



NEWSLETTER

13th February 2026

A message from our school leaders...

This week, the children have immersed themselves in a wide range of activities as part of **Children's Mental Health Week**, and it has been wonderful to see how engaged and enthusiastic they have been. Across the school, pupils explored the importance of looking after both their mental and physical wellbeing. Classes took part in discussions about emotions, practised calming and breathing techniques, and learnt how small daily habits - such as drinking plenty of water, taking movement breaks, and talking openly - can make a big difference to how we feel.

Our teachers have also marked **Safer Internet Day** across the school, helping all children think about how to stay safe and make sensible choices online, with a focus on how to safely use online voice assistants and what things we should and shouldn't be asking it to help with.

A highlight of the week was, without doubt, our annual **Valentine's Disco**. The hall was transformed into a sea of pinks and reds as the children arrived full of excitement. The children showcased their best dance moves, enjoyed time with friends, and created memories that will last long after the music stopped. A huge thank you goes to our dedicated staff team and the Friends of Middleton School for planning, preparing, and running such a joyful event.

We are still collecting baby and toddler toys and accessories. If you are having a clear-out over the holidays and would like to donate any well-cared-for items, they would be gratefully received.

A reminder that school closes next Friday 20th February for the February half-term break. We hope all our families enjoy a restful and refreshing week when it arrives.

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.

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.childnet.com.

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.childnet.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

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Rec/Yr 1	100.0%
Yr 2/3/4	97.7%
Yr 5/6	93.7%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, in Nursery, we have been enjoying the beautiful story, *A Perfect Day*. The children loved exploring the idea that a “perfect day” can look different for everyone. This led to some lovely conversations about the things that make each of us happy and how our ideas can be wonderfully unique.

Wondrous Words of the Week - we focused on four new words from the story: **Warmth**, **Cool**, **Flowerbed** and **Daffodils**.

The children explored the meaning of each word through discussion, play, and hands-on activities, such as:

- **Designing Flowerbeds** - they planned and created their very own flowerbed designs, thinking carefully about colours, shapes, and where their flowers would grow.
- **Observational Paintings of Daffodils** - the children produced some fantastic observational paintings. They looked closely at real daffodils and painted what they could see with great concentration and detail.
- **Making Fat Balls for Birds** - we learned about looking after wildlife in winter and made fat balls to help feed the birds. The children enjoyed mixing the ingredients and talking about the types of birds we might attract.
- **Warm and Cool Water Exploration** - in the water tray, the children explored warm and cool water. They described how each one felt and used lots of great language from our wondrous words of the week.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson, Miss Anderson and Mrs Niven

Reception

Literacy & Topic - Reception have been enjoying the story *Dinosaur Drip* this week. They've loved taking part in dinosaur-themed roleplay, especially caring for the dinosaur eggs. They also took part in some Valentine's-themed activities in maths and phonics, and they are progressing brilliantly with their sound blending.

Maths - the children have been exploring doubles and beginning to understand how to add two numbers by looking at the parts and whole that make up a number.

Year 1

Maths - Year 1 have been consolidating their understanding of addition and subtraction, exploring which methods feel most efficient for them when adding numbers to 20. They've been using a range of concrete resources to support their learning.

English - this week the children revisited instruction writing, taking inspiration from Pancake Day. They made their own pancakes and had great fun using "bossy" command sentences around the classroom. These will feed directly into their recipe writing next week.

Science - we began our new topic, *Everyday Materials*. The children learned to name different materials and enjoyed identifying examples of them around the classroom.

Online Safety - for Safer Internet Day, Year 1 explored how to stay safe online. They discussed the kinds of questions it is appropriate to ask an online voice assistant and what types of questions they should avoid.

We also ended the week with our fantastic **Valentine's** disco. All of the children had a brilliant time showing off their amazing dance moves and celebrating together.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

This week, in English, we have moved on to explanation texts. The children have been exploring technical vocabulary, the structure of these texts, and fronted adverbials. This foundational knowledge will support them as they embark on writing their own explanation texts all about volcanoes.

In maths, Year 2 have been busy finding the properties of 3D shapes, while Year 3 have been working on converting measures, including millimetres, centimetres, and metres. Year 4 have been tackling the perimeter of both regular and irregular polygons, enhancing their understanding of shapes in a fun and engaging way.

On Tuesday, we celebrated Internet Safety Day, where all of the children learned valuable lessons on how to stay safe when using devices at home and school.

During our geography lesson, the children were presented with a world map and introduced to the concepts of longitude and latitude, discovering where mountains and volcanoes are located around the world. This geographical knowledge ties in beautifully with our current topic.

As part of Mental Health Week, we also had meaningful discussions about mental health and the importance of belonging. The children came up with numerous ways they feel they belong and created their own maps, illustrating these feelings with drawings.

Finally, it was delightful to see everyone dressed in red and pink for the **Valentine's** disco, which was a huge hit!

I'm also pleased to note the effort everyone is putting into their handwriting in their homework books—thank you for your hard work!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

This week, in Years 5 and 6, has been a busy and productive one. Year 6 pupils have been working hard on completing practice SATs papers, using these to identify any remaining key areas of focus as we move forward.

In English, we have begun an exciting new writing unit: a diary entry inspired by the book *Time Travelling with a Hamster*. The children have been concentrating on using relative clauses to add rich detail to their sentences and bring their writing to life.

We have also taken part in Children's Mental Health Week, during which the children created a beautiful piece of artwork around the theme, *This is My Place*, reflecting on spaces where they feel calm, safe, and happy. Alongside this, we explored Safer Internet Day, focusing particularly on the responsible use of AI and how technology can be used safely and thoughtfully.

To round off the week, Thursday's **Valentine's** disco was a brilliant success, filled with fun, laughter, and some truly impressive dance moves from the children! And today, they had a fantastic time playing in the snow, laughing together as they made miniature snowmen in the playground. Their teamwork and creativity shone through as each miniature snow figure took shape, complete with little sticks for arms and pebbles for eyes. It truly was a joyful winter moment!





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Upcoming
Events:

	Event
FEBRUARY 2026	
Tues 17 th Feb	Dance Festival, Yrs 5+6
Mon 23 rd to Fri 27 th Feb	School Closed for Half Term Holiday
MARCH 2026	
Wed 4 th March	'Open the Book' Assembly with The Pathway
Thurs 5 th March	World Book Day
w/c 9 th March	Science Week
Mon 16 th March	Family Brunch for Mother's Day, 9-10am
18 th – 23 rd March	Scholastic Book Fair, in school
Thurs 19 th March	Adder Patterns Workshop, Yrs 4+5
w/c 23 rd March	Shakespeare Week
Tues 24 th March	'Chance to Shine' Cricket Taster Day
Fri 27 th March	Girl's Football Competition, Yrs 4,5+6
Tues 31 st March	Tennis/Raquets Festival, Yrs 3+4
APRIL 2026	
Wed 1 st April	'Open the Book' Assembly with The Pathway
Fri 3 rd – Fri 17 th April	School Closed for Easter Holiday