asked
to create a model or diagram of
one of those designs. Here are
some of their efforts!



Busy in the Kitchen!

Many of you have been busy cooking up a storm for your families. Here are just a few of the culinary delights that you have been whipping up.



Remember to ask for adult help when using the oven!

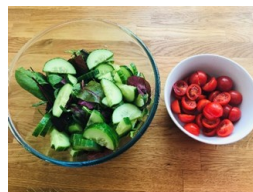
Lockdown Comfort Halloumi Burgers by Katie (Year 7)

Ingredients for four people:

1 cucumber,
100g baby leaf salad,
4 rolls,
250g cherry tomatoes,
400g halloumi cheese

Step 1

Wash the salad, tomatoes and cucumber.
Chop the tomatoes in half and slide the cucumber.



Step 2

Slice your halloumi into thinner halloumi steaks and fry in a bit of oil for 2 to 3 minutes each side until golden and crisp.



Step 3

Toast the rolls in the oven for 2 to 3 minutes.



Step 4

Assemble your burgers by placing the brioche rolls with the halloumi steaks and the salad. Enjoy!



Remote Interview with Mr Pressling

Everyone's favourite Head of Science answered your questions about life during the partial school closure!

How have you been coping with lockdown?

It's been a very interesting time! It took a little while to adjust, but I work just as hard at schoolwork at home as I do in school, so that gives focus and purpose to the day. The things that are really different are making do with what we can find in the supermarket. There have been some experimental dinners in the Pressling household. I do not recommend the hot dogs with sweet and sour sauce! Some days are grumpy and some days are fun, but I do love being able to see more of my family. However, I really miss going skateboarding with Mr West!

What do you miss most about normal life?

Is there such a thing as normal? You know what I really miss? Routine. Having a bit of structure to the day and knowing what is coming up. It's also quite hard not seeing family and friends, but I'm glad that we have the technology to video chat. That makes it easier.

What do you miss most about school life?

The children. No seriously! You guys are why we come to work and we really miss you!

What has been your favourite lockdown meal?

Burritos and Chimichangas! They are easy, quick, fun and I can make them nice and spicy!

What are you doing to pass the time?

Most of my time is spent on Google Classroom, helping children with problems, setting and marking work. I have two children and they take a lot of time up. I have also kept busy with hobbies and reading.



How are you keeping fit during lockdown?

Well as I am already super fit (LOLk) no actually I have done quite a bit s Joe Wicks a couple of times a week, I have now worked up to 60 press ups a day! I go on mountain bike rides a couple of times a week, I drag the family out on walks and skateboard on my driveway (safely and with pads and helmet on.) As an assistant Tae Kwon Do instructor, I also work through my patterns and padwork with my kids. I need to do this as sitting down at a laptop all day is not good for my back and general health.

Have you started any new hobbies during lockdown?

Not really, but I have worked on improving my current hobbies. In juggling, I have been trying to lock down a couple of tricks (especially one called Mill's Mess with a half shower), I have been challenged by a pupil in Year 6 to learn the windmill using things called poi, tried very unsuccessfully to master my unicycle and making good progress towards 360 flips (sometimes known as a tre flip) on my skateboard. I have also been trying out new recipes and cooking techniques for my poor family.

What will be the first thing you do when lockdown is over?

Go to the skate park! See my parents and see you guys again. Take my kids to their parkour and dance classes.

What are you getting up to at home?

The Sims 4

'The Sims' is a life simulation game created by Will Wright and Electronic Arts. The newest version of 'The Sims', which is 'The Sims 4', is available on many platforms, including PlayStation 4, Xbox One and PC.

I would rate it 5/5 stars.

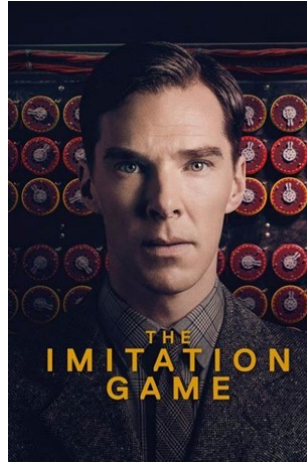
Daisy (Year 6)

Outnumbered (12A)

My whole family watched a program called Outnumbered which was an excellent comedy. The best thing about it was that through watching all of the episodes you can see the three children (Karen, Ben and Jake) grow up as the show went from 2007 to 2016.

They all had really funny characteristics and the family would always be getting into all sorts of trouble. Karen was always asking questions, curious and quite nosey as in the first episode her character was only 5. Ben was mischievous, always hurting himself and had a trait of lying which got him into lots of trouble with his parents and other people. Finally, Jake was always embarrassed by his parents and had just started year 6 in the first ever episode. Both the parents tried to keep them in order but that doesn't work out very well most of the time.

I would easily give it a 10/10 as it was that humorous and brilliant.



Remember: 12A means only watch with a responsible adult!



The Imitation Game (12A)

Matthew (Year 8)

This devastatingly brilliant film shows the horror of WW2 and how one man helped to stop it. It shows the story of Alan Turing (on the display in the computing suite) who cracked the enigma code used by the Germans. This code was referred to as the impossible code. Heartfelt and devastating, it shows short snippets of his previous life.

It was probably the best film I have ever watched however I would watch it with a parent so they can fill you in on some of the occurrences you don't understand.

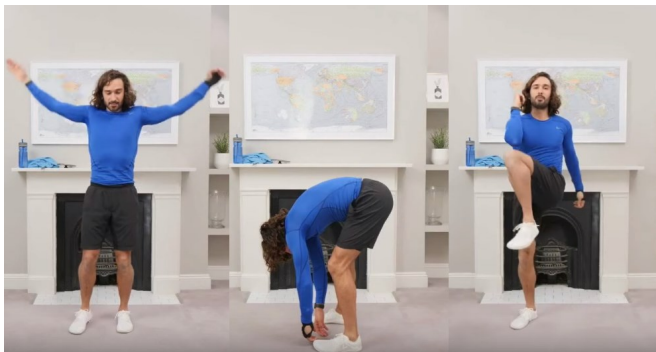
Rocket League



I like rocket

league because its fun to play and you can compete 1 against 1 with your friends. You can do cool tricks on it and trade with people and its free to play! It is basically cars playing football; I like to play it.

Harley (Year 6)



That's all we have room for this week! Thank you to everyone who contributed content to this newsletter.

For next time, which teacher would you like to interview? What questions would you like to ask them?

If you would like to contribute to the next edition, contact your English teacher for more details.

Stay Safe!

Keeping Fit Indoors - Maisie (Year 8)

During lockdown, many people have been exercising more regularly than usual. Over 250,000 families worldwide have been participating in Joe Wicks' "PE With Joe" every morning at 9am. The workout is designed for beginners so anyone can take part. The exercises are interactive with a new theme each day. There are also many workouts online that you can follow from your home. Completing exercise every day isn't just good for your physical health, it improves the state of your mental health.

Furthermore, some other forms of exercise you could enjoy are: cycling, running, walking or walking your dog. If you don't have a dog of your own, you could walk a vulnerable neighbour's dog who is more at risk. This will help you create new relationships with your peers and you may become closer. In addition, you could complete daily exercise with your family which will help you appreciate each other's company.

Growing Plants in Lockdown - Olivia (Year 6)

During Lockdown, we have started to grow lots of different fruits and vegetables. We are growing strawberries, carrots, runner beans, tomatoes, lettuces and radishes. Also we have got flowers growing but they are not doing too well. In just a few weeks since lockdown they have grown into little plants.

