



Welcome back to a new term and new year! How long will it take us all to get used to writing 2022?! I hope you all enjoyed a healthy and happy Christmas and were able to welcome in the new year with your family. The children have returned to school in good spirits, and are already focused and learning in class as if they had never been away!



You will not have escaped reference in the media to the current issues surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic. As with all workplaces, schools are facing challenging times with regard to staff shortages and the impact of isolation periods. We are doing our utmost to keep classes open and pupils in school for face to face learning. Your children may tell you that they had a new face in their classroom as we endeavour to keep all classes staffed to a safe level! Hopefully disruption to children and their families will be kept to a minimum as the month and term progresses.

It has now been announced that Primary aged pupils can access

lateral flow tests, which may help to ease concern in many households.

### Pupil Progress

Initial data analysis of pupil progress from March 2021 until December 2021 has demonstrated that our pupils are re-established in their learning routines and making good progress. One of our strongest areas of development since we returned in March 21 is across all strands of PSHE. In addition, the Reading strand within English has seen notable pupil progress.



An area which was negatively impacted by the pandemic and lockdown life was that of PE. Objectives to assist in the improvement of pupil progress in this area of the curriculum are detailed on our School Development Plan. Staff braved the cold on Wednesday this week to take part in some training led by Mr Wildey!



### Winners!

Last term our pupils, led by Rachel Hart ( teacher) entered a dance competition with Paradance. They astounded us all with their fabulous dance skills, and at Christmas we found out . . . . . we were WINNERS! Better still we have won two separate categories and will be proudly receiving two trophies. Well done to all involved – a great achievement!

### Tales From The Chalkface!

#### Lower School

Lower School pupils have started work on their new topic 'People Around the World'. This week they have been learning about India. They have shared the story of Elmer and made patchwork Elmers in their Art lessons. Within PSHE they have been learning to respect differences among people and cultures. The Robins class have been busy in Maths learning about number formation, adding one more, and races with a 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.



## Middle School

The pupils in Middle School have begun work on a new topic; Rivers and Water. As part of their off site learning programme the children will be visiting local rivers, with a focus on the River Lea. They will learn about the purposes and features of rivers. Within Science they are learning about the importance of water, the process of freezing and melting and the water cycle.

In food technology this term there is a focus on vegetables – perhaps we will convert some children to eating more vegetables!



## Upper School

The children in Upper School have a new topic also – The Tudors. This week we have been finding out what the children already know and fact sharing.

We have explored the Tudor Rose and in Design Technology will be designing our own bookmarks.

This week, the children began learning about Romeo and Juliet through the film 'Gnomeo and Juliet'!

The Kestrels class returned to the kitchen to make rock cakes;



And the Eagles class have enjoyed Team Games in PE;



## Sad Farewells

Sadly we said Goodbye to Mrs Hargraves at the end of the Christmas term. She has worked at the school for many years and will be missed.

## Dates for the diary

Attached to this newsletter you will find the calendar for the Spring term with key dates marked on accordingly.

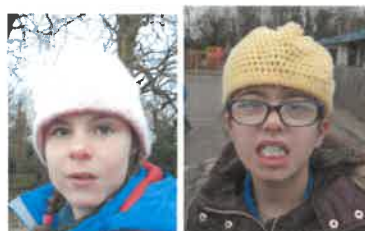
I hope that our school community and extended families remain well over the coming weeks. If you need to report a positive COVID case out of school hours then the contact point is Mrs Graffato on 07740410650 or at [sharron.graffato@middleton.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sharron.graffato@middleton.herts.sch.uk)

It has turned notably colder over the past few days, and we have admired the selection of woolly hats on the playground. I will leave you with some photos of pupils having fun in their woolly hats on the playground.

Have a lovely weekend

*Debbie Hartley*

## Middleton News





## MIDDLETON SCHOOL PLANNER January – March 2022

	January	February	March	April
<b>F</b>				<b>1 School finishes 1.15</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>2</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>3</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>4</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>4 INSET</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>5 Pupils In</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3 Health and safety audit</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4 World Cancer Day</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7 EHCP reviews for Yr 5 begin</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12 Half Term</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19 Pupils return</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16 Science Focus</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>20 SENCO afternoon</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17 Science Focus</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18 Science Focus Red Nose Day</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25 half day training</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>M</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	
<b>T</b>				
<b>W</b>				
<b>T</b>				

