



# Middleton News



Volume 7 Issue 11

24 March 2017

Hello!  
and  
Goodbye

We would like to welcome Naomi O'Callaghan who has joined Swifts since our last News.

At Easter we will be saying goodbye to two members of staff who have been at the school longer than I have.

Mrs Easton has been with us for nearly 10 years and has worked throughout the school, most recently in Toucans as well as leading our Outreach team. Mrs Easton has always wanted to return to Northern Ireland to work but getting a job there is notoriously difficult for people on the mainland. This year she has succeeded and will be moving out there with her family during the Easter holidays. We wish her well.

Mrs Rayfield asked me for a career break at the start of this school year and has spent time with her husband sailing to Australia to see her family before flying back to the UK at the end of March. With time for relaxation and enjoying being away from the relentless pace of working in a school Mrs Rayfield has decided to retire at the end of this term and will be moving with her family away from the area. Mrs Rayfield has worked in many areas across the school in her 12 years here. We will miss

her dry wit, resilience and common sense attitude. I must be more careful next time someone asks for a break!

But....  
After Easter we will be welcoming a new teacher, Miss Kelly Maisary who will be Toucan's class teacher next term.

## Ofsted

I would like to thank all parents and carers who managed to fill in the Ofsted questionnaire on Wednesday evening and those parents who were interrogated by the inspector on Thursday morning. The outcome of the inspection will be known after the Easter holiday when a letter will be sent home.

## Absence

It is **essential** that parents and carers notify the office if a child is absent. It is not possible to accept messages from bus escorts. Absence information can be given by telephone or alternatively using the email [absence@middleton.herts.sch.uk](mailto:absence@middleton.herts.sch.uk)  
Thank you

## Chicken Pox

Please be aware that we have had several recent cases of Chicken Pox in school.

## Charity News

I would like to thank all the staff and children who participated in Ware a Hat

day at the end of last half term. We raised £96 in total for the Amy Wallace Magpie Trust.



All of the children participated in our sponsored event this morning and will be bringing home their certificate. More news on our fundraising after Easter

## School Dinner Costs

With today's News you should receive the new menu which comes into force after Easter. Unfortunately there are price rises as you will be aware that the cost of food generally has increased.

The cost of a school dinner will be £2.40 after Easter but we cannot rule out another price rise during the next school year.

## Wool



If any of you have any wool around your house that you are not using then Lower School would be very pleased if you could send it in to school.  
Thank you.

2

## Finishing Early Easter Reminder

Just to remind you that we finish at 1.15 on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March. The children return to school after Easter on Tuesday 18 April.



## Tales From The Chalkface!

### Lower School

In the last few weeks we have been finding out about people who help us, the services they work for and the equipment that they use.

Last week we visited the fire station and then on Thursday we had a fire engine and fire-fighters on the playground and the children got to use the hose and sit in the fire engine. It was very exciting.



This week classes will be visiting local hair dressers to find out about the job they do before returning to school to create their own styles using wool.

In Art this week we are doing Mothers' Day crafting but this must remain a secret until Sunday.

In Science we have been using ICT equipment to

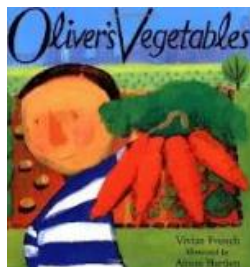
record results. This has included cameras, iPads and electronic bathroom scales. The children have also been on Spring walks to look for new plants that are growing and the children have used their knowledge to understand what plants need to grow.

In History we have been sorting old and new by comparing toys, the fire service and transport using pictures and real objects.

### Middle School

The children in Middle School have continued their topic about plants and growing. They have been learning to identify and name the parts of a plant. The bean stalks which they have been growing are getting taller by the minute.

The children have also been drawing their own beanstalks and measuring them using multi-link. They have also been learning to use words such as taller and shorter and have been working out if they are taller or shorter than a tree or a flower.



All of the children have been reading the story of Oliver's Vegetables by Alison Bartlett and Vivian French and following the Puffin's trip to the allotment both Swifts and Toucans have visited the vegetable garden at Myddelton House in Enfield. It is a really lovely

## Middleton News

garden and if you want to visit it is free.

In cooking this week the children have made sandwiches using the cress which they have grown as one of the fillings.

### Upper School

The Upper School have continued their topic about explorers by looking at the first space explorations.

They have learnt about Sputnik and its journeys in low Earth orbit and about Sputnik 2 which carried Laika the dog. Laika was a stray from the streets of Moscow who became one of the first animals in space



They have also found out about Yuri Gagarin who was the first human in space.

The children also role played the Moon landings.

In Maths the children have been practising telling the time and working out simple time problems. In Technology the children have been making Easter baskets and in Art they have been making Mother's Day cards in the style of Kandinsky. You will have to wait until Sunday to see how they turned out.

Eagles are working towards their endeavour awards at horse riding. After half-term Kingfishers will be horse riding and Eagles and Kestrels will be swimming.