



NEWSLETTER

13th September 2024

A message from Mrs Harris and Mrs Willington...

This week, there has been a focus on pupil leadership and developing our children in their leadership skills. Class teachers have been busy electing for positions of school council and anti-bullying ambassadors. We have also begun an election for our Head Boy and Head Girl. These will be shared with you over the coming weeks. Our after-school clubs will begin next week and we look forward to welcoming pupils to our new clubs. Letters have been given out to pupils and the full schedule will be available on our website next week.

A reminder that Flu Immunisations will be taking place in school. Parents are asked to sign up using the link, by next Tues, from the notice in Class Dojo.

We also ask Y6 parents to complete the online application for secondary school, before the deadline of 31st October. This can be done via: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

We are delighted to report Mrs Willington visited us in school this week. It was wonderful to see her in school and she would like to thank everyone for their support during this time. Over the next few months, Mrs Bissicks from Teesdale Academy will be joining us, and Mrs Garnett will step up as Acting Deputy Headteacher.

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.

A Message from The Friends (FOMS)

Please keep a LOOK OUT for upcoming events, which are being organised by our wonderful Friends of Middleton School!

Useful Online Safety Links

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



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	100.0%
Year 1+2	93.2%
Year 3+4	95.2%
Year 5+6	97.1%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

What a lovely and productive week it has been in our nursery for the start of the new academic year. Our pupils have settled in really well and got stuck in exploring the nursery setting, from our home corner to our outside space and especially the small world area.

We have been enjoying reading the book, 'Pants' which has taught our children all about different sizes and this led onto an activity based on designing their own patterns and sorting shapes.

The children also have shown their chopping skills this week, as we made our own vegetable soup.....which tasted yummy!

RECEPTION

This week the children in reception have settled in brilliantly. They have loved exploring the new areas of our classroom and have worked together to build, draw, paint and play.

We have enjoyed reading this week's topic book, 'The Smartest Giant in Town' and discussed how we can help each other just like the giant helped the animals in our story. The children have also taken part in voting for our new Head Boy and Head Girl. It has been amazing to see the children work together in their learning.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y1/2 – Mrs Garnett and Mrs Aislabie

We have had a lovely week back in Year 1/2. The children are settling in well and getting used to their new routines. The Year 2 children have been excellent role models, helping the Year 1 children find their feet.

This week, we have been reading, 'Little Red Riding Hood' in order to create a non-chronological report about a book character. The children have used lots of interesting adjectives to describe the Big Bad Wolf. The children have been really excited, they have been telling me lots of their own stories about the Big Bad Wolf.

In maths, Year 1 have been focusing on numbers to ten, counting, forming and writing them in words. Year 2 have been focusing on numbers to 100, looking at how many tens and how many ones are in a given number.

In our history topic, we found out about a significant person - Florence Nightingale. The children learnt about how she changed nursing by improving the hospital conditions as well as patient care.

During PE, Ben introduced invasion games using hockey sticks. The children were shown how to hold and use the stick to pass and stop the ball. The children were fantastic at this, picking up the skills very quickly!

Later in the week, the children learnt about nutrition and what it means to have a healthy, balanced diet.

All children in Year 1 and 2 now have reading/phonics books. Please sign reading records when you have listened to your child read. These should be brought into school every day. As always, if there are any queries, please get in touch.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss Humpherson and Miss Spenceley

Year 3 and 4 have settled themselves straight back into learning this week! They have been exploring using interesting adjectives in writing, to entertain their readers by making their writing more interesting. They have been looking at writing a narrative based on a short film clip called, 'The Lighthouse'.

In maths, both year groups have been looking at place value in numbers up to 1,000 in Year 3, and 10,000 in Year 4, which they have set off to a flying start!

The children have been learning all about 'mountains' in geography and 'states of matter' in science. They have also been discussing how people can change their real-life persona online by only sharing certain information, this can sometimes also be negative. We looked into how this can be harmful for others, but how they can ensure that their online persona is a positive portrayal of themselves and can also be supportive of others.

In art lessons, we have started looking at mixing colours to make tertiary colours on the colour wheel by mixing primary and secondary colours.

It has been a great first week back!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

Welcome back to the Autumn term, we hope you have all had a lovely summer break!

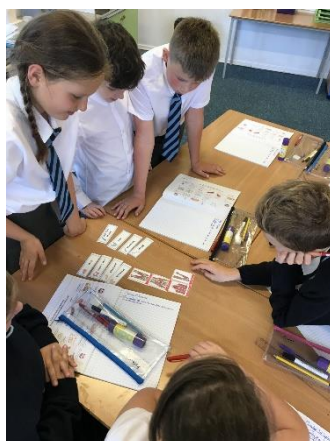
It was fantastic to meet so many parents this week at our 'Meet the Teacher' evening held on Thursday. We look forward to working with you all closely throughout the year, supporting your children to blossom and grow.

This week we have started all of our units of learning, including: animals including humans (science), World War 1 (history) and Flander's Field (art). During the course of this half-term, we will continue to develop our knowledge in these areas.

Our art and history topic this half-term goes hand-in-hand with our writing unit that we have begun this week. Our first unit of writing is a setting and character description based on the Richard Harpum's artwork - Tommy. The children in the class have worked collaboratively to do a whole class write before writing their own first draft of the setting and character description. I have been blown away by some of the emotive language used in children's writing to really set the scene!

In science we have learnt how the circulatory system works, labelling the parts of the heart and explaining their function. Ask your child how the circulatory system works to see if they remember!

Some of our children have been extremely brave this week, putting themselves forward to be part of the school council, head boy and head girl. Well done to all children that took part in this - you have shown great communication skills!





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming
Events:

	Event
w/c 16 th Sept	Recycle Week
	All After-School Clubs commence
Tuesday 24 th Sept	Flu Immunisation Day – Reception to Year 6
Wednesday 25 th Sept	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon, 2:15 – 3:15pm
Thursday 26 th Sept	NELT Athletics Festival at Gateshead Stadium
Friday 27 th Sept	Netball Competition, Yrs 5+6
Monday 30 th Sept	Handball Festival, Yrs 5+6
OCTOBER	Black History Month
w/c 7 th Oct	Harvest Festival, timing tbc
Thursday 10 th Oct	World Mental Health Day
Friday 11 th Oct	Cross Country Competition
w/c 14 th Oct	Parent's Evenings, timings tbc
Monday 21 st Oct	Curling + Boccia Festival, Yrs 1+2
Wednesday 23 rd Oct	FOMS Halloween Disco
Friday 25 th Oct	School Games - NERF
Friday 25 th Oct	School Breaks Up for Half Term