



Middleton News



Volume 6 Issue 9

4 March 2016



We would like to say hello to Miss Stephanie Parkes who has joined us as a new Teaching Assistant. She will be working in Owls.

Also hello to James MacDonald who has joined us in Owls.

We also said goodbye to Rayhan Nabi who has gone to set up a new life in Germany. We wish him all the best.

Sports Relief



Every year for Red Nose or Sports Relief the whole school participate in a sponsored walk around the grounds. Half of the money goes to Sport Relief and half goes to the Friends of Middleton fund.

This year's walk takes place on Friday 11 March in the afternoon.

The day will also be a non-uniform day. As it is for Sports Relief children are invited to come in sporting clothes. They MUST have sensible footwear for the afternoon – trainers are ideal.

We will be asking for £1 donation for non-uniform on that day.

Ware A Hat Day!

Thank you for your support of Ware a Hat day. We managed to raise £81.33 for the Amy Wallace Trust.

Knickers, Pants and Socks!!!

As you will be aware lots of our children, particularly the younger ones are still having 'accidents' of one sort or another. We are really short of underwear and socks for children aged 4 – 9 years. If anyone is clearing out any still usable underwear or socks that your child has grown out of, we would be really grateful for them.

Sainsbury's Tokens

Just to let you know that we are collecting the vouchers from Sainsbury. If anyone needs a home for them then please send them in with your child. Thanks

Youtube

Lots of our children watch their favourite shows on You Tube. We wanted to make you aware that there are lots of films which your children may come across 'by accident' which may teach them more than you really want them to know.

We have had some pretty specific language which children have told us they have heard while watching 'My Little Pony', 'Pepper Pig' and such like. There are a lot of youtubers who spend a lot of time doing quite explicit voice-overs of children's programmes

which children can find by innocently searching for their favourite. Some of you may be well aware of this but there may be some of you who are not.

It is really important to check what your children are watching – It may not be what you think!

Autism Stuff

Thanks go to Tommi N's mum who has sent us in information about some Autism stuff.

Firstly there is a charity called PACT for Autism which is based in Harlow. It provides support and information meetings plus lots of Autism specific activities and training. Their website is www.pactforautism.org.uk. Their email is info@pactforautism.org.uk. There is also a Facebook page and a newsletter – worth a look!

There is also a stage presentation of 'Living With Luke' at the Rhodes Art Centre in Bishop's Stortford on 30th April at 7.30pm. This is a funny but poignant play about what life is like living with an autistic child. Tickets are £12.

Toucans Celebrate World Book Day

Toucan Class were invited by staff from Buntingford Library to join them for World Book Day. Everyone dressed up as a book character and they shared books and followed a trail to find 10 Teddy Bear

2

books hidden in the library.



Ruth was the star of the show, as the library staff were dressed as bears and she was dressed as Goldilocks!

Tales From The Chalkface!

Lower School

Lower School have started a new topic; 'All Creatures Great and Small'. The first week has been all about minibeasts. This is also the theme for our school assembly on 16 March. Children have been planning their outfits and practising their dances. Preparations are well underway.

We have all been on minibeast hunts in the school grounds and in the local woods. The children found slugs, worms, beetles, millipedes and some insect eggs. The children knew the best places to look for these creatures.

On the same theme we have been reading The Very Hungry Caterpillar and learning about the life-cycle of a butterfly.

The Robins went to Ardeley Farm this week. They had the opportunity to feed the chickens, ducks and rabbits and to collect the duck eggs. They also had a go at herding ducks in a field which the grown-ups really enjoyed. Ardeley Farm employ lots of staff

with special needs. It is really worth a visit.



Our trips this week have been a river walk to look at the different types of birds that live near rivers and in particular to look at the ducks in preparation for our duck eggs arriving next week. We are very eggcited!

In maths we are learning about position. The children have had great fun climbing in, on, under, beside, behind and next to child size boxes. There was a great temptation to reach for the parcel tape!!!

Middle School

Middle School have started to learn about the Vikings.

The children are investigating where the Vikings came from and how they got here. They have been learning about Viking long houses and clothing.

We have also been finding out about Viking battles, armour and weapons and the children are designing and making their own Viking shield. They have also enjoyed making Viking jewellery and brooches. Next week they are making Viking bread and comparing it to modern day bread.

Did you know that Ware was a border town between Viking England and Anglo Saxon England? A fleet of long ships came as far as Ware with the

Middleton News

aim of heading down the River Lea to attack London. They were stopped by King Alfred who trapped them by building weirs either side of the fleet. Every day is a school day!!!

Upper School

The Upper School have started work on the Water Cycle. As part of this topic Kestrels and Kingfishers visited the Anglian Water Education Centre at Chelmsford.

In the morning they made sewage out of household ingredients and considered what was flushable and what was not. There was a tour of the site to look at the stages in recycling water. After lunch there was a practical activity using filters to clean water.

In literacy the theme of myths and legends has continued. Kestrels are writing their own myth about a giant called Gilgamesh who lives on a mountain and fights a dragon.

The bunting project from Design and Technology is now finished and the completed bunting is on display in the dining room. The children are now looking at different textures and textiles to use in collage.

In Maths the children have been investigating capacity. They have been filling and emptying containers and ordering them by capacity which can be quite tricky.

In RE we have continued the theme of Bible Stories and we are studying the stories of Jesus walking on the water and we will look at the Easter story next.