



# NEWSLETTER

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## A message from our school leaders:

Following the implementation of our new rewards system, we are delighted to announce our first two children to achieve a SILVER behaviour award. Today, Victoria (Y6) and Katelyn (Y5) received their certificates and 'Middleton wristbands' to mark their outstanding behaviour over the course of the term. Well done girls – we are very proud of you both.

Following the success of the KS1 craft afternoon in the Autumn term, we are planning a Spring craft session for our KS2 families. It would be wonderful if you are able to attend the session on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April. Please save the date, if you are able to.

## 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](http://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**R RELIABLE** You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true.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](http://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	93.8%
Year 3+4	100.0%
Year 5+6	94.7%



# NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

## EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

### NURSERY

This week in Nursery, we have been learning about Jacques Cousteau, who was a French underwater explorer. He helped to invent diving and scuba diving devices. The children have enjoyed putting on goggles and seeing what they could see under the water like Jacques Cousteau. The children have also made seahorses, sharks and jellyfish. We learnt about the life cycle of a turtle and made repeating patterns with shells and stones.

### RECEPTION

Reception have really enjoyed our story of the week, 'Dinosaurs Love Underpants'. The children have enjoyed putting underpants on our own dinosaurs in the provision, and acting out the story. They have written words/a sentence, based on the story, and answered questions about it too.

For maths this week, the children have been looking at finding one more and one less than numbers 1-5. The children have learnt how to use a number line to find one less/one more and also played a dice game on the topic.

In PSHE, the children talked about places that are special to them in school and why. They shared their special places with their peers and explained why that place is special to them. The children then painted a stone and made that stone special to them, so that we could create a calm, happy area in the classroom. We agreed as a class to place these stones in our reading area, as that is the most calming area for the children.

For our RE lesson, we read the Bible story, 'Jesus and the children'. The children learnt that Christians believe that children are special to Jesus and that children are good at having faith in things that are special to them. The children looked at some different Bibles and talked about what they liked about each one.





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What have we been up to?

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

This week, Year 1 and 2 have used their knowledge about acrostic poems to create some fantastic poems using rhyme and alliteration. As the children enjoyed learning all about these and creating their own, we have decided to enter a competition. **This has been set as homework.** In the children's homework book, you will see that the competition template has been attached where the children are to make their own acrostic poem about monsters. When poems are complete, we will enter them in a prize draw. Children have the opportunity for their work to be published in a book, and they could also have the opportunity to win some prizes!

In maths, Year 1 have continued to learn about numbers to 20, looking at greater than and less than as well as ordering numbers. Year 2 have learned all about dividing as sharing, multiplication and division fact families, as well as odd and even numbers.

During geography, we recapped the continents of the world and then found out all about the equator, and how countries nearer to the equator are hotter and those further away are colder.

Our new science topic, 'everyday materials', taught us about the properties of a range of materials, and how and why such materials are used for particular objects. We compared spoons that were made from different materials and discussed their properties and what each one would be used for.

This week, Year 1 and 2 have had their second session of music with Mr Elliot, who has been telling the children all about the ukulele instrument. The children were very excited to have a go of the ukulele instrument themselves!





# NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

## Y3/4 – Mr Frazer and Mrs Niven

Another fun week in Year 3 and 4 and we have been up to lots of new activities!

In music, we have been rewriting words to a rap song which we have learnt, about bullying.

In history, the children completed a role play of what it would be like living as a monk at Lindisfarne when the Vikings invaded for the first time.

We have been learning how to code in our IT lessons, using Purple Mash. The children are getting better at understanding 'if' statements.

Electricity is the topic of the term in science and we have now made our very own circuits, in order to make a lightbulb switch on.

Finally, we have had our first swimming lesson. The children did very well and received several compliments from the staff who said they listened, joined in and performed really well!

Well done Year 3 and 4 – keep it up!





# NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

## Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

This week, Year 5 and 6 have had immense fun beginning their first history lesson of World War II. To start the topic, we simply explored the contents of our WWII box, provided by Durham Learning Resources. Children thoroughly enjoyed trying on uniform and a police helmet, as well as looking at a rationing book, newspaper clippings and photographs of what life was like during the war.

Our dance lesson in PE this week was one of great enjoyment, with all children showing off their best dance moves to one another. The atmosphere was electric, with Ben (our PE coach) commenting on how fantastic the PE lesson was.

In writing, we have published our five-part story which needed to include a flashback – I have been overjoyed with the creativity I have seen in the children's writing, with the class being able to include ellipsis, adverbs and figurative language to bring their descriptions to life!





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Upcoming  
Events:

	Event
<b>JANUARY</b>	
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	WW2 Rationing Workshop for Years 5+6
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	SATs Information Meeting for Parents, 3:30 – 4:00pm
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Viking Workshop for Years 3+4
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Gymnastics Festival, Yrs 3+4
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	FOMS Valentine's Disco
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	School Breaks Up for Half Term
<b>MARCH</b>	
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Scholastic Book Fair in school (until Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Comic Relief Day
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	EYFS + KS1 Mother's Day Family Brunch
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Tennis/Raquets Festival – Yrs 3+4
<b>APRIL</b>	
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> - Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent's Evenings
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	KS2 Easter Crafts
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	School Breaks Up for Easter Holidays