



NEWSLETTER

15th September
2023

A message from Mrs Harris and Mrs Willington...

We are delighted to report it has been another superb week here at Middleton. The children have settled extremely well and have adapted to the new expectations on the new year groups. We are already seeing excellent engagement within lessons and children displaying a real love for their learning.

This term, we have increased our sports offer with additional PE sessions and the introduction of Forest School for our Y3/4 pupils. We also have extracurricular clubs available after school for KS1 and KS2 pupils. Additional music sessions have also been planned.

This term a focus is aimed at improving handwriting and presentation across our school. As such, we have introduced a new presentation certificate into our weekly celebration assembly. Pupils are encouraged to bring their work to us, and this week, we have seen such lovely writing in all classes. We are also encouraging pupils to bring into school, on a Friday, any medals, badges, or certificates they have achieved at home. We would love to see what the children have been achieving out of school and to celebrate with them as a school family.

Reminders and Messages

- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- The school uniform policy is on the website for reference: [Our School Uniform \(middleton-in-teesdale.durham.sch.uk\)](http://Our School Uniform (middleton-in-teesdale.durham.sch.uk))
- School shoes must be plain black – no additional colours, logos or other markings please.

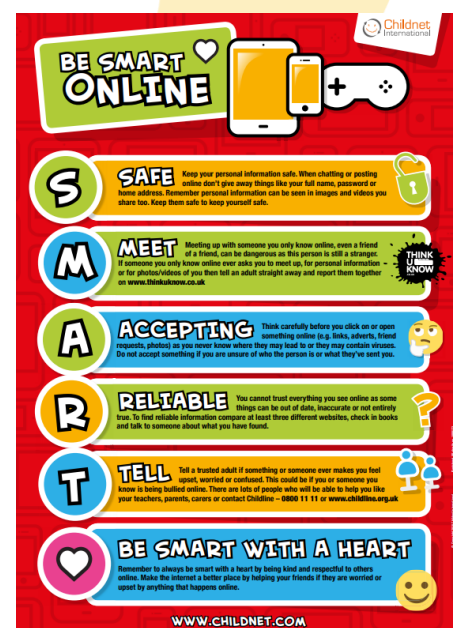
A message from The Friends

Plans are already underway by our FOM to provide additional events throughout the year. If anyone is interested in join our super supportive Friends of Middleton team, please let Mrs Morris in the office know and she will provide you with additional information.

Any help, not matter how small is always appreciated.

Useful Online Safety Links

- [NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](https://www.uksaferinternetcentre.org.uk)
- [Childline](https://www.childline.org.uk)





NEWSLETTER

**What have we
been up to?**

EYFS – Mrs Willington, Mrs Dobson, Miss Spenceley & Mrs Halliley

EYFS were so excited to have their first P.E. lesson with Ben, they worked hard as a team as they took part in stuck in the mud and treasure chest. We also had our first session of BLAST which everyone loved.

EYFS showed so much interest as we celebrated Roald Dahl day. They completed different tasks throughout the day so eagerly and even made their own Fantastic Mr Fox masks! We were impressed as they had retained the knowledge of the authors name and did some fantastic observational drawings.





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What have we been up to?

Year 1/2 – Mrs Garnett, Mrs Aislalie and Mrs Niven

It has been another busy week in Year 1/2. We began the week by introducing our English text – Dogger. The children made predictions about the story, sequenced the events in order and performed the story, in groups, through role play.

In Maths, the children have continued to focus on our continuing skills.

On Tuesday, we had our first session of BLAST with our P.E. coach, Ben. The aim of this session is to enhance positive academic outcomes by ensuring children are calm, focused and ready to learn throughout the rest of the school day. This week, we played a range of tag games. The children had so much fun and showed fantastic listening and teamwork skills.

This term, in Geography, our topic is 'Our Wonderful World'. We were introduced to the meaning of physical and human features. The children then completed a sorting activity deciding which features are physical and which are human.

During our Science lesson, we learned about the final 2 animal groups... mammals and reptiles. We now know all 5 groups and were able to sort a range of animals into the correct category.

Our first week of homework has been given out tonight - homework that is given is to consolidate learning that has taken place throughout the week.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Peacock

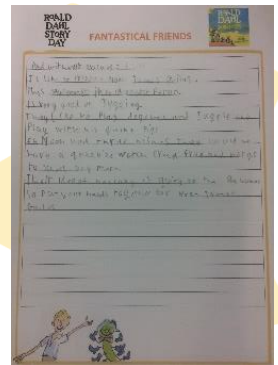
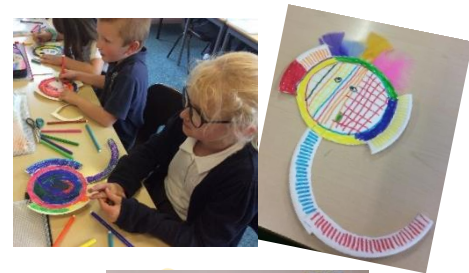
Another great week in Year 3/4! The children enjoyed reading the poem from 'James and the Giant Peach', which was introducing all the characters he met from the book, for Roald Dahl Day – the children then interviewed their own friends, and wrote their own introductions, based on James' poem.

In RE, the children had a great time making their own elephant masks, in preparation for learning about the elephant god of Hinduism, Ganesh. They made sure to decorate them brightly, ready for a festival.

The children enjoyed their first session of BLAST this week, to get themselves ready for learning by getting their bodies moving and their brains thinking.

In Science, they have been learning all about the human skeleton and learning the names and functions of different bones.

Finally, the children have been getting stuck into learning about The Stone Age and how people lived at this time.



Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

What an inquisitive start to the week we have had, classifying humans based on their characteristics, and using 'liquorice allsorts' to develop hands-on knowledge of classification keys in science.

We have explored descriptive and figurative language in our writing lessons, generating similes ready to use within our narrative to captivate the reader. We too are captivated by our class novel, 'Bronze and Sunflower', which has influenced our writing and the vocabulary choices we are making.

On Wednesday we celebrated Roald Dahl day, reading the first few chapters of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, before designing and creating our own chocolate bar for Mr. Willy Wonka.

In history we have learnt that there are 7 key Chinese Dynasties, and we have ordered these chronologically on a timeline.

It was wonderful to meet some parents this week at our 'Meet the Teacher' event, we look forward to seeing you again at future events across the year.





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Upcoming
Events:

Date	Event
Wednesday 20 th September	Y5/6 Swimming Lessons commence
Friday 22 nd September	Y5/6 Netball Festival
Tuesday 26 th September	European Day of Languages
Wednesday 27 th September	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon - donations welcome
October	Black History Month
Wednesday 4 th October	Open Day for Prospective Parents
Date to be confirmed	Harvest Festival
Friday 20 th October	Non-uniform Day
Friday 27 th October	Break for Half Term
Monday 6 th November	Pupils return to school