



NEWSLETTER

6th November 2025

A message from our school leaders

Welcome back after our Half Term holiday, we hope you all had time to relax and recharge before the busy run up to Christmas! As you will all be aware, the village chrysanthemum show took place last Saturday, where our children's artwork and writing were judged. There were lots of smiling faces this morning during our celebration assembly when the winners were awarded their prizes. Well done to all the children!

Each class has been busy this week making a wreath, which will be placed on the war memorial on Remembrance Day. Poppy items are still available to purchase from the school office, where all funds go to The Royal British Legion.

This week, our football squad attended their first league match at Bishop Auckland. They all worked extremely well as a team, showing great sportsmanship and teamwork. Further matches will be played over the coming weeks. Well done team!

The School Council have organised a Bake-Off Competition and Sale – please see Class Dojo for further information on how to enter. Monies raised from the cake sale will be donated to Children in Need.

Reminders and Messages

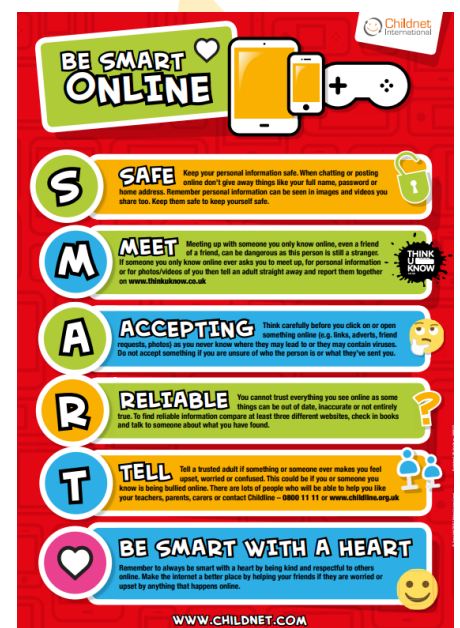
- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- A reminder that we are a **'NUT FREE'** school.
- **POLITE REMINDER:** We are unable to read or answer messages which are sent through Class Dojo. If you need to contact teachers, please telephone or make an appointment at the office.

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!

Useful Online Safety Links

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



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Rec/Yr 1	97.0%
Yr 2/3/4	97.2%
Yr 5/6	95.6%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, the children have been learning all about the Arctic! We've explored the unique environment, discovered which animals call it home - like polar bears and Arctic foxes, and talked about the chilly weather they experience. The children were fascinated by the icy landscapes and enjoyed engaging in sensory play that mimicked snowy conditions.

To celebrate Bonfire Night safely, we talked about how to stay safe around fireworks and bonfires. The children made their own sparklers using rice and pasta. We also created vibrant firework pictures using paint and glitter. In our home corner, we set up a pretend bonfire where the children toasted marshmallows and shared stories – bringing warmth and imagination to the classroom!

As part of our learning about Remembrance Day, the children worked together to create a beautiful poppy wreath. We talked about the importance of remembering and honouring those who have served, and the children showed great care and respect during this activity.





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What have we been up to?

YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson, Miss Anderson and Mrs Niven

Reception have launched into their new transport topic, 'Are We Nearly There Yet?' with great enthusiasm! Inspired by the book *Emergency!*, the children have been exploring different types of emergency transport and the incredible people who help us. The role play area has been buzzing with excitement as children dress up as firefighters, paramedics, and police officers—bringing their learning to life through imaginative play.

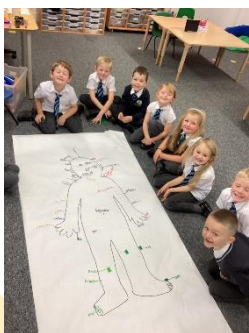
In maths, Reception have been working with numbers up to 5, practising matching and beginning to subitise—recognising quantities without counting. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they explore numbers in fun and engaging ways.

Year 1 have been busy bees this week! In English, they've been learning all about proper nouns and how these special words need capital letters. From names of people to places and days of the week, the children are becoming grammar experts!

In maths, the focus has been on 3D shapes. The children have enjoyed sorting them into groups and discussing their properties—thinking about edges, faces, and corners.

In art, Year 1 have been mixing primary colours to create secondary colours, discovering how red and blue make purple, and yellow and blue make green. Their colourful creations are brightening up our classroom walls!

In science, we're continuing our topic, 'Animals Including Humans' - with a focus on humans. The children had great fun naming and identifying different body parts, setting the stage for deeper learning about the human body.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

We've had a lovely week back filled with exciting learning and activities!

In English, we have introduced our new text, *The Iron Man*. The children have been captivated by the story and have focused on his character description, using similes to vividly bring him to life in their writing. It's been wonderful to see their creativity unfold!

In maths, Year 2 have been working diligently on number bonds and fact families, while Year 3 and 4 have made impressive progress by adding 1's, 10's, and 100's.

Our new science topic has taken us on a journey into the world of rocks. The children eagerly used magnifying glasses to examine a variety of rocks, learning to identify them as igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic. This hands-on approach has made the learning experience even more enjoyable!

In P.S.H.E. we've been celebrating our differences and discussing how unique each of our families are. It's heartwarming to see the children embracing diversity!

Lastly, the children had an exuberant music lesson with Mr. Waite, learning how to play chords on the ukulele, and they even began to sing some Christmas songs!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

We hope everyone had a restful half-term break and is ready for another exciting few weeks of learning and creativity!

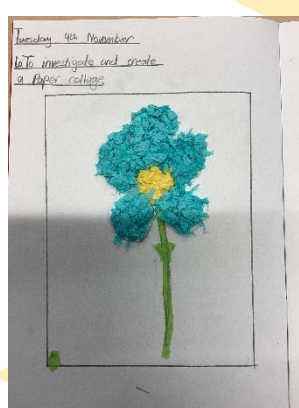
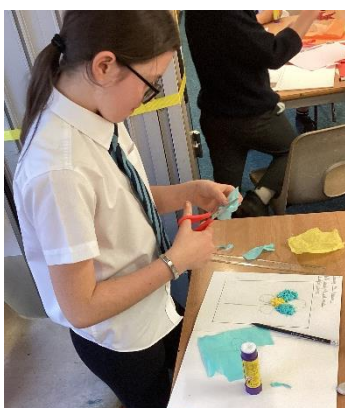
We've launched our new writing unit with a captivating video stimulus called *The Alchemist's Letter*. This magical tale is helping us explore narrative structure, character development, and descriptive language—all in preparation for writing our own imaginative stories. We can't wait to see where our creativity takes us!

Our class novel this half term is *Percy Jackson and The Lightning Thief*, and we are absolutely enthralled! The blend of mythology and adventure has sparked brilliant discussions and predictions. It's a fantastic way to deepen our comprehension skills while enjoying a gripping story.

Our new topic is *Ancient Greece*, and we've already begun exploring the timeline of this fascinating civilisation. From the birth of democracy to epic battles and mythical tales, there's so much to uncover. This topic links beautifully with our art lessons too!

Gymnastics has begun! We're learning to control our movements, balance, and perform sequences with increasing confidence. The children are showing great enthusiasm and teamwork in every session.

Yes, it's that time of year already—Christmas songs have made their joyful return! We've started rehearsing festive favourites and are looking forward to sharing them with you in the coming weeks.





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Upcoming
Events:

	Event
NOVEMBER	
Wed 12 th Nov	Football League, King James Academy
Fri 14 th Nov	Children in Need Bake-Off and Cake Sale
Wed 19 th Nov	Football League, King James Academy
Wed 26 th Nov	Football League, King James Academy
DECEMBER	
Tues 2 nd Dec	School Individual Photographs, by Phototronics
Mon 8 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Carols FOMS Movie Night
Wed 10 th Dec	Pantomime at The Hippodrome, Darlington
Friday 12 th Dec	Nativity – Nursery, Reception and Year 1
Mon 15 th Dec	Christmas Crafts, a.m. – parents welcome
Wed 17 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas School Dinner School Choir at Middleton Luncheon Club