



NEWSLETTER

27th September 2024

A message from our school leaders:

It was wonderful to see our school buzzing with language and creativity this week as children celebrated European Day of Languages. In classes, teachers chose a European country to study, and children learnt about the culture and had the opportunity to speak some of the language too. Great work, everyone!

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Thank you to those who came to support our coffee afternoon on Wednesday this week. This charity means even more to us this year and listening to your stories, we have a lot of community links to the charity too. I'd also like to thank those who donated cakes and sweet treats for the event, all of the donations are very much appreciated.

As part of our charity work, a 20-mile charity walk 'Ullswater Way' for **Macmillan** is being undertaken by staff from both Middleton and Browney Academies. If you would like to donate for their efforts to this worthwhile cause, please go to their Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/browneymiddleton>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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 so 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R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true.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 in 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 report by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

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!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	97.5%
Year 1+2	89.5%
Year 3+4	94.2%
Year 5+6	99.0%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

This week our children have all been little 'superstars' as they learnt all about the star shape, from creating their own designs in the glittery mark-making tray, using the star cutters and yellow paint to print star shapes and using cotton buds to fill the paint shapes. They even made their own stained glass windows in the shape of stars! Of course this week's book has been, 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' and our children have really enjoyed singing and sequencing the story.

RECEPTION

Reception have had a fantastic week! In maths, the children have been learning to recognise which group of objects is bigger/smaller and which tower is taller/shorter. Much of the class have built fabulous towers during their free choice time and compared with classmates to see which one is taller!

In English, we have read the story, 'Funnybones'. The children have been very enthusiastic about learning about skeletons and they have enjoyed singing along to the bone song from the story.

We have made our very own apple crumble this week, using apples that have grown in our reception garden. The children picked, peeled and chopped the apples, ready for the crumble. We all had a try, and it was delicious!

In music, we listened to a variety of songs in different styles. We discussed what we like or didn't like about the song and identified different instruments.

We have also learnt about vets, what their job is and some daily tasks that they do.

In computing we used an iPad to create our own vets by dragging and dropping equipment into the space.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y1/2 – Mrs Garnett and Mrs Aislabie

We have had another busy week in Year 1 and 2. In English, we read a story about Mary Seacole, and completed a role play activity where some of the children acted as injured soldiers and some took the role of a nurse, bandaging up the soldiers' wounds. The children were very good at acting! As the children have been learning about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole, we compared the two, thinking about what they shared in common and what differences they had experienced.

During our PSHE, we were thinking about our rights and responsibilities. We discussed the rights and responsibilities that we have at home and at school. From this, we created a mind map showing all the responsibilities we have, these included bringing their reading books to school, being safe, brushing their teeth and tidying their room.

On Thursday, we celebrated European day of languages by studying France. We looked at where France is on the map and talked about the capital city; we focused on the Eiffel Tower and explained what it is and why it was built. The children then made a sun catcher displaying an Eiffel Tower shaped silhouette. Mrs Bissicks, our Senior Strategic Advisor, even joined our lesson and taught us how to speak French!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss Humpherson and Miss Spenceley

Year 3 and 4 have been doing lots of investigating this week.

In geography, we looked at how to identify mountains on a map using contour lines and grid references, they had so much fun spotting places they knew in our area! While in science, we have continued to look at how water can change state from solid to liquid, by investigating if the size of an ice lolly would effect how quickly it melted into liquid.

During maths lessons this week, both year groups have moved on to adding and using the column method.

The children have also been producing some lovely pieces of art; this week we focused on mixing and using harmonious colours.

They have been loving their music lessons too, learning to play the ukulele with Mr Elliott, and are already starting to learn how to play along to music.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

This week we have begun our second writing cycle, in which we have analysed the features of a formal letter, looked in depth at how to use formal language and applied conjunctive adverbs to our writing. We are using Michael Morpurgo's infamous, 'War Horse' as our text stimulus. By the end of next week, children will have written a formal letter to Albert's father, persuading him to keep Joey.

Our music lesson this week has been delivered by Durham Music Service, whereby children played percussion instruments to a rhythm. Everybody had great fun in the music lesson and we look forward to this service on a weekly basis.

In art, we used watercolours to paint poppies, using a selection of materials (cling film and salt) to create texture. We will be continuing to explore different techniques in art, before creating a Georgia O' Keefe inspired poppy at the end of the half-term.

In science this week, we explored how blood travels through the body, as well as making a 'blood smoothie' to represent the components of our blood. We used raspberries/strawberries to represent the red blood cells, white marshmallows to represent white blood cells, sprinkles to represent platelets and pineapple juice to represent the plasma.

On Thursday, we celebrated European Day of Languages. To mark the occasion each child in Y5&6 was given at least one country in Europe to research, using their geography skills to locate their country on a map, using an atlas. We also found out, what each country's flag looks like, traditional foods and interesting facts. Everybody in the class had great fun researching countries that they had never heard of before and were eager to find out more information.

Today, we took two teams (10 in total) to a Netball Competition at Teesdale School, as part of Education Enterprise Ltd. The children represented our school with fabulous behaviour, all playing really well together and showing great sportsmanship skills - Team 2 even came home with 2nd place!

WELL DONE TO ALL!





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Upcoming
Events:

	Event
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
Friday 18 th Oct	'Wear it Pink for Breast Cancer Now'
Monday 21 st Oct	Curling + Boccia Festival, Yrs 1+2
Wednesday 23 rd Oct	Harvest Festival – whole school to The Pathway, 1:15
Friday 25 th Oct	FOMS Halloween Disco
Friday 25 th Oct	School Breaks Up for Half Term
Monday 4 th Nov	School re-opens to all pupils
Monday 11 th Nov	Remembrance Day
Monday 2 nd Dec	Gymnastics Festival, Yrs 3+4
Tuesday 3 rd Dec	Phototronics in school for individual photos + sibling photos
Wednesday 11 th Dec	Pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' at The Hippodrome, D'ton
Wednesday 18 th Dec	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 20 th Dec	School breaks up for Christmas Holiday
Tuesday 7 th Jan	School re-opens to all pupils