



NEWSLETTER

21st March 2025

A message from our school leaders:

The sun has been shining this week, which has made way for lots of outdoor learning. The children have also been working very hard with their handwriting and it has been a joy to see so many children making improvements with their handwriting and presentation in books.

Thank you to everyone who has attended our Scholastic Book Fair this week. This is a great opportunity for children to browse new genres and choose their next read. The Book Fair will be open for the last time on Monday, after school.

Today, our wonderful cook, Lucinda, made a delicious Red Nose Day meal for the pupils. Lucinda always goes above and beyond at lunchtime for the children, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her for everything she does.

We are busy preparing for our very first EY and KS1 Family Brunch on Monday, where we will be also celebrating Mother's Day. We are looking to introduce further family events throughout the year. Watch this space, for more information.

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R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true.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	91.1%
Year 1+2	96.5%
Year 3+4	98.4%
Year 5+6	99.0%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

This week, we have been reading two story books, 'The Trouble with Grandad' and 'Planet Awesome'. The children absolutely loved, 'The Trouble with Grandad' and they have enjoyed exploring tomatoes by cutting them, smelling them and looking at them through a magnifying glass. The children also enjoyed making an enormous caterpillar, using words such as big, bigger and enormous. Phoebe enjoyed retelling the story several times!

After reading 'Planet Awesome' the children listened to a song about all the different planets; we looked and talked about the features of the different planets and then the children painted their own planet picture.

RECEPTION

Receptions focus text this week has been, 'Seed to Sunflower'. The children have learnt about the lifecycle of a sunflower, and how to look after it well so it grows nice and tall! Our class has been very enthusiastic about this topic and have shared how they grow things at home, in the garden and on the farm. In class, we have planted our own cress and the children will put their learning into action by looking after their seeds.

In maths, we have continued to look at number 10. This included number bonds to ten, using numicon and a ten frame.

The children have also made a class sunflower, where everyone cut out sunflower petals and stuck them to the same flower head to make one big sunflower. The children also told me a fact they know about sunflowers, and we wrote them on the petals. They have enjoyed painting sunflowers too while paying attention to detail.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

This week, Year 1/2 have been planning their own Superhero story. They have created their own character and thought of a beginning, middle and ending for their story.

In maths, Year 1 have continued to learn numbers up to 40. We have been looking at how many tens and ones are in the number and how we can compare them. Year 2 have completed a range of addition and subtraction word problems, as well as being introduced to money, and the different coins and notes we have.

In history, we have been learning about different monarchs. This week, we found out about Queen Victoria and what it was like during her reign. The children were shocked to learn that she only wore black after her husband had died.

Our art lessons also focus on our history theme; this week we have been learning how to draw portraits of Kings and Queens, using a range of drawing techniques.

Next week, we are looking forward to welcoming you into the school, on Monday, to join us for our Family Brunch - the children are very excited!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Mr Frazer and Mrs Niven

Another week sails past!

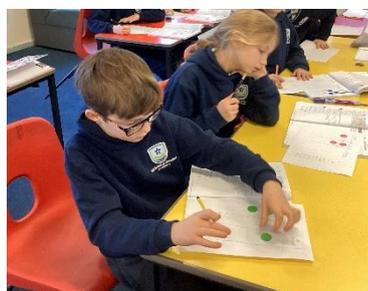
During English, the children have been going cat-mad this week. We haven't been able to put our class novel down! 'Varjak Paw' is a little kitten with lots to learn and we have been writing recounts, all about his dreams. We have had to leave the story on a huge cliffhanger..... who does Varjak meet when he returns home?

In geography this week, we have been learning lots about our local area and beyond, by looking at land use in cities and how this changes around the UK.

Last term, in RE, we studied how to live a good life, according to Jesus, and have now moved on to how a Muslim might lead a good life. We have looked into what motivates us to be good.

In maths, Year 3 have been continuing with learning the time. It would be great to see them practising the 24-hour time at home as they need to be doing conversions from 12-hour time (with am and pm) to just reading 24-hour clocks. Year 4 have started their unit on money and we will be looking at how we can use our decimal knowledge to find parts of an amount.

On Friday, we have had lots of fun taste-testing, in readiness for making a seasonal tart next week. If there are any new dietary requirements that we do not know about, please get in touch. 😊





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

What a wonderful time Year 5&6 have had this week; it really has been filled with joy, fun and laughter – likely exuberated from our writing lesson which encompassed a comedy show. Our class novel: *The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh*, has captivated the whole class as we follow the life of Billy who is just beginning Secondary School, but to make life more challenging – he has a stammer! Billy's favourite thing to do is tell jokes, and one day he'd like to be a stand-up comedian, but does he have the courage to do that in school? As this writing unit focuses on a diary entry, we decided to impersonate Billy for an hour and create our own comedy show to understand the character's feelings and emotions. The atmosphere in the classroom was electric as children erupted with laughter at each other's jokes. Well done Year 5 & 6 for such fantastic engagement!

In art this week, we have continued to analyse pieces of abstract artwork, this week focussing on the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky. The whole class thoroughly enjoyed identifying the different features of his art and making their own assumptions on what the artwork represented. Following this, children then created their own pieces of abstract art using lines and shapes, before using oil pastels to bring their art to life.

We continue to explore our polar regions in geography, with a highlight this week on global warming and climate change. We carried out our own research into what global warming is, what climate change is and how this is affecting our polar regions. Individually, children then created an information leaflet about this.





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming
Events:

	Event
MARCH	
Mon 24 th March	EYFS + KS1 Mother's Day Family Brunch, 9-10am
Fri 28 th March	Tennis/Racquets Festival – Yrs 3+4
APRIL	
w/c Mon 7 th April	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
Mon 23 rd June	Sports Day
JULY	
Tues 1 st July	NELT Summer Concert at The Glasshouse, Gateshead
Thurs 10 th + Fri 11 th July	Year 6 Transitions to Teesdale School
Wed 16 th July	FOMS All the Fun of the Fair
Fri 18 th July	School closes for the Summer Holiday