



NEWSLETTER

22nd September
2023

A message from Mrs Harris and Mrs Willington...

This week we have had a real focus on handwriting and presentation across the school as the pupils work hard to make improvements. We are already seeing increased addition to detail and focus in pupil handwriting sessions but also in their cross curricular work. We have enjoyed reading the children's stories, recounts and historical accounts from their history work. Great work, everyone!

Pupil voice has also been a huge focus this week as we find out what pupils are enjoying and what we could still work to improve. It was lovely to read pupil feedback and use this in our developments going forwards. Pupils feel happy in school, they have seen a huge improvement in behaviour and are really enjoying their new curriculum lessons. They also told us, they prefer 'Star Squad' and as a result we are reverting to this award in our weekly Celebrations Assembly.

Today, our netballers headed to Bishop Barrington Academy, Bishop Auckland, to take part in our first sports competition of the year. Mrs Emery reports of their excellent sportsmanship and behaviour throughout the game; out of 8 teams, our squad came 4th. Well done to our Netballers! *(pictures on last page)*

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.

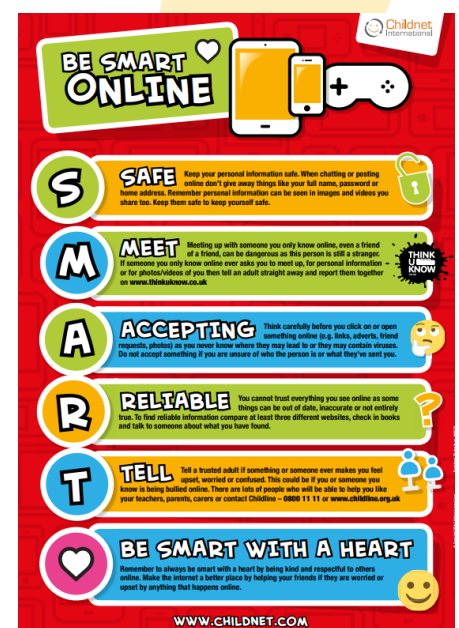
A message from The Friends

Thank you to everyone who bought doughnut from the playground tonight.

Watch this space for news on our next event.

Useful Online Safety Links

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





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

Nursery have been learning all about our book of the week 'Autumn', we read the story and asked questions, talking about the four seasons we have in the year. We asked which their favourite season is, and they painted a picture of their favourite one.

We also went on a leaf hunt, to see if we could find summer leaves and autumn leaves, we then dried them out and used these to make a summer and autumn tree collage. They also made imprints of the leaves by painting the leaf and pressing it down onto the tree.

Reception have worked incredibly hard this week learning new sounds in phonics, practising their pencil control, and reading Stick Man! We have acted out the story and went on a stick hunt around the school grounds to make our very own stick characters. We have also been practising to count and to write our names. As part of our keeping healthy work, we discussed the importance of handwashing and explored different lots of different fruit!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

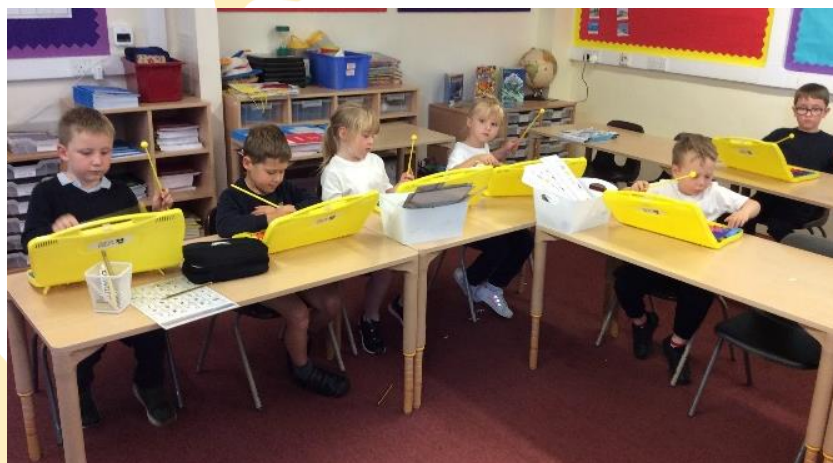
This week in our English lessons, we have been learning about adjectives and how they can improve our sentences. We then focused on using adjectives to make a lost poster to help find Dogger - the lost teddy from our class text.

In Maths, Year 2 children have been looking at the values of number and number patterns. This week we have been using number squares a lot, to support our learning. Year 1 have been looking at numbers that are 1 more than and 1 less than a given number. The children have also been ordering number from smallest to greatest and greatest to smallest.

During our music sessions, Mrs Emery has been teaching the children the song 'Hey You'. This week, the children were thinking about the beat of the music and got to play their own instrument – the glockenspiel.

Our Geography lesson involved looking at a range of maps. We even looked at google maps to locate the key features around Middleton Village. We talked about how we see the map from a bird's eye/aerial view. The children then created a village of their own, using a range of symbols.

We have also been looking at how we can be kind just by using our hands. The children came up with many brilliant suggestions. I wonder if they can tell you them...





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What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Peacock

Another fantastic week in Year 3/4. The children have been writing, based on 'The Stone Age Boy', where they have written a diary entry from one of his days in the Stone Age and all the amazing things he saw them do.

The children loved exploring and building dens during Forest school, learning how to work together and solve problems.

In PE, they have continued to work together in invasion games and also practice their gymnastic skills - this week they focused on perfecting their forwards roll.

In Maths, both year groups have moved on to addition and subtraction and have amazed us with their knowledge from previous years.

In Science, the children have worked scientifically to classify different animals by their skeleton types.



Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

This week, we have finished writing our narrative which captivates the reader, using grammatical skills such as, subordination and relative clauses. We have thoroughly enjoyed reading the beginning of our class novel which has inspired our narratives in many ways.

In science, we have worked scientifically by observing how animals change over their lifetime, to adapt to their surroundings and habitat.

During French, we have learnt how to introduce ourselves and ask how others are feeling. Next week, we celebrate European Day of Languages and we look forward to finding out about different countries from Europe.

Every Monday, we will be having an hour's percussion lesson with Mr. Soler, from Durham Music Service. This week we had our first music lesson with him, and learnt how to follow the pulse with the backing of a djembe drum. Children also had the opportunity to play the instrument.



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Upcoming Events:

Date	Event
Tuesday 26 th September	European Day of Languages
Wednesday 27 th September	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon 2pm – donations welcome
Friday 29 th September	Nasal Flu Immunisations
October	Black History Month
Tuesday 3 rd October	Curling + Boccia Festival, Yrs 1 + 2,
Wednesday 4 th October	Open Day for Prospective Parents
Thursday 19 th October	Harvest Festival at The Pathway, Middleton in Teesdale, 1.15-2.30
Friday 20 th October	Non-uniform Day
Monday 23 rd October	Multi-Schools Festival, held at Middleton in Teesdale Primary
Friday 27 th October	Break for Half Term
Monday 6 th November	Pupils return to school



Middleton-in-Teesdale
Netballers

