



NEWSLETTER

26th September 2025

A message from our school leaders:

At Middleton-in-Teesdale Academy, we are passionate about fostering a love of reading in all our pupils. To support this, we are inviting parents and carers who hold a current **DBS certificate** to volunteer and help with reading sessions across the school.

Whether it's listening to children read, supporting small groups, or helping in the library, your time and enthusiasm can make a real difference. Reading support takes place during the school day, and we are happy to work around your availability.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the school office to express your interest. We will arrange a short induction and discuss how you can get involved.

Well done to our Cross Country and Basketball teams for taking part in the festivals today. The children had a wonderful time, displaying excellent behaviour throughout the festival. Well done!



~ Friends of Middleton School (FOMS) ~

NEW MEMBERS NEEDED URGENTLY

In July, three of our committee members 'retired' as their children moved on to secondary school. If you would like to see the Friends of Middleton School continue, to provide funding for extracurricular events and opportunities, we urgently need new members to come forward.

We have been a registered charity for almost 34 years, and we don't want to see it have to come to an end!

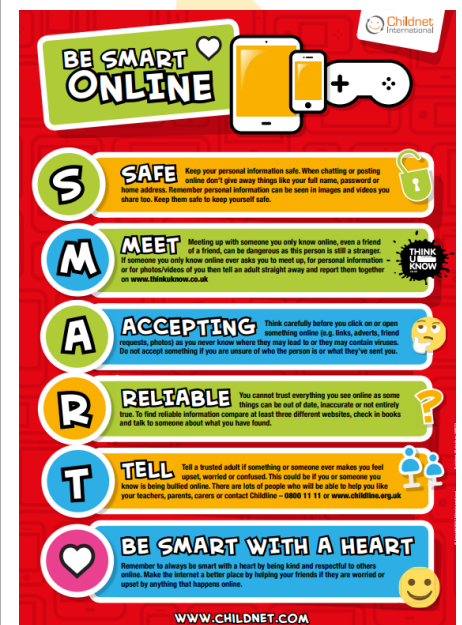
[If you would be willing to join us, please let the school office know.](#)

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	97.0%
Yr 2/3/4	97.7%
Yr 5/6	95.6%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



Nursery – Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

This week in Nursery, we've been singing and learning all about *Old MacDonald had a Farm!*

Our Wondrous Words have been: **Sty, Farm, Coop, Field** and **Pen**.

The children have explored where different animals live – for example, pigs in the sty and cows in the field. They have also had lots of fun with farm-themed activities:

- Investigated animal footprints using paint
- Matched mother animals to their babies
- Washed toy farm animals
- Completed farm animal jigsaws
- Played with the farm set

To end the week, we celebrated **European Day of Languages**, learning interesting facts about France and tasted some French food - we even listened to *Old MacDonald*, sung in French!

It's been a busy and exciting week, full of learning through play!





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What have we been up to?



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

This week, the children had a fantastic time celebrating European Day of Languages! They enthusiastically practised saying "Hello" in Italian ("Ciao!"), tasted some delicious Italian pizza and proudly created their own Italian flags.

Reception

In literacy, Reception continued exploring the lovely story, *Perfectly Norman*. The children used their Wonderous Words to describe how Norman felt about having wings—thinking deeply about his emotions and growing confidence.

In maths, they had fun making patterns using different objects, and began matching quantities to numbers, laying strong foundations for their number work.

Year 1

Year 1 have been exploring their place in the world in geography. They learned about where we are on the globe and started using compasses to understand direction—a great introduction to map skills! In maths, the children have begun to partition numbers, helping them prepare for future work on addition and subtraction.

In science, they explored the similarities and differences between animals, building their observation and comparison skills.

The children have also enjoyed logging into their PurpleMash accounts, becoming more confident in navigating the website and exploring its fun and educational activities.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

What a busy and exciting week we have had! This week, the children have been diligently working on writing their own descriptive cave settings. They've been using expanded noun phrases, a rich range of vocabulary, and conjunctions to enhance their sentences. It's wonderful to see their creativity flow!

In maths, we've been focusing on counting in various intervals, including hundreds, thousands, and tens of thousands. The children are becoming quite adept at this, and it's fantastic to witness their growing confidence in number work.

As part of our history topic on the Stone Age, we delved into the evolution of houses. The children enthusiastically embraced the hands-on aspect of our learning, by building their very own models using clay, string, and small sticks. The results were impressive and showcased their imaginative designs!

To top off the week, we celebrated the European Day of Languages. We explored Germany, learning about their language, numbers, famous buildings, and, best of all, their delightful cuisine. The pupils even had the chance to taste some German sweets—who knew Haribos were from Germany? 😊





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

This week, we've been diving into the world of non-chronological reports. We have explored the key features that make this text type so effective – from clear subheadings and factual language to technical vocabulary and labelled diagrams. We also began researching for our own reports using an exciting topic: The Eden Project. The children have been fascinated by the incredible biomes and sustainability projects based in Cornwall and have been gathering facts ready to write their own detailed reports next week.

In geography, we continued our study of biomes. The children carried out independent research on different global biomes – from deserts and rainforests. Their knowledge will come in handy next week when we begin creating our own miniature biome in a shoebox! We can't wait to see the creativity and understanding come to life in 3D form.

Our DT focus this half term is on pneumatics. This week, the children used their imaginations and problem-solving skills to plan a pneumatic model of their own design. From moving monsters to helpful machines, we can't wait to begin building these, next week!

Friday was our celebration of European Day of Languages, and our class focused on Greece. We learnt some basic Greek words, explored the culture, and – of course – enjoyed tasting some delicious Greek food, including tzatziki, taramasalata, olives, feta cheese, and pitta bread.

A huge well done to our brilliant cross-country runners and basketball players who represented Middleton-in-Teesdale Academy so proudly this week. Both teams played with great spirit and teamwork – and we're thrilled to say that one Basketball team even brought home a gold medal! What an achievement!





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming
Events:

	Event
SEPTEMBER	
Mon 29 th Sept	Handball Festival, Green Lane Primary – Yr 5+6 Recycling Assembly with DCC
OCTOBER	
1 st – 31 st Oct	Black History Month
Wed 1 st Oct	‘Open the Book’ Assembly in partnership with The Pathway
Fri 3 rd Oct	Basketball Competition, Teesdale Leisure Centre – Yr 5+6
Mon 6 th Oct	Yr 5+6 Assembly with PSCO, Preet Singh
Fri 10 th Oct	Wear something Yellow, for World Mental Health Day
Tues 14 th Oct	Harvest Festival at The Pathway
Wed 15 th Oct	Middleton-in-Teesdale Academy Open Day 9.15-10.15am – 2.00-4.00pm
Mon 20 th – Thurs 23 rd Oct	Parent’s Evenings
Tues 21 st Oct	Kurling + Boccia Festival, venue TBC – Yr 1+2
Mon 27 th - Fri 31 st Oct	Half Term Holiday
NOVEMBER	
Wed 5 th Nov	Football League, King James Academy
Wed 12 th Nov	Football League, King James Academy
Wed 19 th Nov	Football League, King James Academy
Wed 26 th Nov	Football League FINAL , King James Academy