



NEWSLETTER

19th June 2026

A message from our school leaders...

As highlighted in recent media coverage, there have been several tragic drowning incidents during the recent period of warm weather. This week, we educated the pupils on drowning prevention by promoting these important messages from The Royal Life Saving Society UK [Download the Drowning Prevention Week 2026 Resources | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#). Further information and resources can also be found via RoSPA's water safety guidance for families and communities. [RoSPA- Summer water safety tips | RoSPA's essential guide for the public](#). We encourage parents to reinforce these important messages particularly before the summer break.

Sports Day Reminder

We are looking forward to our whole-school Sports Day next week on Wednesday 24th June, starting at 1:00pm. We warmly welcome families to come along and spectate. Please enter through the side gates that lead directly onto the field. For safety reasons, we kindly ask that no one crosses the track to access children during the event. On the day, all children should come to school wearing the correct PE kit, with no jewellery, long hair tied back and a water bottle. FOMS will be selling snacks and drinks if you would like to purchase refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

Useful Online Safety Links

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



Friends of Middleton School – FOMS

SPORTS DAY

Providing refreshments, available to purchase on the school playing field.

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	96.0%
Yr 2/3/4	95.8%
Yr 5/6	94.0%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, in Nursery, we have been enjoying the traditional tale, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. The children have really loved listening to the story and joining in with the repeated phrases. To bring the story to life, we worked together outside to build our own bridges, which the children then used to retell the story in their own creative ways. It has been wonderful to see their imagination and storytelling skills developing.

As part of our learning, we have been exploring some new **wondrous words** from the story. These included: **thistles**, **mountains**, **trotted**, and **shadows**. The children have been practicing using these words in their play and conversations.

In maths, we have been matching numbered goats to Numicon, helping the children to strengthen their understanding of numbers in a fun and practical way.

We have also been busy creating special Father's Day cards, and the children took great pride in making these for someone special in their lives.

Additionally, we took part in Drowning Prevention Week, where we learnt about how to stay safe near water. The children practised lying on their backs as if they were floating and calling out for help. We discussed the importance of ringing 999 in an emergency and talked about hidden dangers, such as currents under the water.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Niven

Reception

This week, Reception have been enjoying the story, *Commotion in the Ocean*. They have been learning about different sea creatures, including jellyfish, turtles and crabs, and have loved using their new vocabulary to create sentences and role-play underwater adventures.

The children have also spent lots of time in the wet sand area, where they have enthusiastically cleaned shells and explored their shapes and textures. In maths, Reception have begun their learning on grouping and sharing, using practical resources to build early understanding.

Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about money, focusing on recognising coins and understanding their value. In English, they have continued practising the past tense and using and to join sentences in their writing.

In science, the children have been exploring trees, identifying whether leaves came from evergreen or deciduous trees. They had great fun comparing shapes, colours and textures during their investigations.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

This week, in English, we have begun writing our own version of, *Escape from Pompeii*. To begin with, we have focused on the first part of the story, setting the scene and introducing the characters. The children have used some brilliant, expanded noun phrases and figurative language to make their writing exciting and engaging. It has been wonderful to see such thoughtful descriptions taking shape.

In maths, Year 3/4 have been working on time, particularly converting the number of hours in days and weeks. They have shown a great understanding of how time links together and have been applying their knowledge carefully. Year 2 have been learning how to find $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ of numbers, building their confidence with sharing and partitioning amounts.

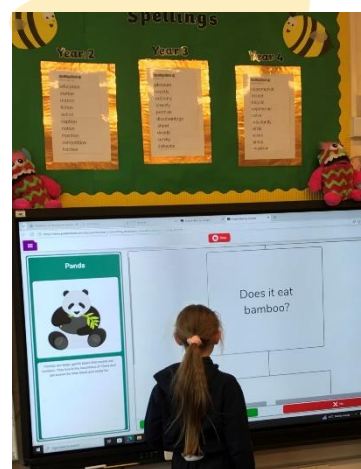
During PSHE, we continued with our topic, *Changing Me*. We talked about how a baby grows inside the mother's womb and how it gets all the nutrients it needs to grow from the mother.

In P.E., we have been practising our sports day events in preparation for next week. There has been lots of energy, teamwork and determination, and the children are looking forward to taking part.

In computing, the children continued to learn about branching data bases, answering a range of questions before creating their own.

To celebrate Father's Day, the children showed their creativity by making a lovely card. They put great care and effort into their design.

At the end of the week, we continued developing our sewing skills in Design Technology. The children have worked hard to improve their technique and have shown real perseverance as they have practised threading, stitching and joining materials carefully.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

This week, Years 5 and 6 have begun their new writing unit, where they will be creating non-chronological reports about mythical creatures. They have been learning how to use semi-colons correctly and have already written informative pieces about unicorns and griffins.

In computing, the children have continued designing their own computer games. They have been developing their creations by adding floors, walls and ceilings, helping to establish a clear theme for their games.

In RE, as part of our Buddhism unit, we explored the Five Precepts and discussed why these guidelines are important for Buddhists to follow in their daily lives.

This week is also Drowning Prevention Week. We have been learning how to stay safe around water and what to do in an emergency. The children now know to float, throw an object to help, shout for assistance, and call 999, asking for the Fire Brigade or Coastguard if needed.



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Upcoming
Events:

	Event
JUNE 2026	
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	
Wed 1 st July	Trip to Houses of Parliament, London
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