NEWSLETTER

23rd October 2026

A message from our school leaders…

At the end of our first half term, I would like to start by thanking our pupils for their wonderful effort over the last seven weeks. There is a real buzz around school regarding the improvements in handwriting, which can be seen across all classes. Pride in presentation sets the foundation for producing great pieces of work, and it has been wonderful to see the progress children are making.

A highlight of this week was our **Harvest Festival Celebration** at The Pathway yesterday. It was lovely to see so many of you supporting our school and enjoying the celebrations. Thank you once again for your food donations, they are very much appreciated and will go a long way in supporting local families within our community.

We ended the term with a brilliant **Halloween Disco** filled with fun, games and lots of spooky characters. A huge thank you to our **Friends of Middleton School** for their superb efforts and for making the event such a fantastic way to finish the half term. We are very grateful for your continued support.

We hope you all have a wonderful and restful half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for an exciting second half of the autumn term. 🎃🍂

Friends of Middleton School

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	**97.2%**
Yr 2/3/4	**97.8%**
Yr 5/6	**99.0%**

NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?





Nursery – Mrs Dobson

What a wonderful week we have had in Nursery!

Our focus this week has been the nursery rhyme, '***Incy, Wincy Spider***' - the children thoroughly enjoyed singing this rhyme and joining in with the actions. We introduced some new **Wondrous Words** including ***weather***, ***waterproof***, and ***spout***, and the children have been working hard to use these words during their play and learning.

As part of our theme, the children explored different creative activities: using their fingers to create spider webs and using tubes to make fantastic spider prints. We also enjoyed going on a spider hunt outside, carefully searching for spiders in our outdoor environment. The children were fascinated as we learnt some interesting facts about spiders and had great fun drawing their own spider pictures.

In our role-play area, the home corner was transformed into a Halloween house. The children loved dressing up, using their imaginations, and engaging in lots of imaginative play with their friends.

We were also very proud to take part in the **Harvest Festival Celebration** at The Pathway Church. The children represented the nursery beautifully and enjoyed being part of this special community celebration.

It has been a busy and exciting week full of learning, creativity, and fun.






NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?





YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Niven

The children have had a fantastic week and have thoroughly enjoyed all the Halloween festivities before breaking up for the half-term holiday.

In English, Reception have been reading ***Meg and Mog*** and have been practising their phonics by writing CVC words linked to the characters, such as hat and cat. Year 1 have continued to develop their writing skills by creating simple sentences about the characters and events in the story.

Reception have also enjoyed exploring potion making and taking part in a range of creative Halloween-themed activities. They used different art techniques to create spooky pictures, including paint blowing to make ghosts and painting over wax crayon to reveal hidden patterns and images.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the **Halloween Disco**, where they had lots of fun dancing with their friends and taking part in party games.

We hope you all have a wonderful and relaxing half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back after the holiday. Happy Halloween! 🎃👻






NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

It has been a busy and exciting week in class as we reached the end of our art unit, *The Science of Colour*. The children explored harmonious colours and learned about the difference between warm and cool colours. Using their new knowledge, they created their own beautiful paintings, carefully selecting colours to achieve different effects. We were incredibly impressed with their creativity and the way they applied the techniques they had learned throughout the unit.

In Forest School, the children fully embraced the Halloween spirit. They had great fun using natural materials to create magical wands and designing spider webs with conkers as the spiders. It was wonderful to see their imaginations at work and the enthusiasm they showed while exploring the outdoors.

We were also delighted to sing at The Pathway for our Harvest Festival Celebration. The children performed brilliantly and represented the school wonderfully. We hope that everyone who attended enjoyed the performance as much as the children enjoyed taking part in it.

On Friday, we rounded off the half-term with our Halloween Disco. The children had a fantastic time dancing, playing games and showing off their spooky costumes. It was a wonderful way to celebrate all of their hard work this half-term and create some lasting memories with friends.

We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming the children back for another exciting half-term.







NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Garnett and Miss Spenceley

Year 5/6 have had a wonderful final week of the Autumn 1 term, and what a busy and exciting half-term it has been!

We have been busy rehearsing for our **Harvest Festival**, and all the children did a fantastic job. They spoke clearly and confidently and sang beautifully. We are incredibly proud of the effort, enthusiasm and teamwork they showed in preparing for the celebration.

As part of our learning during **Black History Month**, we explored the life of Sir Mo Farah, learning about his journey, the adversity he has overcome and how he achieved success through determination, resilience and hard work. The children created thoughtful posters celebrating his achievements and highlighting how he has inspired and made a positive contribution to our communities. We were impressed by the children's reflections on the importance of perseverance and never giving up on your dreams.

On Wednesday, our Year 6 children attended a **Tag Rugby Tournament** as part of their Friday coaching sessions with Barnard Castle Rugby Club. The children were fantastic, demonstrating great teamwork, skill and sportsmanship. Well done to everyone who took part!

Our budding entrepreneurs, the **Middleton Motivators**, have also been busy making chocolate apples to sell as part of our business venture. The children worked incredibly hard and managed to sell out! They will let you all know in due course how much profit they have made. Keep an eye out for more exciting business ideas in the near future!

In preparation for **the Village Chrysanthemum Show**, the children carefully copied the poem, ***In Flanders Fields*** in their neatest handwriting and created beautiful poppy drawings using pastels. They took great pride in completing their entries, and it was lovely to see the care and effort they put into their work.

To finish off the week, the children dressed up in some wonderfully scary costumes for our **Halloween Disco**! They made a fantastic effort with their outfits and had lots of fun celebrating together. Well done, everyone!

We have certainly packed a lot into our first half-term, and the children should be incredibly proud of all they have achieved. Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful, well-deserved half-term break, everyone! We look forward to welcoming the children back for another exciting term of learning and new opportunities.





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events:

	Event
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
Wed 18th Nov	Whole School Trip (FOMS) – Auckland Project
Mon 23rd Nov	Yrs 5+6 and KS2 School Council - Trip to Arches Hall, Kynren
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

Middleton-in-Teesdale School Council

*A huge thank you to everyone who entered our **Pumpkin Carving Competition**. We were amazed by the fantastic entries and the creativity shown by all who took part. There were some truly spectacular efforts, making it very difficult to choose the winners! From spooky faces to clever designs, every pumpkin was unique. Thank you for taking part and helping to make the competition such a great success.* ***Well done to everyone involved!***







