



NEWSLETTER

12th June 2026

A message from our school leaders...

This week has been a busy and important one for our pupils, as Year 1 completed their Phonics Screening Check and Year 4 took part in the Multiplication Tables Check. We have been incredibly impressed by the hard work, focus, and determination shown by all pupils throughout their preparations and during the assessments themselves.

These skills play a vital role in supporting pupils as they move through school and beyond. Over recent years, we have seen significant progress in both phonics and multiplication fluency, and this strong foundation will continue to support pupils as they move through Key Stage 2.

We would also like to thank you for your continued support at home. Regular reading and consistent times-tables practice make a real difference. We encourage pupils to read as often as possible and to keep practising their multiplication facts on TT Rockstars.

Useful Online Safety Links

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

BE SMART ONLINE Childnet International

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R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true.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

Friends of Middleton School – FOMS

Reminders and Messages

1. Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
2. A reminder that we are a **'NUT FREE'** school.
3. **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.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

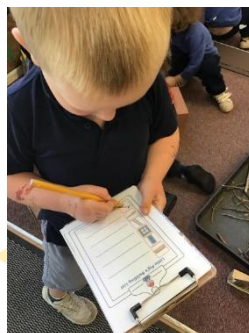
~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Rec/Yr 1	95.2%
Yr 2/3/4	94.4%
Yr 5/6	90.7%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



Nursery – Mrs Dobson

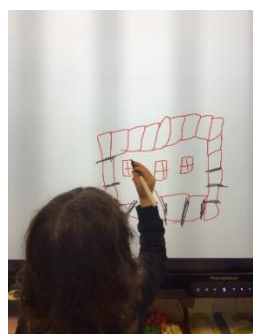
This week, in Nursery, we have been enjoying the traditional tale, *The Three Little Pigs*. The children have loved listening to the story and joining in with the repeated phrases, especially when the wolf came to “*huff and puff!*”

To bring the story to life, the children worked creatively to make their own houses using straw, sticks and bricks. They had great fun re-enacting the story with their models, taking turns to be the pigs and the wolf - this encouraged lots of imaginative play and storytelling. As part of our learning, we had some lovely discussions about what makes a good, strong house. The children shared their ideas and explored which materials would be best and which might not be as strong. It was wonderful to hear their thoughts and reasoning as they compared the different houses.

We also introduced some new **wondrous words** from the story: *heave*, *boiling*, *snout* and *brickyard*. The children enjoyed learning these new words and using them during play and conversations.

In our maths activities, the children practised ordering numbers to five. They developed their fine motor skills by threading around pictures of the pigs and their houses, carefully following the numbers in order.

It has been a fantastic week full of storytelling, creativity and learning. Well done everyone! 🐷





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What have we been up to?



YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Niven

Reception

Reception have had a lovely week exploring the story, *The Lighthouse Keeper's Rescue*. The children enjoyed designing and drawing their own lighthouses, learning what they are used for and why they are important. They also wrote a kind thank-you card, from the whale to Mr Grinling, showing great imagination and empathy.

In maths, Reception have been working on composition and decomposition of shapes, using different shapes to build pictures and patterns. They showed fantastic creativity and growing confidence in talking about the shapes they used.

Year 1

Year 1 have started planning their next narrative, inspired by, *Ollie and the Back-to-School Bear*. They revisited past-tense verbs to help them retell events clearly and confidently in their writing.

In maths, the children focused on place value, using tens and ones to understand and compare two-digit numbers. They practised explaining their thinking and using equipment to support their understanding. The class also completed their bright and lively James Rizzi-inspired street art, creating a colourful London cityscape filled with well-known landmarks. Their artwork is full of personality and detail.

In PSHE, Year 1 continued their topic *Changing Me*, thinking about how they have grown and changed from babies to toddlers to the children they are today. They shared thoughtful ideas and enjoyed reflecting on their own journeys.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr2/3/4 – Mrs Garnett, Mrs Aislabie and Miss Spenceley

This week, in English, we have been learning about apostrophes for possession, looking carefully at both singular and plural forms. The children then used this learning to add more detail to their own sentences for our class story, *Escape from Pompeii*. It has been wonderful to hear their imaginative ideas developing as they worked to improve their writing.



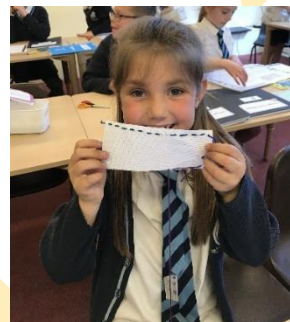
In maths, we have been recapping arithmetic and revisiting different methods to support our working out. This was excellent preparation for our end-of-year assessments, which we completed at the end of the week. The children showed fantastic focus and perseverance throughout.

During our history topic, we compared Roman architecture with that of the Celts. We found lots of similarities, but also many differences, particularly in the way the Romans built their buildings and lived their daily lives. The children enjoyed discussing how much more advanced Roman architecture and society were.

In PSHE, we continued our topic, *Changing Me*. We discussed what babies need to survive and grow, including love, care, food and sleep. The children then created their own photo frames, decorating them with pictures to show these important needs. They approached this task thoughtfully and creatively.

In Design Technology, we were very hands-on as we began practising our sewing technique in preparation for making our own pencil cases. The children discovered that sewing is harder than it looks, but they showed great determination practicing their running stitch and backwards stitch and kept trying their best.

Well done, everyone, for a super week of learning!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

It has been another exciting and successful week in Year 5 and 6!

Year 6 had a fantastic time celebrating with a well-deserved treat at Planet Leisure. The children thoroughly enjoyed playing Laser Tag, followed by a fun bowling session. The celebrations continued with a party lunch, where everyone had the chance to relax and enjoy time together. We are incredibly proud of all Year 6 pupils for their hard work, determination, and achievements throughout the SATs period — well done to you all!

Meanwhile, Year 5 have been busy starting a brand-new unit in Computing. The children have begun planning their own computer games, showing great creativity and enthusiasm as they develop their ideas. We are looking forward to seeing their projects come to life over the coming weeks.

In RE, we have been learning about Buddhism. This week, the children explored why Buddha is such an important figure and a source of refuge for many people. They also learned about the Three Jewels and what they represent, demonstrating thoughtful discussion and curiosity.

On Friday, the class impressed everyone at the athletics competition with their excellent sportsmanship. They showed great enthusiasm, resilience, and team spirit throughout the event, making us extremely proud.

Well done to everyone for another brilliant week!





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Upcoming
Events:

	Event
JUNE 2026	
Tues 16 th June	Phototronics – Class + Yr6 Friendship Photographs
Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th June	Healthy Week
Mon 22 nd June	Family Brunch for Father's Day, 9-10am
Wed 24 th June	Sports Day
Fri 26 th June	KS2 Football Competition at Staindrop Academy
Mon 29 th – Fri 3 rd July	Careers Week
Mon 29 th June	Rounders Festival – Yrs 5+6
JULY 2026	
Mon 6 th July	Great Athletes Visit
Wed 8 th July	NELT Athletics Festival, Gateshead Stadium
Thurs 9 th – Fri 10 th July	Staindrop Transition Days
Fri 10 th July	Teesdale Transition Day
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Fri 17 th July	School Closes for Summer Holidays