



Middleton News



Volume 3 Issue 10

4th March 2022



I hope you all had a lovely half term – despite the windy weather and we welcome you back for the second part of the Spring term. We were all hoping for some clarity with regard to the next stage in the road map beyond the pandemic, but it would appear that, for the time being, much will remain the same within special school settings. Currently we are following guidance which requests that if an individual tests positive for COVID then they are requested to self isolate. Staff within special schools are to continue with twice weekly testing and anyone with symptoms of being unwell is to remain at home.

On a more positive note, we have begun to re-introduce some activities and reduce contact restrictions within school. This means that children can now enjoy resources such as the library,



partake in mixed ability teaching groups such as number and phonics,



enjoy offsite learning in a wider domain;



and this week we will hold our first face to face assembly this term!

Speech and language therapy

You will be aware that the school closed early last Friday to allow for whole school staff training. Part of this training session was dedicated to speech and language therapy. Thank you to the therapists who presented training which will enable staff to support your children with their communication in school. The SALT team now have a dedicated email address; salt@middleton.herts.sch.uk

This can also be located via the school website. Any parents are welcome to contact the SALT team for support or advice regardless as to whether their child is on the current caseload.

EHCP reviews

All pupils and their families in Year Five will be attending a review of their EHCP in the coming weeks. You should have received an invitation to the review and an envelope of documentation to support this review. We look

forward to meeting with you and hope that our new 'meeting lodge' will be up and running in time to hold the meetings in!

The magic of reading!

It is nationally recognised that reading to children enhances the development of the child's own reading skills and encourages a lifelong love of reading. We are introducing a new initiative in school whereby each class has a 'book of the week' to share during story sessions. Listed below are the books each class are currently enjoying, as you may like to follow this up at home and re read the book with your child;

- Robins – The Gruffalo – Julia Donaldson
- Penguins – Monkey Puzzle – Julia Donaldson
- Owls - Monkey Puzzle – Julia Donaldson
- Toucans – Three Little wolves and the big bad pig- Trivizas/Oxenbury
- Puffins – Pip and Posy stories – Axel Scheffler
- Swifts – Five Minutes Peace – Jill Murphy
- Eagles – Never tickle a tiger – Pamela Butchart
- Kingfishers – Stick Man – Julia Donaldson
- Kestrels – Shhh! – Barroux

Science Focus Week

We are excited to announce that we will be holding a Science Focus week from the 16th to the 18th of March. The children will be working within their departments on a range of science themes and will also enjoy activities provided by visiting science specialists/ groups. On

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Friday 18th March we will be supporting comic relief with our annual sponsored walk/ run! We are currently raising fund to purchase a new minibus and so will divide the funds raised equally between comic relief and our own pledge to raise funds for a new bus. More information and sponsor forms will follow next week.

Tales From The Chalkface!

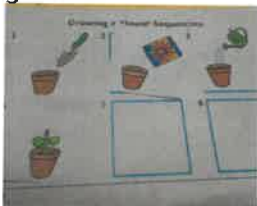
Lower School

Lower School pupils have begun work on a new topic 'Creatures Great and Small'. In Geography the pupils have made a collage of an under the sea habitat for animals.

In Science this week the children have planted sunflower seeds.



They have then sequenced the stages of the plant's growth.



In PE lessons this week, the pupils have been learning to roll a ball accurately to a partner.



Middle School

The pupils in Middle School are beginning to work on two new topics; 'Settlements' and 'The Vikings'.

This week, the pupils visited a local village as part of their off site learning, to observe the features of a small settlement. The pupils have also made Viking Bread in their cooking lesson!

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Pupils in Middle School are currently learning about capacity within maths and have been using the terminology 'full' 'empty' and 'half empty'.

The Swifts children met Dolly the dog this week and had a fabulous time getting to know her!



Toucans pupils have been working hard on their letter formation as part of a handwriting lesson.



Upper School

The children in Upper School are enjoying their new topic; 'Right and Wrong'.

Within music this week the pupils have been listening to music from different parts of the world and then learning to recreate this.



In Geometry, the pupils have been learning how to use nets to create 3D shapes and then use these shapes to create a large scale model. Many skills have been practised including intricate cutting, design and assembly.



In Food Technology the children have been thinking about healthy eating and created some rainbow salad pots!



They have then followed up this work with a written record of their achievements.



In maths, the pupils have been measuring using cm and mm.



Dates for the diary

16th - 18th March –
Science Focus Week

18th March –
Sponsored Walk

Tuesday 29th March –
Kingswood talk for Yr 6
parents 6.30pm

Friday 1st April –
Break up for the Easter
holidays. School finishes
for pupils at lunchtime.

Let's hope that Spring is
around the corner, and
that you may be able to
get out and about this
weekend!

Have a lovely weekend.

Debbie Hartley

