NEWSLETTER

9th October 2026

A message from our school leaders…

World Teachers' Day

Monday marked World Teachers' Day, a moment to recognise the dedication, passion and hard work of every member of staff here at Middleton. Our team consistently goes above and beyond to support our pupils, helping them achieve their best and grow into confident, capable young people. A heartfelt thank you to all staff for everything you do to make Middleton such a special place for our children.

Bike Safety Reminder

As we move into darker mornings and evenings, we would like to remind families of pupils who cycle to school to ensure they are travelling safely.

Pupils should have:

- **Reflective clothing**
- **Working front and rear lights**
- **A helmet**

We have received reports of some pupils riding unsafely. Please ensure your child is either escorted or is confident and safe riding independently. While we continue to teach road safety through Bikeability, it is essential that families reinforce these expectations at home.

Thank you for your support in keeping our pupils safe.

Online Safety

Following on from our recent online safety letter, we would like to remind families that school is continuing to monitor online activity closely and reinforce safe, responsible use of technology. We encourage families to talk regularly with children about staying safe online, managing screen time, and reporting anything that makes them feel uncomfortable.

If you would like additional guidance, please let us know. We are always happy to support.

Friends of Middleton School

HALLOWEEN DISCO

Friday 23rd October

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.

Useful Online Safety Links

- NSPCC
- UK Safer Internet Centre
- Childline



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Rec/Yr 1	**99.3%**
Yr 2/3/4	**96.0%**
Yr 5/6	**98.5%**

NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?





Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, in Nursery, we have had lots of fun exploring frogs and fish through songs, crafts and learning activities! We have been singing the number rhymes, '***Five Little Speckled Frogs'*** and '***1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive***'. As part of our learning, the children have been introduced to some new **Wondrous Words** including, ***speckled***, ***grub***, ***fin***, ***scales***, ***coral*** and ***shark***. The children enjoyed learning what these words mean and using them during our discussions and play. While learning about Five Little Speckled Frogs, the children used dabbers to add colourful speckles to their frog pictures. They also practised their scissor skills by carefully cutting out grubs to feed the frogs their favourite treat, spaghetti! We explored the fascinating life cycle of a frog, learning the key words **frogspawn**, **tadpole** and **frog**, and talked about how frogs grow and change.

Later in the week, we sang '1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive' and took part in a range of fish-themed activities. The children created beautiful collage fish, decorated fish with scales and used their counting skills to work out how many fish were needed in the pond. We also enjoyed finding out interesting facts about sharks and discussing the different creatures that live beneath the sea. It has been wonderful to see the children developing their counting, creative, fine motor and language skills whilst having so much fun learning through songs and hands-on activities.









NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?





YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Niven

Reception - have started to get into the spooky spirit through their class text, ***Funnybones***. The children have thoroughly enjoyed retelling the story, creating their own skeletons, and using bones within their play.
In maths, they have been learning about patterns, practising how to copy and continue a range of repeating patterns. We have also been very impressed with the fantastic language the children have been using in other areas of the classroom, particularly when building the houses and staircase from the story.

Year 1 - have been continuing their work on writing captions, focusing on remembering all the key features needed in a sentence, including capital letters and full stops.
In maths, they have begun their addition and subtraction topic and have been learning about number bonds to support their understanding of number.
In geography, the children have been exploring maps and learning how to identify places using a key.

We have had a wonderful week of learning and look forward to sharing more of the children's achievements with you next week.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr2/3/4 – Mrs Wharton, Mrs Emery and Mrs Aislabie

This week, the class have finished their writing on **Edmund Hillary**. The children worked hard to apply everything they had learned throughout the unit, and it was wonderful to see their progress. With some refinement and support, the Year 3 and 4 pupils developed a good understanding of how to structure a newspaper report, including the use of direct speech to bring their writing to life. Well done to everyone for their perseverance and effort.

In **Forest School**, the children used the ground as their canvas, creating pictures using only natural materials they could find around them. It was lovely to see their creativity flow as they carefully arranged leaves, sticks, stones and other treasures from nature to make detailed images. We were particularly impressed by the forests and animals they created, demonstrating both imagination and teamwork.

In geography, we explored the water cycle and learned about the important journey water takes as it moves through our environment. The children then linked this learning to the journey of a river, developing their understanding of how rivers are formed and sustained.

In art, the class took inspiration from **Andy Warhol** and his distinctive style of printmaking. The children created their own vibrant prints, experimenting with contrasting colours to make their designs stand out. The results were bold, eye-catching and full of personality.







NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Garnett and Miss Spenceley

This week, the children have enjoyed a fantastic range of exciting and engaging learning experiences across the curriculum!

In English, we have continued reading ***War Horse*** and planned persuasive letters to convince the army to allow Albert to go to war with his beloved horse. The children developed a range of convincing arguments, making effective use of formal and emotive language, fronted adverbials and modal verbs.

In maths, our Year 5 children have been comparing and ordering numbers up to 1,000,000, while Year 6 have been exploring common factors and multiples, developing their mathematical understanding and problem-solving skills.

During Forest School, the children learnt how to tie a variety of knots using rope. These new skills will provide a valuable foundation for future outdoor learning activities.

In PSHE, we explored Maslow's hierarchy of needs, discussing the different needs we all have and considering the important distinction between wants and needs.

To round off the week, Miss Spenceley led an exciting science investigation exploring the different components that make up our blood. The children learnt about plasma, red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets, using their scientific vocabulary to identify and understand the role of each component. To bring their learning to life, they created their own blood-inspired smoothies using a variety of ingredients to represent the different parts of blood. The best part? They got to drink their creations! However, the taste proved a little less popular with some than others!

Well done to all the children for their enthusiasm, curiosity and hard work throughout another busy week of learning!






NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events:

	Event
OCTOBER 2026	
Tues 13th Oct	Kurling + Boccia Festivel, Yrs 1+2 – held in school
Fri 16th Oct	Football 'World Cup' Competition – Staindrop Academy
Thurs 22nd Oct	Harvest Festival Celebration, 9.30am – The Pathway, Middleton
Fri 23rd Oct	FOMS – Halloween Disco
Fri 23rd Oct	School Breaks up for Half Term Holiday
NOVEMBER 2026	
Mon 9th Nov	Pupils Return to School
Mon 9th Nov	Bikeability – Level 1 for Years 4 and 5
Tues 10th–Thurs 12th Nov	Bikeability – Level 2 for Year 5
Mon 16th Nov	Odd Socks Day
Fri 27th Nov	Remembrance Day
Mon 30th Nov	Phototronics in School – Individual + Sibling Photographs
DECEMBER 2026	
Fri 4th Dec	Panto @ The Georgian Theatre, Richmond
Fri 18th Dec	School Breaks up for Christmas Holiday