



NEWSLETTER

15th March 2024

A message from Mrs Harris and Mrs Willington...

Science has been key to our learning this week, as pupils throughout the school celebrated British Science Week. This special theme week has been an opportunity for pupils to further explore the practical aspects of scientific investigation. Children have displayed some brilliant planning and predication skills, whilst drawing superb conclusions from the results of their tests. We certainly have some budding scientists here at Middleton!

You may have noticed that we have our new school uniform on display in our school entrance. Our new uniforms will be implemented in September this year. Pricing and ordering information will be available next term.

A reminder that Parent's Evenings will take place on the final week of the spring term. We ask that all parent's make an appointment in order to have an up-to-date understanding of your child's progress. Please book directly with school office.

Finally, on Thursday 21st March, our school will be observing the World Down Syndrome Day and we would like to invite all of our pupils to come to school wearing their 'wackiest' socks - colourful, bright, patterned and even mis-matched. Donations, if desired, can be made on the dsuk website: <https://downsyndromeuk.co.uk/support-us/donate/>

Reminders and Messages

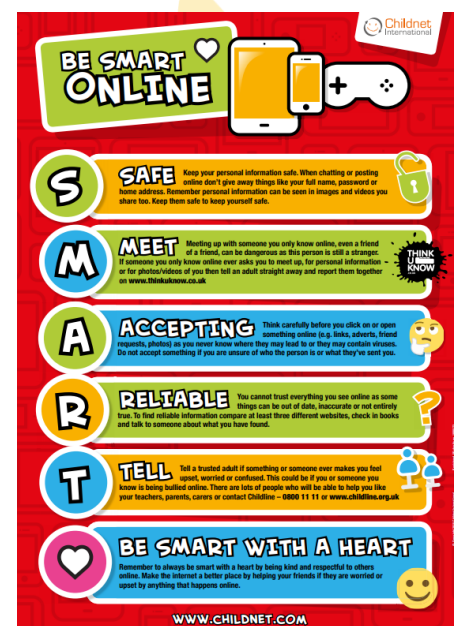
- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- Polite reminder: We are unable to read or answer messages which are sent through Class Dojo. If you need to contact teachers, please telephone or make an appointment at the office.

A Message from The Friends (FOMS)

Thank you to everyone who bought a treat from the playground tonight. We hope the children enjoyed their donuts.

Useful Online Safety Links

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



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	94.4%
Year 1+2	84.6%
Year 3+4	95.3%
Year 5+6	94.0%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

EYFS – Mrs Willington, Miss Niven, Mrs Dobson and Miss Spenceley

EYFS began their week with a lovely Mother's Day 'Stay and Play' session. We hosted our own little afternoon tea with cakes and juice, followed by some crafts. It was so heart-warming to see the children with their special people and watch the faces buzz with excitement as they watched them walk through the door.

Nursery have taken part in British Science Week by exploring 'sneaky shadows', where we have gone on our own adventure, looking for shadows and thinking about how these are made. We also introduced torches to the children drew and showed how we can make our own shadow and draw around it. **Nursery** also had a blast making their own rockets from recycled materials, they carefully looked at the pictures provided to them of what a real life rocket looks like, and were tasked with making their own out of the material provided. All children could not wait to get stuck in with this activity!

In **Reception** this week, we have been planting cress seeds as part of our 'Watch Them Grow' topic and to celebrate British Science Week. As part of science week, we also did the skittles experiment to show how sugar can dissolve. This links to our PSHE lesson too as we have been learning about keeping healthy and not having too much sugar.

We have been learning about the life cycle of a sunflower in English this week and the children produced some wonderful writing.

We also welcomed some little visitors to our class this week – 5 little caterpillars! We are going to watch them grow and transform into butterflies over the next few weeks. The children are so excited and can't wait to track their progress!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y1/2 – Mrs. Garnett and Mrs. Aislabie

We have had another busy week in Year 1/2. In English, we have begun to write a diary entry about Paddington's outing to the Tower of London. The children have been thinking about making sentences interesting by using the key features we have looked at in previous lessons.

In Maths, Year 2 were introduced to temperature. We looked at thermometers and how to read them. In Year 1, we have been counting to 40, thinking about how many tens and ones there are in a given number.

In our Science lesson, we talked about John McAdam and his invention of 'Macadamisation' and 'Tarmac' to make road safe. We looked at what his invention involved and found out information about his life.

During our PSHE lesson, we have been looking at how we can keep our bodies healthy. We sang a healthy song to the tune of, 'If you're happy and you know it', that included the ways we can be healthy. I am sure the children can tell you all of the different ways!

In Geography, we learnt all about the Great Fire of London and the monument that commemorates it. The children watched a video which explained what happened and answered a range of questions about the event.

We had so much fun in BLAST this week! We played dodgeball and managed to hit Mrs Garnett several times!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Peacock

To start the week, the children had a morning of practicing new tennis skills at the Tennis Festival; they had a brilliant time and had a go at all of the activities, collecting the greatest number of team points, by having an accurate aim and a strong tennis arm.

Through the week, in English, the children continued to develop their character descriptions for their dilemma narrative and are beginning to write up their plans, to include all of the writing techniques we have been learning about.

In Geography, they have been developing their map reading skills and learning to locate places using 4 figure grid references, using OS maps, identifying physical and human features of their local area.

In PSHE, the children had a look at different drugs and discussed how we know that they are good for us or if they might be bad for us, and how to spot the signs. They identified that if they are given by a Doctor/parent/nurse, they can make us better and are good for us. On the other hand, if they don't have a label on or not in a packet, even though they might look like sweets, they are not safe to touch and should be reported to an adult and disposed of safely.

Year 4 are moving onto their maths topic of Time, and have started to look at converting digital a.m. and p.m. time into 24-hour time - you can have some fun practicing this at home!

To end the week, children joined in the house groups to celebrate British Science Week and helped each other to complete a science challenge; they had great fun doing this with their friends in other year groups.



PIC•COLLAGE



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

This week has been jam-packed with hands-on, practical activities, especially as we celebrate British Science Week. To mark the event, children designed a poster to promote this year's theme; Time. As well as this, we were able to make our own pendulum timer using only a piece of string, weight and card – we investigated how long the pendulum took to stop moving and attached different sized card to see if this affected the motion. As a challenge, children had to use their problem-solving skills to see if they could get exactly 10 swings in 30 seconds! To finish the week, we got into house groups to complete a STEM challenge. Lots of fun was had by all, and it is great to see some budding engineers amongst the class!

In PSHE this week, we learnt the importance of staying safe and what to do in an emergency. We practiced putting one another into the recovery position, in case we encountered an emergency.

We have also been letting our creative juices flow in writing, as we have finished our narrative unit. There have been some extraordinary narratives written from the perspective of another character. Here is a snippet of the wolf retelling the story of the Three Little Pigs: *'I discarded the remains of the rabbit, kicking dust over it, and set off out of the woods, the sharp thickets of brambles catching my bushy tail. I finally reached the end of the woods, the beams of sunlight warming my back. I spotted a woodcutter carrying their load of wood on their back. They were no threat to me, so I walked away until the lush grass in the fields welcomed my paws.'*

We have also had an exciting parcel delivered from Switzerland – we loved reading our letters and are excited to take home our Swiss Treats! We hope that the children shared their letters with you too!





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming
Events:

Date	Event
MARCH	International Women's History Month Value of the Month
Thursday 21 st March	World Down Syndrome Awareness Day
Thurs 21 st – Tues 26 th March	Scholastic Book Fair - being held in school
Friday 22 nd March	Girls Football Competition – Yrs 3, 4 & 5
WC 25 th March	Parent's Evenings being held
Monday 25 th March	Easter Service at The Pathway, 1:15-2:15pm
Thursday 28 th March	School closes for Easter Holiday
Monday 15 th April	School closed for PD Day
Tuesday 16 th April	School re-opens for Summer Term 1
Monday 22 nd April	Earth Day
MAY	National 'Share a Story' Month Local History Month
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 7 th May	Tri-Golf Festival, Yrs 3-4
WC 13 th May	KS2 SATs Week
Tuesday 21 st May	Phototronics – Class Group Photos and Yr6 Friendship Groups
Thursday 23 rd May	Yr 6 SAT's Reward Outing
Thursday 23 rd May	School closes for Half Term Holiday
Friday 24 th May	PD Day – School closed to pupils
Monday 3 rd June	School reopens for Summer Term 2
Monday 3 rd June	Rounders Festival, Yrs 5+6
Tuesday 4 th June	Yrs 5+6 Trip to Beamish
Thursday 6 th June	D-Day
Thursday 6 th June	KS2 Netball League (plus 13 th + 20 th June)
Friday 7 th June	KS2 Athletics Competition
W/C 17 th June	Healthy Week
Monday 17 th June	EYFS Father's Day 'Stay & Play', 2:00 – 2:45pm
Friday 21 st June	KS2 Football Competition
W/C 24 th June	Careers Week



NEWSLETTER

Pupil Achievements



CONGRATULATIONS to Caleb, who has achieved 3 bronze medals during his 1st swimming gala, which was held at Tynemouth last weekend.

The bronze medals were won for:

- 50m butterfly stroke
- 50m breaststroke
- 50m freestyle

According to the nationwide rankings system, Caleb is currently ranked no.2 in Great Britain for 50m breaststroke, 50m freestyle and 10th for 50m backstroke - out of all 8 year-old boys.