



NEWSLETTER



14th February 2025

A message from our school leaders:

In a world full of technology, at Middleton we work hard to ensure that children understand the dangers they can face online. This week we began with a whole school assembly, discussing the issues that we may come across on the internet. As a school, we celebrated Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, which allowed pupils to learn more about keeping themselves and their personal information safe. As the key focus this year is, 'online scams', the children learnt more about online scams and the importance of telling an adult.

We ended the week with our much-loved Valentine's Disco in our school hall. Pupils had such a super afternoon. Thank you to all the Friends of Middleton School for organising and running the event. We are always very grateful of your support and the time you devote to support our lovely school.

Reminders and Messages

- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- A reminder that we are a '**NUT FREE**' school.
- **POLITE REMINDER:** We are unable to read or answer messages which are sent through Class Dojo. If you need to contact teachers, please telephone or make an appointment at the office.

[Friends of Middleton School \(FOMS\)](#)

Useful Online Safety Links

- [NSPCC](#)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- [Childline](#)

BE SMART ONLINE

S SAFE Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

M MEET Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](#).

A ACCEPTING Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check to books and talk to someone about what you have found.

T TELL Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline - 0800 11 11 or [www.childline.org.uk](#)

BE SMART WITH A HEART
Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	100.0%
Year 1+2	97.2%
Year 3+4	100.0%
Year 5+6	98.1%



NEWSLETTER



What have we been up to?



EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

We have been very busy in Nursery this week! We have been learning about Vikings, Antarctica and Mount Everest. The children have learned about the different animals that live in Antarctica, enjoyed visiting Antarctica in the role play corner and building homes for the penguins. Children built boats for Vikings to sail in, looked at Viking letters and made great efforts at writing the initial sound of their name. The children have also enjoyed watching a video about Mount Everest and looking at different mountains around the world.

RECEPTION

Our maths focus this week has been finding pairs. The children began the week by matching pairs of socks and progressed to matching pairs of numicon. Reception then counted the holes in the numicon to find the total number of their numicon pairs.

We read 'Dinosaur Roar' as our story of the week. This book contains lots of rhyming and so we have been matching rhyming pairs ourselves. The children have also been looking at opposites and what makes them opposite.

In PSHE we have looked at what 'safe' and 'unsafe' means. We have also talked about how to stay safe outside and inside of school. The children know that they can seek a safe adult or find a safe building when lost.

Reception have loved learning about Valentine's Day this week too. They have made hearts and boxes of chocolate with the pink play dough, painted loved ones' pictures and made Valentine's Day cards too. Have a nice weekend everyone!





NEWSLETTER



What have we been up to?



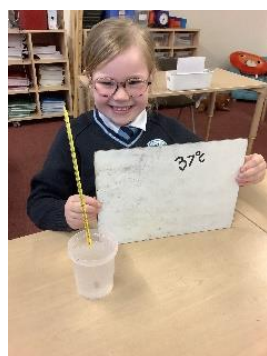
Y1/2 – Mrs Garnett, Mrs Aislabe and Miss Spenceley

This week, the children have completed their adventure story using a clear beginning, middle and end. To make their story more interesting, the children included adjectives, conjunctions and exclamation marks when they showed excitement!

During our maths lessons, Year 1 have been learning about fact families and that addition and subtraction are the inverse (opposites). Year 2 have been learning about temperature. The children measured the temperature of cups of water using thermometers and were excellent at reading accurately.

As part of our science lesson this week, we investigated which material would be best to protect Humpty Dumpty. We tested this by wrapping Humpty (an egg) in a range of materials, such as: foil, bubble wrap, tissue, salt rock and card. We all sang as Humpty fell off the wall! We found that salt rock was the best material to protect Humpty, as the egg didn't crack!

The children enjoyed making a love heart wreath to celebrate Valentine's Day. They also had a great time at the disco, where they all looked lovely in their red and pink outfits, while dancing to a mix of songs from our resident DJ.





NEWSLETTER



What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Mr Frazer and Mrs Niven

Another great week in Year 3 and 4! We have enjoyed another excellent swimming lesson, been to the gymnastics festival at Teesdale Leisure Centre and had the music man, Mr Elliot, visit us in his usual Monday slot.

In history, we are wrapping up with the Vikings as we found the causes and effects of the series of invasions in 1066.

In science, we have continued our electricity unit by experimenting with an online circuit tool.

We also covered some excellent work in computing, where we have been coding a game that the children can play at home, using Purple Mash.

Our weaving unit in art is also coming along, as the children should mostly be finishing with their cardboard looms and moving onto Torren Wheels, which will help us to create lace.

In English we are finishing our diary entry unit, and the children have enjoyed putting themselves in the shoes of an Anglo-Saxon warrior who experienced (and survived) the Battle of Hastings.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!





NEWSLETTER



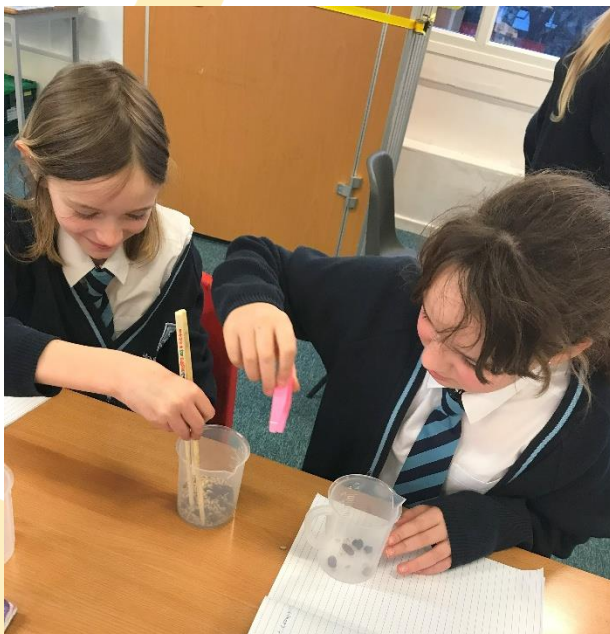
What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

This week, we have had great fun exploring who Charles Darwin was and researching some of his scientific discoveries. To really get to grips with natural selection and evolution, children imitated being birds (just like the finches Darwin found on the Galapagos Islands) and used different shaped beaks – chopsticks and tweezers – to collect sunflower seeds and raisins (seeds and berries). The children found that birds with a straight beak (chopsticks) will eventually become extinct or must find a more suitable food source, whereas birds with rounded/pointy beaks (tweezers) were more adapted to their environment and more likely to survive.

In writing, we have finished our newspaper reports surrounding the closure of London Zoo due to targeted air raids in WW2. Children have enjoyed researching about the zoo and have effectively used direct and reported speech in their writing, as well as using commas to avoid ambiguity.

The theme for this year's Safer Internet Day was scamming, and so we had a lesson encompassing this. We looked at what scams are and the tell-tale signs of a scam. Children put this into practise as they fed trustworthy trout reliable messages and emails, throwing away any examples of phishing.





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events:

	Event
FEBRUARY	
Friday 21 st Feb	School Breaks Up for Half Term
MARCH	
Thurs 6 th March	World Book Day
w/c 10 th March	BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK
Wed 19 th March	Scholastic Book Fair in school (until Monday 24 th March)
Friday 21 st March	Comic Relief Day
Monday 24 th March	EYFS + KS1 Mother's Day Family Brunch
Monday 31 st March	Tennis/Racquets Festival – Yrs 3+4
APRIL	
Mon 7 th - Thurs 10 th March	Parent's Evenings
Tuesday 8 th April	KS2 Easter Crafts
Friday 11 th April	FOMS Easter Egg Hunt
Friday 11 th April	School Breaks Up for Easter Holidays
Monday 28 th April	School Re-Opens for Summer Term
Wed 11 th –Fri 13 th June	Residential Trip to Robinwood

EDUCATION ENTERPRISE - Re:Boot

Our School Sports Partnership, Education Enterprise Ltd, have organised a 'Re:Boot' event. This involves parents/carers donating any unwanted football boots or trainers to our school by Friday, 21st February. The team at Education Enterprise will then clean the donated footwear, making them look fresh and clean, ready to be claimed again on their LIVE platform, on Friday 7th March at 5pm.

If you have any unwanted football boots or trainers and would like to donate, please bring into school by next Thursday, 20th February (at the latest).

To claim a fresh pair of boots or trainers on Friday 7th March at 5pm, please follow the QR code, displayed on the attached poster.

RE:BOOT

SPORT IS FOR ALL

DONATE YOUR UNWANTED AND FORGOTTEN FOOTBALL BOOTS AND TRAINERS TO YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL BY

21ST FEBRUARY

CLAIM YOUR FREE BOOTS OR TRAINERS VIA OUR FACEBOOK PAGE. ALL BOOTS & TRAINERS WILL GO LIVE ON

7TH MARCH @ 5PM

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EDUCATIONENTERPRISELTD/](https://www.facebook.com/educationenterprise/)