

26th January 2024

A message from Mrs Harris and Mrs Willington...

The weather in Middleton hasn't stopped our EYFS children enjoying the outdoor environment and setting up some treats for the birds, who frequently visit our nursery garden. Enticed by our new feeders, the children have been learning the different birds and Mrs Morris and Mr Burnip have also had fun bird spotting from our school office.

As always, we are incredibly thankful for the hard work of our Friends of Middleton School. Chairperson, Claire Tellegen, has been leading the team for some time and has given up such a lot of time and commitment to the role, always going above and beyond for our school. Unfortunately, due to other commitments, she will stand down as Chairperson, but will remain a key part on our FOMS. We would like to thank Claire for all her hard work with the many fundraisers and events she has worked on during her time in this role. To ensure we keep our FOMS active, they are currently looking for Early Years and KS1 parents, carers, or grandparents to join the team. If you can come along to the meetings or help in any way, please let us know. Your support would be greatly received.

Reminders and Messages

- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- 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.

A Message from The Friends (FOMS)

A big thank you to everyone who has taken the time to fill a 'Bag2School' with unwanted clothes, etc. The bags have now been collected from school and a superb amount of £200 has been raised. **THANK YOU!**

We are currently planning the Valentine's Disco. Please watch this space, for more information.

Useful Online Safety Links

- NSPCC
- UK Safer Internet Centre
- Childline



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	97.2%
Year 1+2	96.9%
Year 3+4	97.1%

92.4%

Year 5+6



What have we been up to?







EYFS – Mrs Willington, Mrs Dobson and Miss Spenceley

Nursery have really been embracing the wildlife in our garden recently. They have been beyond fascinated with the birds we get, so we have enhanced this by purchasing some bird feeders to hang outside. We also signed up to 'The Big Garden Bird Watch' which takes place during 26th – 28th January - Nursery took part in this today, Friday 26th. We have had so much fun carefully watching the birds in our camouflaged bird watch area, by the window, we even brought in binoculars to help us see the birds. Our favourite bird we spotted was the woodpecker!

In Reception this week, the children have been investigating measures in maths. First, they were comparing the sizes of dinosaurs by placing them in size order. Later in the week, the children were exploring capacity. They had to fill up measuring beakers and compare the amounts. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activity and used excellent mathematical language, such as: more than, less than, full and empty.







What have we been up to?

Y1/2 - Mrs. Garnett, Mrs. Aislabie and Mrs. Niven

This week, year 1/2 have been writing up a retell of the Ugly Duckling story. The class then shared lots of thoughts for an alternative ending - we had some brilliant ideas!

In Maths, year 2 have been looking at multiplication and division facts, and reviewing previous work from our place value and numbers to 100 chapters. Year 1, have been subtracting this week. They have looked at a range of methods including, using a number line and partitioning, to enable them to subtract from 10 first.

During Geography, we have been learning about physical features in the UK. The children are able to state what we mean by 'physical feature,' they can name some of these and give a definition of what they are.

We have also started our new topic in DT this week – Taxi. Firstly, we discussed different types of vehicles and transportation. We then looked at the basic mechanisms of a vehicle and identified them on a range of images. I wonder if the children can tell you the three key mechanisms...

Throughout the week, we have been working really hard to learn our multiplication facts. Please remember that children can access Times Table Rock Stars at home to support their learning. All passwords are in the back of their reading records.



What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Peacock

The children had a lot of fun exploring how fossils are made this week in their Science lesson; this built on their previous learning of the different types of rocks. They learnt that fossils can only be found in sedimentary rock and are very rare. They made their own fossils of jelly babies using different types of bread for the different layers of sedimentary rocks, by applying lots of pressure to the bread and then seeing the imprint of the jelly babies left behind.

The children have written some fantastic narratives, based off the book, 'Into the Forest.' We have been really impressed with how they have applied the writing techniques they have been learning, to build tension for the reader in their own narratives.

During their computing lesson this week, the children began to explore coding. They had a go at designing their own clip where the characters move and speak, which they will continue to build on in following weeks.



```
when clicked myAnimal1

fig 7 sound fig 1 times

timer after 3 seconds

myAnimal1 right

myAnimal1 stop

myAnimal1 Speak 'Ouch!' for 3 seconds
```





What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

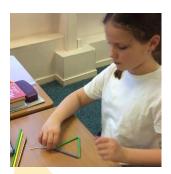
This week we furthered our knowledge of Ancient Greece and how the Minoans developed their civilisation. Children generated their own enquiry questions before completing research, using secondary sources of evidence. Some historians in the class, researched how water was used around the island of Crete (where the Minoan civilisation began) to trade.

In R.E., we have developed an understanding of other religions and cultures, and shown an understanding in the way that the festival of Holi is celebrated. In this lesson, we discussed if people should be treated equally and whether they are treated equally.

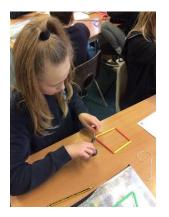
Following on from our discussion around dreams at the beginning of our PSHE unit, we have thought realistically about our dreams and goals for the future – professions and careers. We discovered a range of jobs through a game of charades, before writing down our own career goals – we established what experience, skills and qualities we needed to accomplish this goal.

In DT, we continued to learn about how structures are formed using simple yet practical equipment; straws, string and blue tack! We found that a square base was the least-sturdiest, whereas a triangular base was much stronger and sturdier. To improve the sturdiness of our square structure – we reinforced the corners of the square to form mini triangles.

In Science, we made connections from our previous learning of gravity and friction to find out what air-resistance is. We had great fun making parachutes to investigate how surface area affected air resistance.











Date	Event	
FEBRUARY	LGBTQ Month	
Friday 2 nd February	TTRS (Times Table Rock Star) Dress-Up Day for NSPCC	
Wednesday 7 th February	EYFS 'Chinese NY' Assembly for Parents/Carers	
Monday 12 th February	Women & Girls in Science Day	
Monday 12th February	Dance Festival - Years 3+4	
Friday 16th February	Valentine's Disco (dress in pink/red)	
Friday 16 th February	School closes for Half Term Holiday	
Monday 26 th February	26 th February School re-opens for Spring Term 2	
MARCH	International Women's History Month	
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	
w/c 11 th March	British Science Week	
Monday 11 th March	Tennis Festival - Yrs 3+4	
Thursday 28 th March	School closes for Easter Holiday	
Tuesday 16 th April	School re-opens for Summer Term 1	