



# Lockyer's Middle School

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## Headteacher Update

Good afternoon and welcome to our bulletin Newsletter.

### Inset

Last Monday the teaching started the half term with an INSET day at Allenbourn Middle School in collaboration with our other Initio Learning Trust middle school colleagues. In the morning our focus was on effective techniques to check for understanding so that we know how to move learning forward for our pupils. In the afternoon we then moved into subject teams to complete further work on our curriculum and retrieval practice. Retrieval practice is the strategic revisiting of prior learning to ensure it is retained to be built on at a later date.

### Accelerated Reader

This has been an excellent term for reading! Collectively our children have achieved a word count of over 134,429,815. This equates to 3,488 books. Classes currently in the lead are:

Yr 5 - 5EM - *11 564 730 words read*

Yr 6 - 6KG - *12 499 911 words read*

Yr 7 - 7AN - *9 367 972 words read*

Yr 8 - 8GS - *9 702 823 words read*

### World Book Day

This year World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March. To celebrate this day Miss Nash has organised a number of different activities for pupils to take part in. We have already shared our information regarding our Readathon and Book Swap. However, here are a few more activities our pupils will take part in:

#### Match the cover and blurb hunt

On World Book Day 7th March - staff will be wearing a lanyard with either a book cover or blurb on. Pupils will be trying to match them together and there'll be prizes for the first or highest amount of matches in each year group.

#### Sharing our favourite stories!

For each lesson on World Book Day, each teacher will start their lesson with a short extract from their favourite book.

### Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

Earlier this term, Mrs Whittaker shared some information about our MHST and shared a questionnaire regarding their service. Thank you for your responses. Feedback from parents/carers identified that they would like to know more about the service and how to refer into the MHST. Below is a response from MHST themselves.



Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) in schools are part of a joint national initiative between the Department of Education and NHS England to improve access to psychological therapies (IAPT) for children and young people presenting with emerging low mood and mild to moderate anxiety within an educational environment.

The 3 core functions of the teams are:

- Delivering evidence-based interventions for mild to moderate mental health issues through individual face-to-face work and group work for students or parents.
- Supporting the school's Designated Mental Health Lead to introduce, or develop, their Whole School Approach to emotional wellbeing.
- Giving timely advice to school and college staff, and liaising with external specialist services, to help children and young people to get the right support.

Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) work as part of the MHST in schools delivering 1:1 work with young people and/or their families. EMHPs also deliver workshops in schools to whole classes and run groups for young people and groups for parents/carers. EMHPs are the people your children are most likely to see in school.

Please speak to your child's Tutor or Head of Year or a member of the School Leadership Team if you feel you would benefit from support from the MHST.

For further information on the MHST in Schools, please visit:

<https://camhsdorset.org/about-camhs/mental-health-support-teams-mhsts>

### Parents' Evening

It was delightful having our parents and carers in school for parents' evening this week. It is so important to us that you are given the opportunity to discuss your child's fantastic learning and, of course, meet teachers face to face. Thank you for joining us for a successful few evenings.

### Staffing Update

At the end of the year, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Giles. Miss Giles is a fabulous teacher who has been dedicated to the children of Lockyer's Middle School. We wish her all the best on her next adventure of travelling the world.

### LMS Art

If you joined us for Parents' Evening you will have no doubt noticed the fantastic artwork in our Main Hall. The incredible artwork from our Years 5, 6 and 7 is proudly on display and we think you'll agree, there are some outstanding pieces of work. Our Year 8s are currently in the process of completing their work and we will display their work upon completion. Thank you to Ms. Bibby for her encouragement and infectious enthusiasm for all of our year groups' art lessons.

#### Yr 5 Food project



#### Yr 6 Figures in Movement Drawings



#### Yr7 Seascape Paintings



Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

*A. Dufek*

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Headteacher