



Middleton News



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Ware a Hat Day

Today has been non-uniform day in support of a locally based charity.



"Ware a Hat" day raises money for the Amy Wallace Magpie Trust.

This charity is named in loving memory of Amy Wallace who lost her brave seven year battle with Leukaemia on May 30th 2008

Amy's parents, Nick and Pam Wallace, founded this charity in Amy's name, to continue their personal fight to help young Cancer sufferers to have as much comfort and enjoyment during their often lengthy hospital stays.

Our connection with this charity is through Pinewood School where Nick used to be caretaker.

We are very pleased to be able to support this charity again this year.

More Charity News

With this week's News we have sent home a sponsor form.

As usual we will be supporting Comic Relief / Sport Relief this year. This is our biggest charity event. We have a sponsored walk in the school grounds. This will

take place on Friday 11th March. This will also be a non-uniform day. The money which we raise is divided equally between Comic Relief and school fund. It is this money which supported us in buying some lovely new playground equipment this year. Please collect as many sponsors as you can between now and this date. More information will follow!

New Menus

You should find a copy of the Spring and Summer term menus in your child's book bag today. These new menus start on 18th April which is after the Easter holiday.

Swimming

We are sometimes contacted by parents and carers through the home school book to say that children are not well enough to go swimming even though they are in school. In general we have to insist that they join in with this activity as we do not have staff to look after the children otherwise.

We do understand that on some occasions, for example when an ear infection is under treatment we have no alternative but to add a child to another class for the swimming session, however as you can appreciate this causes some extra difficulties for the receiving class. We are unable to let the child sit on the side of the pool as the staff are in the pool

with the children who need support or have a task to do for example 'spotting' a child with epilepsy etc. This means that we do not have 'spare' staff to support children who are not swimming.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Tales From The Chalkface!

Lower School

Lower School have continued their topic about 'People around the world'.

In the last two weeks the children have experienced stories, dance, food and music from China and Australia.

As part of our week learning about Australia we were lucky enough to be visited by Mrs Goodall who played a Didgeridoo to each class. The children made vegetable kebabs to take home and cook and learnt about the types of animals that live in Australia.

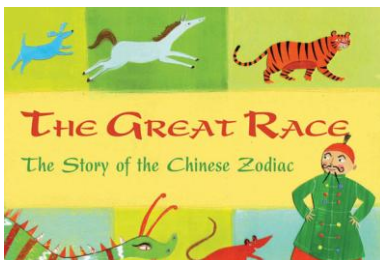
This week the children celebrated the Chinese New Year. We made Chinese dragons using hand prints and our own sweet and sour sauce which was sent home with noodles. Penguins made dragon masks which they used to copy a Chinese New Year dragon dance which they really enjoyed!

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Middle School

The children in Middle School really enjoyed Pancake Day! They learnt about Shrove Tuesday and why people traditionally made pancakes in preparation for Lent. The children then worked together to make a huge batch of pancake batter and enjoyed watching the pancakes being made. They were very impressed with how high Mrs Goodall was able to toss the pancakes! The children then chose their toppings and made short work of eating the pancakes!

Chinese New Year has also featured in Middle school this week. The children in Toucans made some delicious noodles with sweet and sour sauce which all the children enjoyed tasting. They have also learnt the story of 'The Great Race' which is based around the animals of the Chinese Zodiac.



The children have been exploring magnets as part of their science work and have been busily finding out which materials around the school are magnetic and which are not. This was taken a step further during offsite learning when Puffins and Toucans took their magnets and explored different materials that they encountered when out in Ware.

Swifts class completed their shopping based topic with a trip to The Galleria which they thoroughly enjoyed. They compared the experience to shopping in a town centre or supermarket. They loved the size and range of different shops in The Galleria and were very proud when they were all able to travel safely up and down the escalators.



Next half term the children in Middle school will have a history based topic and are looking forward to learning about The Vikings!

Upper School

Kingfishers have been continuing their literacy work by writing their own stories. They have had to learn how to plan what they are going to write and then they tackled the story in three parts, beginning, middle and end.



Kestrels have been learning about the story of King Midas. Everything he touched turned to gold. They have been using this story as a basis and then rewriting it with their own details.

In Drama the children have been exploring stories from the bible. They have been

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learning about the story of Adam and Eve and thinking about the decisions which they would have made had they been in the Garden of Eden. They have also done a piece of work on Cain and Abel who were the sons of Adam and Eve. They had a really silly argument which ended in Cain killing his brother. They explored family relationships and how silly arguments can sometimes lead to people getting hurt.

In common with Lower and Middle School, Upper School also made pancakes this week and learned about Shrove Tuesday and why it is significant.

In Maths Upper School have been exploring more 3D shapes. They have been learning their names and making the shapes from nets.

In history they have continued their Egypt theme by designing Death Masks.

Some of Upper School have also been learning a dance for the Special School Dance Festival. They went along to Woolgrove School and performed in front of pupils from other special schools. Mrs Hartley was very proud of their professional performance.

After half term the same group will be performing at the Dance Festival in Hertford. They will go on stage at the Hertford Theatre and will perform alongside lots of other children from local mainstream schools. Following on from their drama lesson the dance is about the Temptation of Adam and Eve.