



# Middleton News



Volume 9 Issue 7

17 January 2019

## Hello!

We would like to say 'Hello' to Siobhan Hold who has joined Eagles since our last News. Also 'Hello' to Mr Butterworth who has joined Penguins as a trainee teacher this term.

## Farewell!

Sadly, this week we are saying goodbye to Mrs Pritchard who is leaving us to work at Saint Elizabeths in Much Hadham.

Also at February half term we are saying goodbye to Mrs Frearson who is going to have a break from teaching for a while.

We would like to thank them both for their hard work and dedication to the school and wish them both well for the future.

## Happy New Year

Happy New Year to all our readers. In the words of the song....Let's hope it's a good one without any fear.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for the kind and thoughtful gifts which staff received before Christmas. We are still reaping the rewards of chocolates and biscuits which always go down well but I know that there were lots of other individual gifts which were very gratefully received.

## Lost Property



Please be aware that it is really difficult to keep track of children's property in school. Each child could have a jumper, hat, coat, 2 gloves and 2 boots; this means that for each class teacher there is a possibility of children mislaying 70 items. There are 6 opportunities to lose them per day which means the possible loss of 420 items per teacher per day.

We do our best to support children in looking after their things and in encouraging them to take responsibility for them however we are unable to spend masses of time searching for lost items.

We would be grateful if parents and carers would put names in all items brought to school; this would help us enormously in returning things we do find.

## Calendar

Attached to this week's News is a copy of the calendar for this term. This has on it all of the things which we know about at this point in the term but it is important that you continue to read the News to find out if there are any additional dates which you need to be aware of.

## Coffee Morning



Sharron has organised a coffee morning for Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30 at the school. Everyone is welcome. As part of the morning we will share some of the work which FOMS have been doing and upcoming events. We would also be grateful to hear any ideas which you have of things FOMS could do.

## Harvest Thank You

Just to let you know that we have received a thank you letter from Hertford Foodbank for the donations which we sent in. The food weighed in at 135 kilos and according to the food bank would be enough to feed 12 people for 3 days each!

## Tales From The Chalkface!

### Lower School

Lower School children are investigating traditional tales this half term and exploring a different story each week.

Last week the children's learning was around *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. They role played the story, rehearsed the repetitive lines....*It was just right!* They then used this when testing out different size beds, chairs and tables at a local

## 2

furniture store. The children also tasted different types of porridge to decide which one was *Just right!* In Maths we linked the story to comparing size – big, small and medium size. Robins have made large collages of the characters in Goldilocks to decorate the Lower School Courtyard.

This week we have been learning about the Three Billy Goats Gruff. The children have learnt how you can make cheese from goats milk and have smelt and had the opportunity to taste it. We have tripped over a real bridge and met the troll underneath. We also learnt geographical language about the surrounding features of the land.

Throughout the term we are linking the theme of making safe choices to the stories we are learning about. Last week we talked about stranger danger and this week we have thought about safety around water.

### Middle School

The children in Middle School are embracing their new topic 'Groovy Greeks'. We have started the topic with a geography focus, comparing and contrasting Greece with England. We will then learn about life in Ancient Greece with a focus on food, theatre, the Olympics and Greek gods.

The children have already enjoyed making their first Greek dish, Spanakopita in cooking and will continue to make and taste Greek food throughout the topic.

The children will also experience Ancient Greek

myths and legends through sensory story telling. They will share stories such as Medusa and Theseus and the Minotaur!

In maths we are learning about 3D shapes. The children have been exploring a range of shapes and are becoming familiar with the names and properties of the different shapes. It would be great to encourage the children to look for real examples of 3D shapes around the home.

### Upper School

The Upper School children have quickly engaged with the topic this term - 'The Romans'. In the last two weeks we have explored who the Romans were and what the Roman Empire was like and we made Roman cheesecake in cookery.

In English we have explored the clothing and equipment that a Roman soldier might use. The children learnt key vocabulary to label pictures, also using captions incorporating adjectives.

In Science we have been exploring forces and motions. On our offsite visit we went to a local playground to determine which forces we needed to use to operate the different equipment. We then revisited the same playground to see how friction affects forces and motion.

In PE this term we are learning how to create and perform fluent sequences in gym. We are currently learning how to do controlled actions and

## Middleton News

movements. The children have learnt 'start' and 'stop' positions and are developing their skills of jump take-off and landing combinations.

PSHE this term is learning how to take responsibility. The children have explored what the word means and they have also had a discussion about what responsibilities they have at school.

### Community News

#### Space Master Builders

SPACE is a charity supporting families in Hertfordshire who have children with Autism, ADHD and related conditions.

They are working with Master Builders Parties to bring a SPACE exclusive Lego club to Ware. The sessions are aimed at children aged 4 + but there will be some Duplo on hand if you need to bring a younger sibling. There is no upper age limit. The sessions run from 9.30 to 11.30 and cost £5 per child plus £1 booking fee. Sessions are on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb, 9<sup>th</sup> March and 11 May. Contact [SPACEHERTS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SPACEHERTS@GMAIL.COM)

#### Batteries

We have had a warning poster from Health and Safety about the tiny circular batteries that are in many of the toys which our children are given. They are easily swallowed if removed from their casing and can cause severe life-impacting burns. The advice is that if your child does swallow a button cell battery you should seek urgent medical advice **immediately**.