



NEWSLETTER

8th May 2026

A message from our school leaders...

A huge **Good Luck** from all of the staff, to our wonderful Year 6 pupils. The children have worked incredibly hard over the past year and we are so proud of their determination and resilience. The hard work is done now - all we ask is that you try your best.

Make sure you relax and get plenty of sleep on Sunday night. We'll be welcoming you into school early on Monday for a breakfast before the tests begin. Good luck, Y6 - we are all so proud of you and know you will shine.

Staff Charity Challenge

This year, we're taking on another tough walking challenge. On Saturday 13th June some staff are heading to the Lake District to take on a '4 Peak Challenge' - including England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike, along with three surrounding Wainwrights. We're doing this to raise as much money as possible for **Prostate Cancer**, and to help spread awareness of the signs and symptoms along the way. Any donation would be hugely appreciated and will spur us on as we tackle yet another challenge for such an important cause.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/browney-and-middletons-2026-challenge--1075064?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

Friends of Middleton School – FOMS

Our FOMS group are holding a meeting at 7pm on Monday, 11th May, in UTASS.

The FOMS are looking for new members so that they can continue to support the school – if you are interested in joining, please pop along – the Friends will be delighted to welcome you.

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 as 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.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

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Rec/Yr 1	100.0%
Yr 2/3/4	95.8%
Yr 5/6	91.1%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



Nursery – Mrs Dobson

This week, in Nursery, the children have been enjoying the beautiful story, *The Tiny Seed*, by Eric Carle. Through this story, the children have been learning all about seeds, plants, and how living things grow and change. As we shared the story together, we explored some new and wondrous words, including: **desert**, **drifting**, **sailing**, **stem**, and **weeds**. We spent time talking about what each word meant, using pictures, actions and real-life examples to help the children understand and remember them. The children showed fantastic listening and recall skills. Many were able to remember where the stem is on a plant and confidently pointed it out, showing a growing understanding of plant parts. Some children even made connections to their own lives, sharing stories about helping to weed their gardens at home.

The children used multi-link to measure sunflowers of different sizes, helping them to compare lengths and talk about which sunflower was taller or shorter. This activity supported their early maths skills, including measuring, counting and using mathematical language. They also worked together to order the sequence of a sunflower growing, from seed to flower. This helped develop their understanding of how plants grow and change over time, as well as encouraging discussion, turn-taking and thoughtful reasoning.

To finish the week, everyone planted their own sunflower. The children showed great care while planting and were very excited to take responsibility for looking after their plant. Their sunflowers will continue to grow in Nursery and will be brought home at the end of the term, ready for families to enjoy together





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What have we been up to?



YrR/1 – Miss Humpherson and Mrs Niven

Reception

Reception have had a wonderful week diving into the story, *Giraffes Can't Dance*. In their English lessons, the children have been learning all about giraffes — their features, habitats, and what makes them such fascinating animals.

In maths, Reception have been exploring complex patterns. They've created repeating and growing patterns using a wide range of media, from painting to arranging objects, showing fantastic creativity and problem-solving.

Year 1

Year 1 have been focusing on past tense verbs. This work is helping them prepare for writing their next narrative entirely in the past tense. They've been identifying verbs, changing them into the past tense, and using them in sentences to build confidence.

In maths, Year 1 have started their unit on fractions. This week they have been learning about halves, practising halving shapes and quantities to understand the idea of equal parts.

Year 1 have enjoyed their history topic this term, especially comparing modern classrooms with Victorian schools and spotting what has changed.

In science, the children have been learning what plants need, in order to grow.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

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

This week has been full of curiosity, collaboration and wonderful learning in Year 2/3/4.

In English, we have been researching the history of Pompeii and thinking carefully about what the city might offer to visitors. The children have enjoyed exploring the sights, stories and features of this fascinating place, and this learning will help them when they create their own visitor leaflets next week.

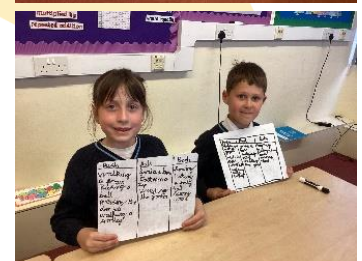
In maths, each year group has been building confidence in new areas of learning. Year 2 have been developing their understanding of length and measure by comparing centimetres and metres. Year 3 have been busy solving problems involving fractions of quantities, while Year 4 have been comparing and ordering decimals. It has been fantastic to see such determination and careful thinking in every lesson.

We were also introduced to our new science topic: Forces. The children discussed how forces work in pairs and considered different actions that involve a push or a pull. They then joined in a fun guessing game, acting out actions for the class to identify and deciding which force was being used each time.

In history, we continued learning about Roman Britain. The children discussed how Julius Caesar failed to invade Britain twice, and how, 100 years later, Emperor Claudius wanted to invade. They took part in a conscience alley, giving reasons for and against the invasion as the emperor walked through the middle.

In art, and linking in with the Roman Empire theme, the children began to design their mosaic tiles. They chose their colours and mapped out their design, using glue to stick the tiles in place ready for grouting next week.

To end the week, the children joined in with Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday celebration. We spoke about the important role he has played in helping people learn about animals, habitats and the planet through his documentaries, storytelling and passion for the natural world.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Yr5/6 – Mrs Wharton and Mrs Emery

This week has been a busy and positive one for our Year 5 and 6 pupils. The Year 6 children have been working incredibly hard as they prepare for their SATs next week. They have shown real determination and focus in their revision sessions, as well as supporting one another and approaching challenges with a great attitude. We are very proud of the effort they are putting in and encourage them to remember the importance of staying calm, confident, and well rested as the tests approach.

Year 5 pupils have been developing their understanding of how to stay safe online, particularly when using online groups and social media chats. They have had thoughtful discussions about positive online behaviour, privacy, and what to do if something online makes them feel uncomfortable. It has been encouraging to see how maturely they engaged with this learning and how well they can apply these important messages to real-life situations.

In PE, both year groups thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a lively game of diamond cricket. The activity promoted teamwork, strategic thinking, and lots of enthusiastic participation. It was wonderful to see pupils encouraging each other and enjoying being active together.

Overall, it has been a week full of hard work, learning, and fun across Year 5 and 6.



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Upcoming
Events:

	Event
MAY 2026	
Tues 19 th May	Tri-Golf Festival, B.C. Golf Club – Yrs 3+4
Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th May	School Closed for Half Term Holiday
JUNE 2026	
Thurs 4 th June	Yr 5 Trip to Edinburgh
Fri 5 th June	Tri-Golf Competition, B.C Golf Club – Yrs 3+4
Tues 9 th June	Yr6 – Post SATs Trip
Fri 12 th June	Athletics Competition, Bishop Auckland – Yrs 5+6
Tues 16 th June	Phototronics – Class + Yr6 Friendship Photographs
Wed 24 th June	Sports Day
Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th June	Healthy Week
Mon 22 nd June	Family Brunch for Father's Day
Wed 24 th June	Sport's Day
Mon 29 th June	Rounders Festival – Yrs 5+6