



NEWSLETTER

21st February 2025

A message from our school leaders:

Yesterday we celebrated our children's reading successes with the Reading Party in our school hall. In total we had **41** children attending the party, the most pupil's we have ever had in attendance. This demonstrates the children's commitment and dedication to their reading journey and just a small way to celebrate the pupils' success. We aim to support our pupils and hope that they become lifelong readers, and it is only with your support from home that we can achieve this. Thank you to all our families for supporting us with regularly reading at home, this makes a huge difference not only to pupil reading ability but also to their understanding of topics and their ability to access the whole curriculum.

I hope you have a wonderful half term break with your family, and I look forward to seeing you back to school on Monday 3rd March.

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 to 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R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true.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!

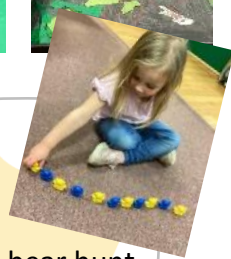
~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	93.3%
Year 1+2	100.0%
Year 3+4	99.5%
Year 5+6	98.1%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

This week, in Nursery, we have been reading the fantastic, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children absolutely love this story and have enjoyed re-playing the story by going on their own bear hunt through a deep cold river, thick oozy mud, a swirling snow storm and then finally, finding the bear in the cave. The children have practiced their cutting skills by making the swishy, swashy grass and have used bears to make repeating patterns. Nursery have also enjoyed taking part in Bear Hunt cosmic yoga.

RECEPTION

This week, in maths, the children have been exploring length. They have looked at appropriate measuring tools for different objects, including rulers and a meter stick. They have also had a go at measuring themselves with a ruler, by accurately lining up the object and looking at which number it stops at. They have also identified longer/shorter objects and described them in full sentences.

For our final week of the 'Dinosaur World' topic, our topic book was, 'Tyrannosaurus Drip' by Julia Donaldson. Our class was very excited by this one as it is one of their favourite authors. The children have filled in missing words from sentences relating to the book and answered comprehension questions about the story, with some fantastic detail!

In our afternoon sessions we have identified similarities and differences in young and older people; shared which space in school is most important to us and why; learnt about which animals lay eggs and which animals give live birth and most excitingly observed real fossils! The children loved feeling the fossils' textures and seeing which is lighter/heavier. They even hypothesised what animal the fossil could have been.

It's been a lovely last week of dinosaurs and I hope you all have a lovely half term.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



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

English lessons have been very exciting this week. We read the story, 'Spider Sandwiches', and this inspired us to design our own disgusting sandwich. The children were very creative with their ingredients and used a range of amazing adjectives to describe their revolting creation.

We have had such an exciting time in science, testing different materials and their properties. We investigated whether the materials could be stretched, bent, squashed and twisted. The children then tested some items of their own.

During our geography topic, we learnt about the countries that make up the UK and the seas that surround them. Some of the children even remembered the capital cities from our geography lessons last year - well done!

In D.T., the children have finalised their own moving monster and were thrilled with the outcome!

After such a busy half term, we hope all of the children have a well-deserved half term holiday!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Mr Frazer and Mrs Niven

Our final week in this first term of Spring has been filled with lots of exciting activities.

In history we are wrapping up the Viking unit and this week we have been able to explore some of the items that the Vikings would have used; these were kindly lent to us by a local museum.

We have worked hard in R.E. to think about how Christians believe Jesus would have wanted people to live their lives, and the impact this has on charities that support those in need.

We have continued our topic of 'electricity' in science, by looking into how switches work and what we need to make a working switch.

The Year 4 children are now looking at time in maths; it would be great to see them practicing at home, by reading an analogue clock or talking about how much time has passed between any given times, or asking them, "how long until...". Year 3 have started to learn about money and how they can use different coins or notes to pay for items in shops.

Mr Elliott, our music teacher, continued his ukulele workshop with the children and they are getting good at "On Top of Old Smokey". And finally, another good swimming lesson of course.

Have a lovely, restful half term!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

To mark the end of the half-term, children who had read at home every night, or reached their Accelerated Reader target, celebrated with sweet treats and juice at the reading party. It is wonderful to see such avid readers in Years 5 and 6!

Our history unit of WW2 has sadly come to an end. This week, children learnt about the significance of the Holocaust and the history surrounding Anne Frank and her family. The class understood why it was important for us to learn about such a poignant subject; to ensure that our children don't forget about the sacrifices others made and so that we hope an event like this never occurs again.

The class were able to let their imagination run free at the end of the week, as children were able to write their own pieces of writing; whether this by a fact file, non-chronological report or narrative. Everybody approached this task with such enthusiasm, and it is fantastic that so many children have acknowledged and included their own hobbies as a basis of their writing.

Mrs. Emery and I wish you all a happy half-term holiday, and look forward to seeing you all again in March!

READING PARTY FUN!





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming
Events:

	Event
MARCH	
Thurs 6 th March	World Book Day – Dress Up as your Favourite Book Character
w/c 10 th March	BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK
Wed 19 th March	Scholastic Book Fair in school (until Monday 24 th March)
Fri 21 st March	Comic Relief Day
Mon 24 th March	EYFS + KS1 Mother's Day Family Brunch
Mon 31 st March	Tennis/Racquets Festival – Yrs 3+4
APRIL	
Mon 7 th - Thurs 10 th March	Parent's Evenings
Tues 8 th April	KS2 Easter Crafts
Thurs 10 th April	NELT Athletics Festival, Gateshead Sports Stadium
Fri 11 th April	FOMS Easter Egg Hunt
Fri 11 th April	School Breaks Up for Easter Holidays
Mon 28 th April	School Re-Opens for Summer Term
MAY	
Thurs 8 th May	VE Day 80 th Anniversary Celebration
Fri 23 rd May	Phototronics – Year 6 Leavers and Class Photos
Mon 26 th – Fri 30 th May	School Closed for Half Term
JUNE	
Mon 2 nd June	School Re-Opens to pupils
Wed 11 th –Fri 13 th June	Residential Trip to Robinwood
Mon 16 th June	Bikeability, Level 1 – Years 3+4
Tues 17 th – Fri 20 th June	Bikeability, Level 1 + 2 – Years 5+6
JULY	
Tues 1 st July	NELT Summer Concert at The Glasshouse, Gateshead
Wed 16 th July	FOMS All the Fun of the Fair
Fri 18 th July	School closes for the Summer Holiday