



NEWSLETTER

16th May 2025

A message from our school leaders:

A huge well done to our Year 6 children who worked incredibly hard this week during their SATs test. Tests ran Monday-Thursday, testing their knowledge in reading, grammar and maths. The children have really tried hard this week, and each pupil tried their best. As always, we are proud of their efforts.

Our choir is performing at The Glasshouse in Gateshead at the NELT Summer Performance in July. To raise funds for their costumes, the children will be selling ice pops after school next week at a cost of 50p each.

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) ~

NEW MEMBERS NEEDED URGENTLY

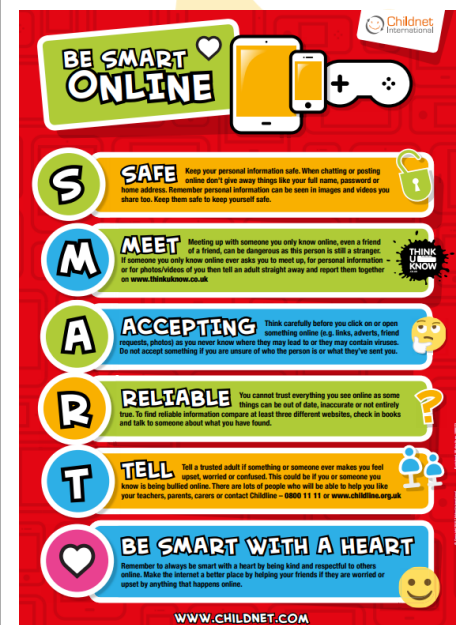
In July, three of our committee members will be 'retiring' as their children move on to secondary school. If you would like to see the Friends of Middleton School continue, to provide funding for extracurricular events and opportunities, we urgently need new members to come forward.

We have been a registered charity for almost 34 years, and we don't want to see it have to come to an end!

If you would be willing to join us please let the school office know.

Useful Online Safety Links

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



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	98.8%
Year 1+2	97.4%
Year 3+4	98.9%
Year 5+6	99.5%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

This week, in nursery, we have been reading the story, 'One Mole Digging a Hole'. The children have had lots of fun learning all about moles; where they live, what they eat and the life cycle of a mole. We have also looked at which other animals live underground. The children have loved making tunnels inside the classroom using blocks, and outside in the garden with a plastic tunnel. We have used multilink to measure different sized worms and used forks in the soil, pretending to dig tunnels. To end the week, we have made cheesy worms for the little moles in nursery.

RECEPTION

This week, our focus story has been, 'Giraffes can't Dance!'. We have read non-fiction texts about giraffes, to learn facts about them. The children have written sentences about giraffes and answered comprehension questions about our story of the week.

In maths, we have looked at spotting which doesn't belong in a group of shapes by counting the sides and corners. The children have also played a game where they spot how many cubes have been added to the pile and how many there are all together.

In PSHE, we talked about how we can help people who feel lonely, and the children shared some wonderful and very kind ideas.

The children have also used their knowledge of safari animals to compare their similarities and differences.

We have also spent some lovely time outdoors this week during sunny afternoons, working on our gross and fine motor skills.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

This week, in English, the children engaged with our text, "The Storm Whale," by writing diary entries from the perspective of a character. They thoughtfully incorporated first-person narratives, expressing their feelings with the use of conjunctions to enhance their writing. It is wonderful to see their creativity flourish.

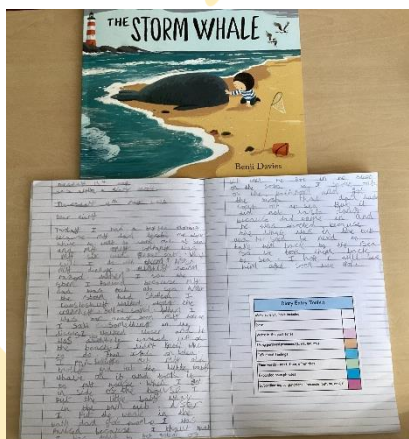
During our maths lessons, Year 1 pupils explored the concept of halves, developing their understanding of division, while Year 2 students concentrated on the properties of 3D shapes, enhancing their geometrical skills.

In geography, our class journeyed to Tulum in Mexico. The children located Tulum on the map and learned about its climate, traditional cuisine and local attire, broadening their understanding of diverse cultures.

As part of our science lessons, the students investigated what animals require for survival and examined various animals to discuss their distinctive habitats. They particularly enjoyed creating a fact file about lions, which fostered their research and presentation skills.

Following on from our flower sketches last week, the children demonstrated their creativity by crafting flowers using paper plates. The children then created a vibrant flower collage. The final products looked amazing!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss McDonnell and Mrs Niven

This week the children in Year 3 and 4 have completed their work on a formal, persuasive letter and “Wow”, there are some wonderful examples of exceptional work from the class. Very impressed! They have all zoomed through work on bar graphs and areas, working hard on their understanding of each aspect. Next week, they are moving onto fractions in Year 3 and angles in Year 4.

Following on from the class trip last Friday, the children were treated to a visit from the fabulous felt artist, Claire Priestley. The children really embraced the day and created some wonderful pieces of felt art that will be displayed at the Meadow Fest, on the 5th July 2025. This day is open to all families and sounds like there will be lots on to enjoy and see. We all came away very inspired this week after the session with Clare. Thank you to all of the children for their wonderful manners, alongside the fantastic effort they put into their felt art.

You can view Claire’s work online; website: [Home - Teesdale Felt](#), youtube: [Teesdale Felt - YouTube](#), as well as Instagram and Facebook, search for ‘teesdalefelt’.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

This week Year 6 took their end of Key Stage SATs – Mrs. Emery and I are both incredibly proud of their hard-work, dedication and resilience. To celebrate the end of SATs, the whole class had immense fun playing lots of games with the parachute, and on Friday, Year 6 enjoyed an ice cream treat!

In music, children were creating rap lyrics to a beat – there are definitely some musical superstars in the class!

In geography this week, children in Year 5 went on a litter picking hunt around the school to see what plastic waste they could find. Positively, there was very little plastic waste in our playground, however when they did find it, it was biscuit and sweet wrappers. Year 5's suggestion to the school is that children ensure they bin their wrappers or bring a healthy snack that does not have a wrapper.

Our art topic this term also links to the theme of sustainability, and this week the children explored environmental artists from around the world in preparation of creating our own environmental art.





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming
Events:

	Event
MAY	
Mon 19 th May	Yrs 3/4 Tri-Golf Festival at Barnard Castle Golf Club
Fri 23 rd May	Tri-Golf Comp for selected Yrs 3/4, at Barnard Castle Golf Club
Mon 26 th – Fri 30 th May	School Closed for Half Term
JUNE	
Mon 2 nd June	School Re-Opens to pupils
Fri 6 th June	Yrs 5/6 Athletics Comp at Bishop Barrington, B.A.
Mon 9 th June	KS2 Family Brunch for Father's Day, 9-10am
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
Fri 27 th June	Phototronics – Year 6 Leavers and Class Photos
Mon 30 th June	Yrs 5/6 rounders Fest at Teesdale Leisure Centre, B.C.
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