

Lockyer's Middle School

Student Newsletter: Second Edition

Welcome back! After the amazing reaction to the first edition of Lockyer's Student Newsletter, we thought we better not waste any time in bringing you the second.

We have had such an enthusiastic response from children at the school from all year groups and have enjoyed reading about and seeing what you've been up to during the partial school closure.

Want to submit some content? Find the Student Newsletter on Google Classroom! We're already on the lookout for content for the third edition!

Hana
B

A special 'shout-out' to Hana (Year 6) who has surpassed the colossal milestone of three million words on Accelerated Reader! A truly commendable achievement!



A very positive and creative message from India (Year 7) and her sister.

A message we all echo from Isabelle (Year 6)

'We're all
in this
together!'



'Thank you NHS'



Dusty Horizon

My leather boots pound on the burning dunes as I race through a barren landscape, brittle bushes and spiny cacti rush across my vision. Behind me, the steady thump of horses' hooves strike the sand. The stars, which seem to outnumber the inky-black sky, shine down on us.

Suddenly, a huge column of red rock looms in front of me, as tall as several trucks stacked. On either side of me, horses close in, their riders carrying bows and a quivers of arrows.

"Stop!" A red-haired woman yells.

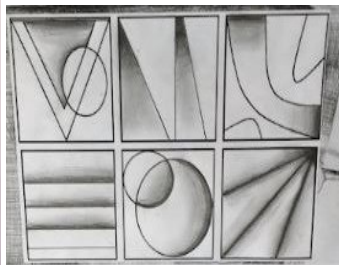
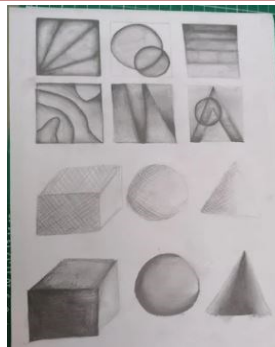
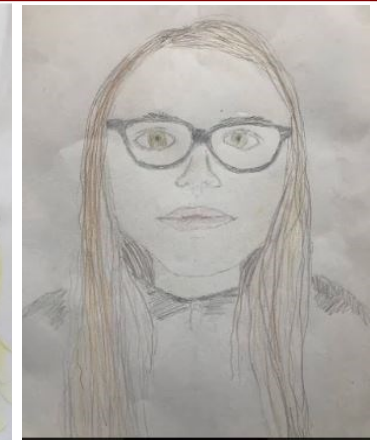
Feet skidding, I force myself to stop, my head spinning.

Too late. I smash into the rock, forehead smacking it. A wave of unconsciousness sweeps over me, and my thoughts slip from my grasp.

Daisy (Year 6)

Art!

Miss Patino has been incredibly impressed by the art that you have been producing at home. Here are some of the pieces that you have sent in!



Portraits (Year 5)

Miss Patino has been so impressed with Year 5's efforts; here's a selection of their self-portraits, portraits of family and friends and portraits of their heroes. Can anyone guess who any of the self-portraits are of?

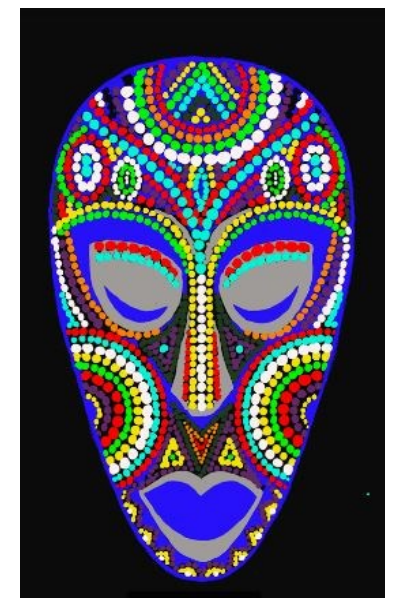
Masks (Year 7)

Here's a selection of patterned African masks and African tonal mask drawings. It's great to see Year 7 utilising resources at home; digital art seems to be becoming more popular!



Still Life (Year 8)

Year 8 have been developing their observational drawing skills in their current Still Life Project. They've been busy practising their tonal shading techniques and learning about creating compositions. From tonal drawings, acrylic paintings and digital art, they're all finding their own way to impress!



Remote Interview with Miss Patino

You voted, we listened! The marvellously talented Miss Patino was your choice for our second staff interview, so let's find out what everyone's favourite art teacher is getting up to alongside working with the children of critical workers in school.

How have you been coping with lockdown?

There's obviously things which I miss doing and people I miss seeing, but I'm actually quite enjoying it! Our dog- Albee- has LOVED having us home and he's certainly been keeping us entertained. I've been finding lots of jobs to do at home to keep me busy too; our house and garden are looking great!

How are you finding working from home?

It's ok! I'm finding it tricky trying to teach a practical subject, like art, through Google Classroom. It's made me appreciate how much I relied on demonstrating skills and techniques in the art room and being able to tell/show a child how to improve something is easier than trying to write it in a comment; Google Classroom takes up a lot of my time and I find it really hard looking at a screen for hours on end!

What do you miss most about school life?

I miss my art room! I miss spending time with the children in the art room, watching them flourish and gain confidence with their art. I also miss talking face to face with the staff.

Have you started any new hobbies during lockdown?

I'm really enjoying gardening and I've started growing some vegetables and planted flowers from seed; it's quite exciting watching them grow but also a little soul destroying when Albee climbs in to the plant pot and squashes them!

What activities have you been doing for your daily exercise?

Albee, our very energetic 1-year-old dog (who is a cross between a Labrador and a Springer Spaniel) continues to be my daily exercise. Living out in the countryside means we can walk for miles and miles without seeing anyone, which is great. I've loved finding new walks to go on with him. Our favourite ones always end with a swim in the river- for him, not me!

What have you been cooking? Have you discovered any new favourite meals?

Our current favourites are anything which can be cooked on the BBQ and I'm busy exploring my new recipe book. A current favourite is something called 'Campfire Stew', which is slow cooked gammon with mixed beans and vegetables; it's delicious!

Have you been doing any art during lockdown?

I'm really trying to find more time for this but the days are just going by so quickly. We've recently built an 'art studio' in the summer house at the bottom of the garden so I've now actually got a proper space to work; I can also leave it as messy as I like!

Do you like digital art?

I've never really been into digital art but I'm going to have a go since lots of children are sending me work which they've created on iPad apps- procreate seems to be a popular choice at the moment. I also know about Adobe sketch and Paper, which are both free on an iPad.

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

I'll definitely be inviting my friends and family over for a BBQ (if it's still warm enough!)



More Kitchen Antics!

After cookies, halloumi burgers and pasta last time, we've been inundated with news of your culinary creations!

Pear Sorbet by Suzannah (Year 5)

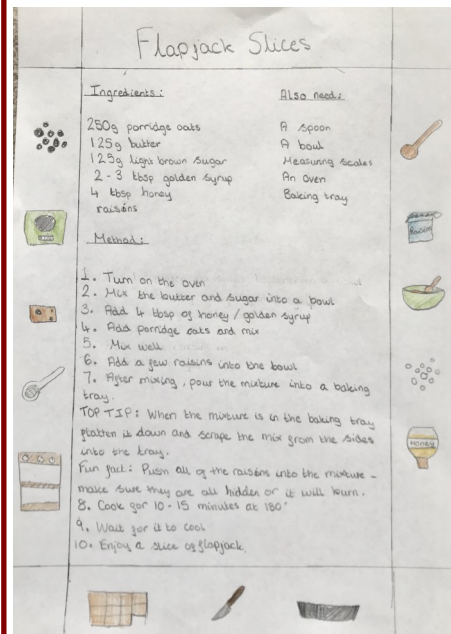
200g of sugar
200g of water
5 pears
1 tablespoon of lemon juice



1. Put the sugar and water in a pan. Bring to the boil, simmer for 3 minutes.
2. Peel and quarter the pears, add to the pan and simmer for 5 minutes or until pears are soft.
3. Take the pan off the heat and leave to cool for 5 minutes.
4. Add the lemon juice and place all the ingredients in a food processor.
5. Blitz until smooth. Sieve into a plastic container with a lid.
6. Place in the freezer, mix every hour.
7. Enjoy!



Jam tarts by Matilda (Year 7)



Rainbow Cakes by Chloe (Year 8)

Rainbow cupcakes with icing on top. The cake doesn't need to be dyed but it gives a nice touch.

Makes 24- you can half the ingredients to make 12.

Ingredients- sponge
225g caster sugar
225g stork
225g self raising flour
1tsp vanilla extract
Splash of milk
4 eggs
Rainbow belts

Icing- blue
Approx 150g icing sugar
Splash of water

Icing- clouds
20g softened butter
125g icing sugar
1tbsp milk

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 180c fan.
2. Line your baking trays with cupcake cases.
3. Mix everything in a bowl together to make the sponge.
4. Split the mix into as many bowls as you want and dye it different colours. (This is optional)
5. Spoon the mix into cupcake cases making them all approximately 3/4 full.
6. Bake in the oven for roughly 10-12 minutes until a knife comes out clean.
7. For the blue icing- Make some water icing by mixing the icing sugar and a small amount of water at a time until thick. Add some blue food dye for the sky.
8. Spread across the cupcakes when cool and leave to dry.
9. For the clouds- use a hand mixer or a whisk and blend all the ingredients together until a smooth consistency.
10. Use a piping bag and pipe some clouds on the top of the blue icing.
11. Cut enough rainbow belts in half.
12. Place the rainbow belts in the clouds so they look like rainbows.
13. Enjoy!



Flapjack Recipe by Abi (Year 6)

What are you getting up to at home?

Race Across the World (BBC iPlayer)

During lockdown my family and I have been watching a TV series called 'Race Across the World'. There have been two series. Teams have to travel by land and sea between two destinations for the same price as the airfare and have to get a job if they run out of money. It has been very good because you experience what it is like in different parts of the world at a time when we can't travel because of lockdown.

If I had to choose my favourite, I would choose series 1 (London to Singapore) because they visit lots of different countries and use more methods of transport whereas series 2 is just travelling through South America and most of time they travel on buses.

I would rate series 1 9/10 and series 2 7/10.

Thomas (Year 5)



A 1,000 piece jigsaw, completed by Ava (Year 8)

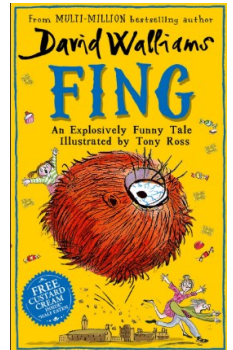


Fing by David Walliams

I have read a lot of Walliams' books; they make me laugh and I just can't stop reading them. 'Fing' is about two perfectly nice parents and their monster-like daughter who is always asking for more! Now that I've finished, I am looking forward to reading 'Slime' which is by David Walliams too.

My rating 5/5.

Hannah (Year 6)



The Logo Game (Board Game)

The Logo Game is a game about logos! It has a board and a set of cards. The cards have questions on the back which you ask to the other players. If you are younger than 10, I would advise being on a team with older siblings or parents as some of the questions can be quite tricky. You can have up to 6 players! I would give it an 8.5/10 for scores and would really recommend playing it on a boring day during lockdown.

Isabelle (Year 6)



Minecraft

I find Minecraft fun because you can play with 16 of your friends in a world and the possibilities are endless! Go into the deep depths of the mines challenging monsters and finding ore and jewels fit for a king; make houses and statues as stylish, weird or cool as you want; modernise your world with incredible contraptions with red stone and last but not least, slay the ender dragon and make Minecraft history!

Nathan (Year 7)



THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JEFF GOLDBLUM

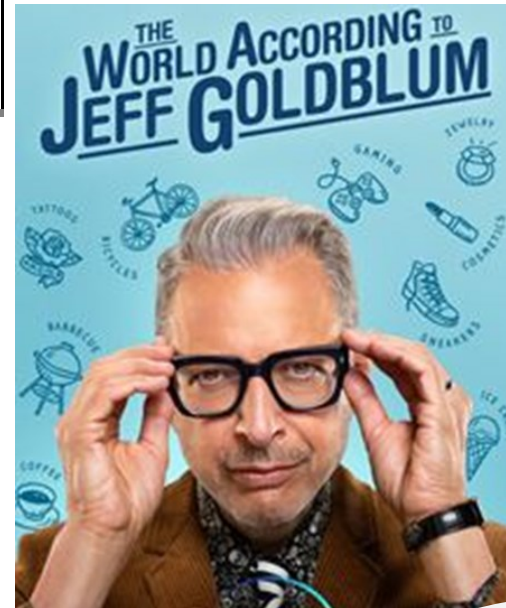
FROM SNEAKERS TO ICE CREAM, JEFF GOLDBLUM UNRAVELS THE WORLD AROUND HIM

Jeff Goldblum is a fun, quirky and somewhat eccentric character who has been in many popular films such as *The Big Chill* and *The Fly*. He then featured in the Jurassic Park franchise playing Dr. Ian Malcom. More recently you may recognize him as the Grand Master from *Thor Ragnarok*. He also played Leonard Hays in *Friends*. Jeff was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on the 22nd October 1952. His mother (Shirley Goldblum) was a radio broadcaster and his father (Harold Goldblum) was a medical doctor and major in the U.S army during WWII.

The World According to Jeff Goldblum, a new TV series streaming on Disney plus shows the in's and out's of some of the world's most expensive industries. He tells us how denim originated, what scientists are doing to revolutionize tattoos, how coffee was discovered, and why sneakers (trainers) are important to basketball players. It has some interesting facts about how things are made and why they are so popular today. He also interviews some of the top brand owners like Ben and Jerry who created the world-famous Ben and Jerry's ice-cream. He also visits places like NASA and watched the underwater training. It is such an enjoyable show to watch with family or by yourself during quarantine.

I enjoyed this documentary because it is very interesting and it can show you a different perspective on day to day items that we might take for granted. Also, Jeff Goldblum's personality makes the show ten times more spectacular, because of his originality and all round fun persona. I would highly recommend this show to anyone who has a thirst for knowledge or are bored during quarantine, because I guarantee that this will brighten your day. It is rated 6+ so there is no inappropriate content, just fascinating facts and interesting origin stories.

By Ruby Potlock-Ullah (Year 7)



Apologies to Ben (Year 7) and Maddie (Year 8) whose names were accidentally cut-off during the editing shuffle! Ben wrote the comparison between WWII and the current situation and Maddie wrote the review of Out-numbered.

Well done you two!

Remember your E-Safety lessons when playing online!

Roblox by Jacob (Year 6)

I like playing ROBLOX. It is an online game that you can play with friends and family. ROBLOX is a platform and within it you can choose from many games. Some of my favourite games are:

Bloxburg - Build the house of your dreams, get a job and learn how to keep healthy.

Skyblox - start on an island and use the resources you have to build your way across to the portal. Then enter into another island where you can trade for coins.

TailBreak - choose to have the life of a criminal and break out of jail or live the life of a police officer and take criminals to justice.

You can also create your own games in ROBLOX studio and make a game pass for yourself and others.



Lockdown by Alfie (Year 6)

Sat in my house on Lockdown,
Wondering when I can go and play around.

Missing my friends and my school,
Some of my teachers are really cool.

Thinking about all the fun we had,
Playing and learning, it wasn't so bad!

Keeping ourselves safe to stay alive,
Protecting the NHS who need to survive.

Staring at the sun and painting rainbows,
I can't remember the last time I wore proper clothes!

A time like this, we've never known,
Only able to talk to family on phone.

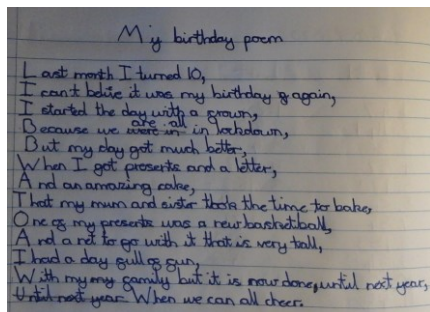
But one day it will all be better,
And we will remember this forever,
The time of our lives where we stayed inside,
So the world could get better together.

Jelly by Luca (Year 6)

On top of spaghetti, all covered in custard
I lost my poor jelly to somebody's sneeze.

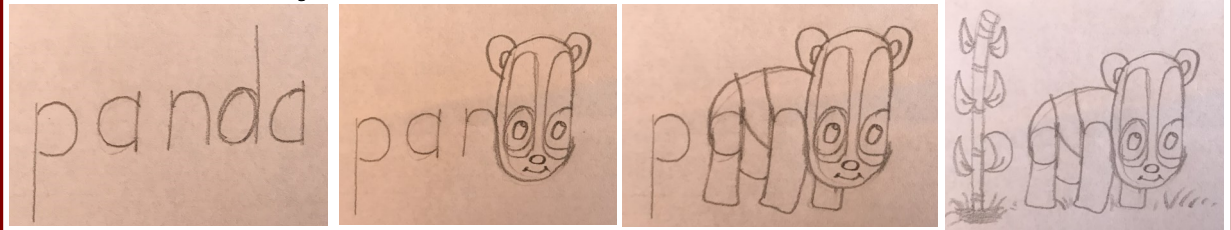
It went splat on the floor, then wobbled out the
door, Now my poor jelly is sat upon the paving.

Shivering and quivering in the blazing sun,
It started to melt, then washed down the drain.
Now my poor jelly is never to be seen again.



My Birthday Poem by Jack (Year 5)

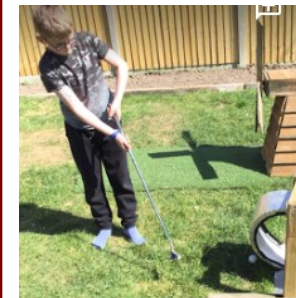
Panda Word-Toon by Ben (Year 7)



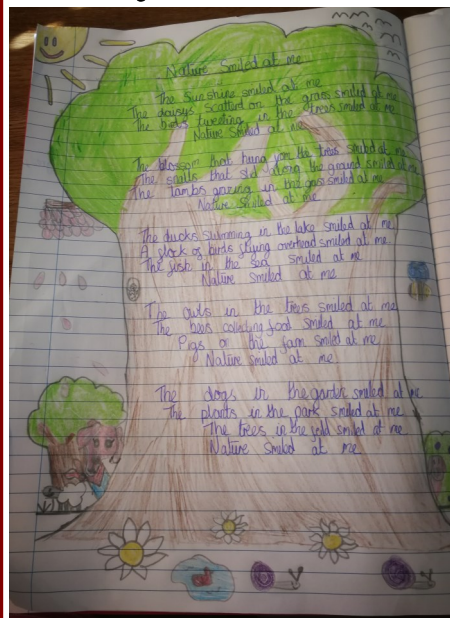
Friendship Bracelets by Eva (Year 5)



Keeping Fit by Jae (Year 7)



Nature Smiled at Me by Chloe (Year 6)



Mother Nature by Holly (Year 5)

Mother nature has sent us to
our rooms,
She is fed up of all our gloom,
She is teaching us a lesson,
One hopefully we won't forget,
It does not look like,
We're out of the woods yet.

Home schooling,
With different tooling,
No playtime,
Only FaceTime,
Shops shut,
And wages cut,
Everybody is stuck in a rut.

Two metres,
Means no greeters
Facemasks and gowns,
Sneezes bring frowns,
Coughing and spluttering,
Then people muttering,
Mother nature is recovering,
I have seen butterflies fluttering,
This brings hope,
To people who cannot cope.

Daily updates and statistics,
People watching with tea and
biscuits,
Hoping for improvement,
Encouraged by steady movement,
Easing of measures,
Is what the population treasures,
Ending of lockdown,
No more homework in my dress-
ing gown!

Dear Year 4... A message from our students.

Some students from our school and Mrs Evans (Head of Year 5) have a message for Year 4s who will be joining us in the new academic year.

My name is Emily and I am in Year 8. I remember, when I started in Year 5, I was quite nervous about starting a new, big school, however I had friends from my old school to make me feel better. Once I arrived at Lockyer's, I was in awe at all of the classrooms, such as the RMT room, the Science Labs and the Food Technology room.

All of the teachers were super nice and welcoming, which made me feel a lot better. Although it was quite a big change from having one classroom all day to having many different ones, I soon learned my way around the school. School is really fun, particularly the choice of clubs that you can attend either at break, lunch time or after school.

I hope that you have fun moving up to Lockyer's and enjoy your time there.

Emily (Year 8)

Lockyer's has kind, helpful students and staff that welcome you warmly. The school has a wonderful library where you can go to sit calmly and read. I'm looking forward to seeing my friends again once lockdown is over.

Elena (Year 6)

It's important to learn your way around the school, but this is easy after a while. You should know that everyone is so nice, even the teachers, so don't be scared about your move up to Year 5.

Louie (Year 6)



Lockyer's has really helped to develop my learning. I think they are good at breaking people out of their shells, Lockyer's has helped a lot of people's personalities show through. There is nothing to be scared of. My four years at Lockyer's have helped me find myself; if you have a problem, teachers are approachable and kind to you.

Your first school teaches have done as much as they can to prepare you for this huge change and it may be weird, but you soon will have found so many friends. If I ever go back, I am most looking forward to seeing my teachers as they are part of the reason I am who I am today; they really aren't just teachers, they are more. Although they are helping you learn, they feel approachable like friends do.

Bea (Year 8)

If you're feeling worried about coming up to Lockyer's and being a year 5 there's no need as it's going to be one of the best experiences. You won't regret coming here. I personally never got the chance to see everyone for the first time either, other than going to school on the first day of Year 5.

If there is ever a problem, always go to your tutor or head of year and have a chat about what's gone on. For the first two weeks of Year 5 the other students will not be allowed to go on the lower playground, but you will be allowed to. You are also allowed to go onto the top playgrounds as well. By the time the first two weeks is up, you'll know your way around and be used to everyone.

There are many after school clubs to go to including my favourite: table top games. Other clubs have been football, rugby, cricket, netball, choir and cooking club. There are also clubs at lunch time for example athletics, running, band and knitting.

Jacob (Year 6)

Dear Year 4, my name is Mrs Evans and I am the Head of Year 5 at Lockyer's Middle School. I am really looking forward to you joining us in Year 5 in September. We have lots of exciting opportunities at Lockyer's for you to enjoy during your time with us. These include lessons in our specialist classrooms (the science labs, design and technology lab, food room and our new music, textiles and art rooms); a variety of clubs on offer both during lunch and after school and a number of exciting trips and visitors in to school to help bring your learning to life.

When not in school, I enjoy visiting the beach my with family, going on bike rides and travelling the world in the holidays. My favourite country is Cambodia, due to the beautiful beaches, interesting ancient history and fascinating temples, such as Angkor Wat. I can't wait to find out some exciting facts about each of you - what would you share with me?

See you soon, **Mrs Evans**