



Middleton News



Volume 7 Issue 2

5 October 2016

Harvest Assembly

Harvest Festival Assembly will take place on Friday 14th of October. Everyone is welcome. We would ask that parents and carers are seated by 1.25 for a 1.30 start. The assembly will last about 30 minutes. The timing is aimed to allow those parents who want to take their child home to get there in time for any other school runs.

As in previous years we are going to support Herts Young Homeless. As a registered charity they support young homeless people many of whom are sleeping rough and may not have eaten for a while.

The items most useful to them are

- ✚ Dried pasta
- ✚ Rice
- ✚ Baked beans or tinned spaghetti
- ✚ Basic tinned veg – potatoes, carrots, peas or sweetcorn
- ✚ Tinned tomatoes
- ✚ Soup
- ✚ Instant pasta or rice meals / pot noodles
- ✚ Paste, marmite, jam, marmalade
- ✚ Tea, coffee, drinking choc, sugar and UHT milk
- ✚ Rice pud, custard, tinned fruit and instant desserts
- ✚ Breakfast cereal and cereal bars
- ✚ Canned meat such as hotdogs, meatballs, stews, curry, corned beef, tinned ham

- ✚ Pasta and meal sauces
- ✚ Treats such as chocolate, biscuits, crisps and cake
- ✚ Toiletries eg toothpaste and brushes, shampoo and soap.

We can accept donations at any time between now and the assembly.

Parents / Carers Needed!



FOMS

At Middleton School we are lucky enough to be able to provide our children with lots of resources and activities. There are other things that we would like to fund and our charity "Friends of Middleton" raises additional money through family and fun filled activities to enable the children to enjoy these extra benefits.

We need volunteers to help us with our fundraising and would be really grateful for any help or ideas. Many of our members have left as their children have moved on to secondary school. We would like to rejuvenate our team with some new

faces but 'old faces' are very welcome too!!

So please if you can give a little time then speak to Diane in the office. Thank you.

Bus Pick Ups

A gentle reminder that once a school bus arrives at your door it is only allocated 5 minutes to pick up your child. After 5 minutes it can legitimately drive away leaving you to bring your child to school. Being late affects other children and the start of the day. We would be grateful for your co-operation in this matter.

Please be aware that any queries about the bus service need to be taken up either with 24x7 directly or with SEN transport at Herts County Council.

Tales From The Chalkface!

Lower School

The two major topics in Lower School this half term are *Changes* and *All About Me*. The children have been thinking about the changes that have happened in school – new classes, new friends and new adults.

We have been learning about changes in seasons and have all been on Woodland Walks to collect materials to create autumn collages.

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In maths the children have been reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and learning the days of the week.



We have also been learning the months of the year and the different seasons.

The children have been telling their friends all about themselves and each one has a branch to decorate with information about themselves which will form part of their class tree.

Middle School

The children in Middle School are really enjoying their topic 'Out of This World'. They have been learning about the Earth, the Sun and the different planets in our solar system.



The children are also exploring light and dark and have had great fun with shadow puppets!

In literacy the children have enjoyed experiencing fiction stories related to outer space and have been to the moon for a picnic just like Baby Bear in 'Whatever Next!'. They are learning to retell and sequence stories as well as developing their own emergent writing.

In art the focus has been on 3D sculpture and the children have created some great planets and rockets using different techniques!

On Tuesday we are having a giant dome in school for the day for the children in Middle School to experience life in outer space firsthand!



Upper School

Upper School are starting this term by investigating the Battle of Hastings. They are using the images of the Bayeux Tapestry to work out the story of the battle. If you are ever near Reading there is a copy of the tapestry in Reading Museum which is worth a visit.



In Literacy the children are making non-fiction books about Dinosaurs. Kacper is particularly pleased about this! They are using augmented reality programmes on the iPad to discover things about the life of dinosaurs.

In Maths they are searching out and naming 2D and 3D shapes. They have been looking for these around the school.

In Science we have spent some time 'in the dark' discovering what is and isn't a source of light and

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understanding that your eyes cannot work if there is no light at all. Next they are going to learn about reflection and mirrors.



In art the children are looking at abstract portraits based on Picasso.

ChatSS

Parent support group for CHIPS

Many of you will be aware of the work of CHIPS. Lots of our children take advantage of their weekend and holiday clubs. As an offshoot of CHIPS, ChatSS provides a support group for parents and carers of children with additional needs. It has been going since 2003 and supports those with children in mainstream and special schools. The meetings take place between 1 and 2.30 pm every 3rd Thursday during term time. The next meetings are on the 20th October, 17th November and 15th December at The Hub, Divot Place, Hamels Drive Hertford. As well as sometimes having invited visitors there is also time just to sit and relax and talk to others.

Refreshments are 50p and children are also welcome. For further information please contact Angela or Jo through the CHIPS office on 01992 534664 or else email info@chipsplay.org.uk. Their website can be found at www.chatss.org.uk.