



NEWSLETTER

5th June 2026

A message from our school leaders...

What an incredible day we had yesterday with our Year 5 pupils visiting Edinburgh! We travelled by train to take in some of the city's key sights. The children took part in an engaging workshop at Edinburgh Castle and learned so much about Scotland's history during our visit to the Museum of Scotland.

We ended the day with a beautiful three-course meal together, before heading back home on the train. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience culture, history, and city life.

A reminder to all families: we encourage pupils to drink water regularly throughout the day. Juice is not permitted in water bottles - these should contain water only.

We would also like to remind families that the correct uniform should be worn for both school and PE. Make-up, nail varnish, and jewellery are not permitted. Children are, however, allowed to wear a watch if they wish.

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R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true.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 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	100.0%
Yr 2/3/4	98.6%
Yr 5/6	95.4%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, in Nursery, we have been enjoying the familiar and much-loved story, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. The children have shown great enthusiasm as they listened to the story, joined in with repeated phrases, and explored the characters through a variety of fun activities.

To support our learning, we have been exploring **size**, by sorting objects into different groups and comparing them. The children enjoyed talking about big, medium and small, and used this knowledge when making their own bears with playdough in different sizes. It was wonderful to see their creativity and understanding develop through hands-on play.

Our home corner was transformed into the **Three Bears' cottage**, which the children absolutely loved! They enjoyed acting out the story, taking turns to be Goldilocks and the bears, and retelling the events in their own words. This imaginative play has been a fantastic way to develop language, confidence and storytelling skills.

We have also been learning some new **wondrous words** this week:

Cottage – We talked about different types of houses and what makes a cottage special.

Crept – The children had lots of fun practising creeping quietly around the nursery, just like Goldilocks.

Peeked – We enjoyed games where the children peeked around corners, building excitement and curiosity.

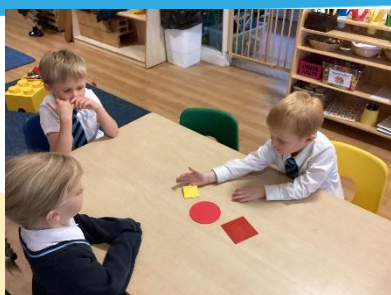
Delicious – The children made their own delicious porridge, just like in the story, and had the opportunity to taste it too!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Niven

Reception - Reception have been very busy this week learning about lighthouses, as part of our, '*Oh We Do Like to Be Beside the Seaside*' theme.

We began the week by reading, *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. They took part in a range of exciting activities linked to the story, including making lists of Mr Grinling's lunch and discussing the different foods he might enjoy. To finish the week, the children had great fun making their own sandwiches and were very proud of their creations.

In maths, Reception have been exploring shapes. They have worked hard to identify and explain which shapes do not belong in a group and have enjoyed rotating shapes to create their own pictures. The children have shown excellent mathematical thinking and have become much more confident when talking about the properties of different shapes.

Year 1 - Year 1 had a very exciting week and thoroughly enjoyed their visit to **Beamish Museum**. During their visit, the children experienced what life was like for children in a Victorian classroom and learned about how schools have changed over time. They represented our school brilliantly and showed great enthusiasm throughout the day.

To end the week, the children learned about **Samuel Wilderspin**, the educational pioneer who helped transform schools by introducing more play and making them happier places for children to learn. The class were fascinated by his ideas and very grateful for the positive changes he brought to education. In maths, Year 1 have continued developing their understanding of place value. They have been exploring how numbers are made up and recognising why place value is such an important part of number knowledge. The children have worked hard and are becoming increasingly confident in their understanding of numbers.

Well done to all of our Reception and Year 1 children for another fantastic week of learning!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

This week, the children have been incredibly busy practising their multiplication facts in readiness for the Year 4 check. They have worked so hard and have made amazing progress - well done to everyone for their focus and determination!

In English, we read the exciting story, *Escape from Pompeii*. We explored a range of figurative language to help us describe the setting in vivid detail, as we prepare to create our own three-part story.

In maths, Year 2 have been focusing on fractions, while Year 3 and 4 have been working on time. Alongside this, we have been recapping arithmetic questions, including addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, to make sure our strategies are firmly embedded.

During our science lesson, we continued our learning about Forces and Magnets. The children were intrigued by the poles on a magnet and the key words attract and repel. They were challenged to see which sides of two magnets would repel and which would attract. The class then really enjoyed trying to make one of the magnets float in the air!

During DT, the children were introduced to their new topic, *Sewing*. In the coming weeks the children will be designing and sewing a pencil case. To begin, they explored a range of designs to give them inspiration for their case - with some examples from staff members.

In PSHE, we moved on to our topic *Changing Me*. We talked about how humans change from a baby to a child and then an adult, as well as the changes that happen at each stage. The children shared lots of thoughtful ideas about what babies need from their parents and why. This gave Billy a lovely opportunity to come to the front and tell us all about his new baby sister, and we even had the chance to look at some pictures of her.



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

We have had another busy and productive week in Year 5/6!

In English, the children have been working extremely hard to complete their Tudor topic from previous learning. They have produced their own non-chronological reports, using their knowledge and research about the Tudors to support their writing. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and organisation skills develop, and the finished pieces are something they should be very proud of.

In RE, we have begun our new unit on Buddhism. This week, the children explored how differences can be celebrated. They showed great maturity, respect, and thoughtfulness during discussions, and it was fantastic to hear them sharing ideas and listening carefully to one another.

In PE, we have moved on to athletics. The children have been enjoying a range of fun activities and games to develop their hopping, skipping, and jumping skills. There has been lots of enthusiasm and great effort from everyone!

A special highlight this week was our Year 5 trip to Edinburgh on Thursday. The children had a fantastic time exploring Edinburgh Castle and learning more about its history. They also enjoyed a lovely meal together at The Botanist, making it a memorable day for all.



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Upcoming
Events:

	Event
JUNE 2026	
Tues 9 th June	Yr6 – Post SATs Trip
Fri 12 th June	Athletics Competition, Bishop Auckland – Yrs 5+6
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