



# NEWSLETTER

15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## A message from our school leaders...

What a week it has been! We want to say a huge well done to our Year 6 pupils for completing their SATs. The children showed determination and resilience throughout the week. Our pupils tried their best, and we are incredibly proud of their hard work.

As we move further into the summer term, please ensure children are wearing the correct school uniform, as outlined in our Uniform Policy on the school website. Thank you for helping us maintain high standards across school. Also, a reminder that children should come to school in the correct PE kit on their allocated days. Full details can be found at: [School uniform | Middleton-in-Teesdale Academy](#)

Thank you for supporting us with pupil attendance in school. This week we had two classes achieve 100% attendance, which is a fantastic achievement. In comparison to other schools within the Trust, Middleton-in-Teesdale Academy currently has the highest attendance, as has done for the last few months. This is a real testament to how much our pupils enjoy coming to school, and we want to thank all families for your continued support in making this possible.

Warm weather reminder: As the days get sunnier, please ensure children bring a water bottle and, where appropriate, apply sun cream before school.

## Useful Online Safety Links

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

**BE SMART ONLINE**

**S SAFE** Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

**M MEET** Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous so this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information – or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](#)

**A ACCEPTING** Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

**R RELIABLE** You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.

**T TELL** Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline – 0800 11 11 or [www.childline.org.uk](#)

**BE SMART WITH A HEART** Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

## Friends of Middleton School – FOMS

### 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.

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Rec/Yr 1	100.0%
Yr 2/3/4	95.4%
Yr 5/6	100.0%



# NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



## Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, in Nursery, we have been exploring the wonderful world of worms through our stories, *Superworm* and *Yucky Worms*. The children have thoroughly enjoyed these engaging books and have been learning all about how worms live and help our environment.

**Story Time and Language** - We discovered lots of new wondrous words this week, including *Fishing line*, *Weave*, *Breathe*, *Slimy* and *Squirm*. It has been fantastic to hear them using these words in their conversations and play.

**Creative Activities** - Using playdough, the children made their own worms, experimenting with creating different lengths and shapes, helping to develop their fine motor skills as well as their understanding of size and comparison.

We took our learning outside and worked together to make a special wormery for Superworm! The children carefully layered sand, compost and soil, then added flowers and leaves to create a cosy habitat. After preparing the wormery, the children went on an exciting worm hunt in the garden. There was lots of excitement as they searched for "Superworm" and observed where worms might like to live.

Through all these activities, the children have: developed new vocabulary, explored nature and habitats, practised teamwork and cooperation and have used their imagination and creativity.





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## YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Niven

**Reception – Exploring ‘In the Jungle’** - Reception have had a wonderful week diving into, *In the Jungle* by Axel Scheffler. The children have enjoyed listening to the gentle rhyming text and spotting the different animals throughout the story. Inspired by the book, they created a range of colourful animal prints and worked collaboratively to build an impressive papier-mâché lion head for our classroom jungle display. They have also been practising rhyming words by matching pairs after hearing them in the story. In maths, Reception have been exploring numbers 10–20, using counting, ordering, and practical activities to deepen their understanding.

**Year 1 – Retelling a Classic Tale** - Year 1 have begun writing their own retell of the familiar story, *Jack and the Beanstalk*. They have been focusing on using capital letters, full stops, and joining ideas with ‘and’ to create clear, confident sentences. In maths, the children have completed their unit on fractions. They have been halving and quartering both shapes and quantities, showing great progress in recognising equal parts.

**Art – Inspired by James Rizzi** - both classes have enjoyed recreating artwork in the style of James Rizzi. Using layering techniques and cardboard pieces, the children built colourful, textured cityscapes full of personality - just like Rizzi’s iconic pop-art style.

**Computing – Coding Creators** - in computing, the children have been learning the basics of coding. They explored how coding words work and even created their own simple codes. They practised debugging to fix mistakes and successfully programmed animals to move across the screen.





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

This week, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum. In English, we looked at subordinate clauses and how they can add detail and interest to our writing. Building on this, we used the facts we have found out about Pompeii to begin creating our own visitor leaflets. The children have found this topic very interesting and have shown great enthusiasm when sharing their ideas.

In maths, Year 2 have moved on to mass and capacity, learning how to weigh objects in grams and kilograms and measure using ml and litres. Year 3 and Year 4 have been working on money this week, using both addition and subtraction methods to solve a range of problems.

The children also enjoyed our science lesson, where we have been learning about forces and how friction occurs. We set up an investigation to see how far a car would travel on different surfaces and explored the impact these surfaces had on the distance. The children loved finding out which material was the best.

In history, we looked at how the Romans built their cities and drew a picture using only a given description. We then compared our drawings to a picture of a Roman city.

Towards the end of the week, during our art lesson, the children grouted their Roman mosaics, and the final results were fantastic.





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**What have we been up to?**

## **Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery**

This week Year 6 took their end of Key Stage SATs – Mrs. Emery and I are both incredibly proud of their hard-work, dedication and resilience. To celebrate the end of SATs, the whole class had immense fun playing lots of games in the hall!

Year 5 have had a fantastic week filled with activity and learning! The children thoroughly enjoyed their swimming sessions, showing great enthusiasm and growing confidence in the water. Back at school, the whole class had lots of fun taking part in a lively game of cricket, demonstrating teamwork and good sportsmanship.

In RE, the class have been exploring Christian beliefs and discussing what values matter most to Christians. The pupils engaged thoughtfully with ideas such as kindness, love, forgiveness and honesty, sharing their own reflections and making meaningful connections to everyday life.



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Upcoming  
Events:

	Event
<b>MAY 2026</b>	
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Tri-Golf Festival, B.C. Golf Club – Yrs 3+4
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closed for Half Term Holiday
<b>JUNE 2026</b>	
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	'Open the Book' Assembly by The Pathway
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Yr 5 Trip to Edinburgh
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Tri-Golf Competition, B.C Golf Club – Yrs 3+4
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Yr6 – Post SATs Trip
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Athletics Competition, Bishop Auckland – Yrs 5+6
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Phototronics – Class + Yr6 Friendship Photographs
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Healthy Week
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Family Brunch for Father's Day, 9-10am
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Careers Week
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Rounders Festival – Yrs 5+6
<b>JULY 2026</b>	
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Great Athletes Visit
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> July	NELT Athletics Festival, Gateshead Stadium
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Staindrop Transition Days
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Teesdale Transition Day
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Football Competition at Staindrop Academy
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly, 9:30am
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> July	School Closes for Summer Holidays



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