Lockyer's Middle School

September 2026 - Autumn Term 1b - Issue Number 103

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Headteacher Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is impossible to start this Newsletter without acknowledging our Ofsted inspection on Tuesday and Wednesday. Under statutory guidelines, we are unable to provide any information until Ofsted completes its official quality assurance process. We anticipate sharing the full report by late November. In the meantime, I am delighted to share that inspectors were impressed by our students, highlighting their high standards and polite manner. A huge well done to all of our young people - you made us incredibly proud!

Key Information & Documents

We regularly publish essential letters and documentation for our school community. You can see these on our school website via the links below. Please get in touch with the school office should you need any guidance or assistance with these items.

- School Term Dates (Current Academic Year & 2027–28)
- Curriculum Maps 2026–2027 and Curriculum Subject Details
- Whole School Attendance Letter
- Homework Letter 2026–2027
- RSE Letter
- Newsletters

Lockyer's Middle School Needs YOU

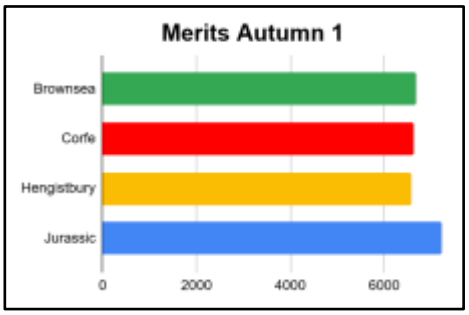
The **Everyone Belongs Committee** is launching an exciting new Human Library project to help bring classroom learning to life, and we are **looking for adult volunteers** to join our school database! Throughout the year, teachers will reach out to our "human books" to share their experiences with small groups, classes, or year groups. We would love to hear from volunteers who can speak on:

- Curriculum Subjects: Practical knowledge linked to our studies
- Cultures & Heritage: Insights into different countries, traditions, and languages
- Careers & Passions: Professional expertise, unique hobbies, or practical skills
- Diversity & Inclusion: Perspectives on equality, accessibility, and community
- Resilience & Values: Stories of overcoming adversity and perseverance

If you have skills, background knowledge, or stories to share, please sign up using our quick volunteer form

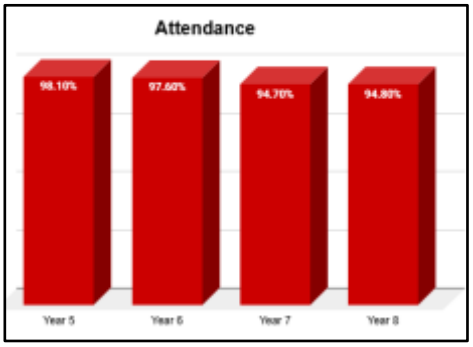
Celebrating Success - Earn Merits

Students have been making wonderful progress in earning merits by upholding our core values and aiming high in school. Families are encouraged to view these accomplishments through the Arbor app, where details behind each awarded merit can be tracked.
A huge well done to Jurassic House, who are leading the way across the school with the highest total!



Attendance

As the new school year gets underway, we would like to highlight how essential consistent school attendance is for every student. Regular attendance helps ensure children fully engage with key lessons, participate in classroom discussions and enjoy valuable social interactions, all of which underpin a successful learning journey.



Our shared target is for each student to maintain an attendance record of at least 96%. Achieving this benchmark allows students to maximise their classroom learning time and keep their progress moving forward smoothly without significant interruptions.

A special mention goes to our Year 5 students and families for their outstanding commitment to this goal, earning the highest attendance percentage so far this term! A truly impressive start to the academic year!

Wishing you all a wonderful half term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Tuesday 3rd November.**

Best wishes,

A.Dufek

A.Dufek, Headteacher

What's been happening at Lockyer's?

Year 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the school year and have settled well into life at LMS. They have demonstrated great ambition and courage as they have become familiar with new routines and expectations. In English, the children have enjoyed using their powers of persuasion to write persuasive speeches inspired by our recent text, The True Story of the Three Little Pigs. In humanities, they have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the fascinating Maya civilisation, learning about daily life, jobs, diet, the ball game Pok-A-Tok, and the Maya number and writing systems.

At the end of September, we held a Year 5 Celebration Party to recognise and reward the fantastic start the children had made to life at LMS. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying themselves, having fun together and celebrating their achievements as a year group. It has been a brilliant start to the year and we look forward to seeing what Year 5 achieves next!

Year 6

Year 6 have settled into the school year brilliantly! They have shown great enthusiasm for their learning, engaged positively in lessons and demonstrated superb learning behaviours. They also enjoyed an exciting **'Play in a Day'** experience on Monday 12th October with all four classes taking part in individual drama workshops before coming together to perform their work at the end of the day. Alongside this, the children took part in a range of World War Two themed lessons, bringing their learning to life. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop their creativity, teamwork and performance skills and we are incredibly proud of the positive start they have made to Year 6!







Year 7





In the Science department, we have had our annual rite of passage, with all our Year 7s learning how to light a Bunsen burner safely. It takes several lessons for them to master the skill confidently and safely but we are proud of their focus. They can now look forward to lots of exciting KS3 experiments in the coming year. The Year 8s also passed their annual Bunsen burner safe usage check with flying colours.



Year 8

Year 8 students have made a fantastic start to the term, showcasing impressive dedication both inside and outside the classroom.

Academic highlights include analyzing the central themes and distinct writing techniques in Jason Reynolds' novel, *A Long Way Down, h*oning practical performance techniques in music and developing an understanding of essential strategies to maintain and manage mental and physical well-being.

Away from the classroom, Year 8 students celebrated opening-round cup victories for both the boys' and girls' football teams and we were delighted to appoint our new School Captains and Sports Leaders following competitive application processes.

Keep up the brilliant work, Year 8!

Appointment of School Captains



This half term saw our fantastic Year 8s applying for the role of school captains. All the students who applied epitomised our school values of Ambition, Courage and Respect, working hard with application forms and attending interviews. After a rigorous process our new school captains were selected as Toby, Libbie and Megan. Incredibly well done to them.

Sporting News

We have had an incredibly busy sporting half term: Year 8 girls won against Budmouth in the football,; Year 7 boys were victorious in their football match; Year 8 boys were crowned regional rugby champions in the rugby 10s; Year 8 boys successfully made it through to Round 2 in their football championship and our Year 6 netball team played with tenacity against all the local middle schools just this week. What a brilliant half term with all teams demonstrating emphatically our values of ambition, courage and respect. Well done to them all.









Inter-house Harvest Foodbank Collection Competition



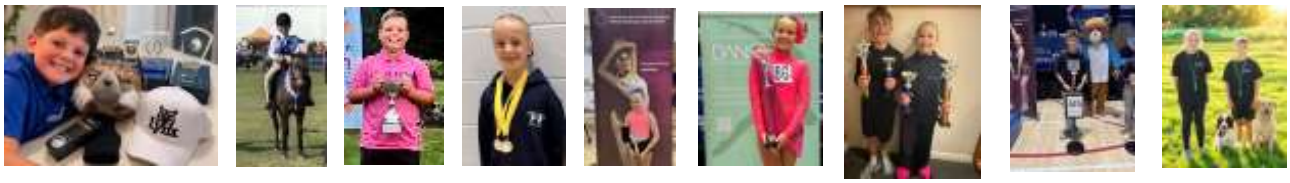
We had a successful collection for Corfe Mullen Foodbank this half term, collecting close to 400 items. It was a close-run competition, with all houses collecting closer to 100 items. However, Corfe came out victorious with 104 items. Our brand-new house captains helped to count, sort and organise the collection.

Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running!



We have launched our new scholastic book club. Please follow this link https://clubs.scholastic.co.uk/C-H9SPHXGV to browse the latest books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your **order online by November 6th, 2026**

Extra Curricular Activities



Congratulations Samuel, John, Olivia, Bea, Olivia,
Macie, Evie, Finlay, Zak, Leyton and Jess for their fabulous achievements this term. Thank you so much to everyone who has sent in their extra-curricular achievements. We LOVE sharing them within the school community.

! Important reminder to all parents/carers about Arbor !

Please would parents/carers check Arbor details are up-to-date and accurate. In particular, we urgently require that **emergency contact details**, **medical information** and **parental permissions** are checked. These are essential to ensure that we have the relevant information to look after your child(ren) and ensure their safety.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 3rd November - students return to school
Wednesday 4th November - Year 6 SATs Information Evening
2nd December - Friends Of Lockyer's Christmas Craft Evening
8th December - Christmas concert
11th December - Young Carers Christmas Celebration
Friday 18th December - Last day of term
21st December - Monday 4th January - Christmas Holiday
Tuesday 5th January - Students return to school

For a full list of term dates for 2026/2027 click here

Kit Shop



Students are able to purchase stationery equipment from our Kit Shop. The shop runs from the library every breaktime and on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes.
We now offer refillable whiteboard pens which students can ask to be refilled in the library, over lunchtime. We also hold extra reading rulers for students to purchase.

PLEASE NOTE: YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BUY FROM OUR KIT SHOP; WE ACTIVELY ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO HAVE EVERYTHING THEY NEED WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

Children should take ownership of their belongings. We ask that you regularly check to ensure that they have everything they need for every school day.

Personal Labelling/ Lost Property

Please could we stress the importance of labelling every item of clothing, lunchboxes, water bottles and any other items that are potentially going to get lost. The amount of unlabelled lost property in school is extremely high and it is important that children take responsibility for their belongings and are able to find them if they become lost.

Reminder About Medical Appointments During the School Day

To help us keep our attendance records accurate, please remember to share a screenshot or photo of your child's appointment confirmation (text, email, or letter) whenever they need to miss school for medical or dental care.

Have a wonderful half term break!
See you back here on Tuesday 3rd November!

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

OUR STAFF ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU.
THEY MUST FEEL SAFE, RESPECTED AND SUPPORTED TOO.
DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND ABUSE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

1. Treat all members of our community with respect and politeness.
2. Listen to others and address concerns through appropriate channels.
3. Act as positive role models for all children and young people.

WE DO NOT TOLERATE:



DISCRIMINATION





ABUSE



VIOLENCE

HARASSMENT

WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION IN MAKING OUR SCHOOL A SAFE, POSITIVE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERYONE.