



Middleton News



Volume 4 Issue 1

9th September 2022



Welcome to the first issue of the 2022/2023 Middleton News. We hope that all of our families had an enjoyable Summer and made the most of the amazing weather. It is great to see so many smiling faces back in school again . . . and that includes the staff!



This term we are welcoming new pupils across the school. They have quickly settled and it feels as if they have always been here! We welcome both the pupils and their extended families to the Middleton School Community. 'Hello' to.....:

Robins:

Reggie
Violet
Edward
Jackson
Drew
Ayla
Max

Penguins:

James
Travis

Owls;

Jasmine
Harry
Ilya

Puffins:

Ediz
Tanzeem

Swifts:

Samuel
Luke

Kestrels:

Tristan
Daniela
Lady

We hope that you enjoy your journey here at Middleton School.

In addition we have had several new members of staff join us. We welcome Anthony McGrath; a TA in Kestrels, Tina Brodie; a TA in Penguins class, Max Handley; a TA in Middle School and Danielle Hyde; a TA across the School. All four staff have had a very busy week and are settling at pace into their new roles! Welcome to the team!

About the



The Middleton News is compiled and sent home with your child every two weeks.

It tells you everything you need to know about what is happening in school. You can read about the achievements and learning opportunities of the pupils in each department. You can check up on any important dates coming up and you can also read about any community news which we think might be useful to you.

Please make sure that you empty your child's bag and look for the Middleton News each fortnight. An electronic copy is also delivered and it is placed on our school web site.

Payments - School Gateway

As with many schools, our aim is to remain as cash free an environment as possible, and we ask parents to make use of the School gateway account wherever possible. It is simple, safe and secure to use and enables you to make payments via your credit / debit card. It also enables us to send you messages direct to your phone. We recommend that you download the free app.

You can also access School Gateway through the home page of our school web site. If you scroll to the bottom of the home page you will find the link. Please ring the office if you need any assistance.



We are very fortunate at Middleton School to have a full time Family Liaison Officer as part of our staff team. However, as some of you may be aware, Sharron Graffato has been suffering with some ill health and has not been in her role since February. We are all wishing Sharron well and hope to see her in school soon. In the meantime, we have established some support for families two days a week; a Monday and a Wednesday, with Louise Esser, an experienced TA who works within the school. Louise is assisting with some of the FLO tasks in school and is available to chat to families on these two days if you are seeking additional

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support. Louise has already made contact with several families and is looking forward to meeting you all in the near future.

Meet the team!



We are looking forward to welcoming all families to the school on Wednesday 21st September. This is an opportunity for your child to show you their new classroom and introduce you to the staff in their class. Please note that this is **NOT** a parent consultation and if you would like to discuss any individual concerns then you will need to arrange a meeting with your class teacher at an alternative time. Your class teacher will be sending you a letter detailing your appointment time slot. We look forward to welcoming you to the school for this event.

Usual Service is resumed!

At long last we are beginning to enjoy some normality within school, post pandemic, with pupils and staff mixing freely and the re-introduction of key events and activities.

Children are eating together in the dinner hall And enjoying whole school assemblies.



We have been so proud of our pupils this week who right from day one have re-engaged immediately in their learning; sitting as part of the class group, listening, reading, writing and learning.



Tales From The Chalkface!

Lower School

This half term, the Lower School Topic is 'Changes.' The children in Lower School have been settling into school life and learning about their new classes and making new friendships. In art lessons they have created a 'mini me' on a paper plate! Yesterday the children enjoyed their first PE session with Mr Wildey and coped so well with the

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change of learning environment and change of teacher. This is especially pleasing for the Robins class, who have so many pupils new to the school!



Middle School



The children in Middle School are working on the topic 'Out of this world!'. In art lessons this week they have created some beautiful images of the solar system in their own choice of medium.



In science lessons the pupils have been learning the names and order of the planets within the solar system. I have also heard them reciting rhymes and singing songs to aid them in recalling this! The pupils who attend M Team lessons have also enjoyed counting down backwards from ten and then blasting a rocket up into the air! The children in Owls class baked rock cakes in the cooking lesson this week;



All of the pupils in Middle School have enjoyed their first offsite visit this week and are learning how to be safe within the local community.



Upper School

This half term the Upper School topic is 'Beans!'. In cooking this week they have made cheese and bean pasties which I am sure you will have a chance to sample!



In Geography lessons the pupils have been learning about the 'rich' and 'poor' countries of the world and exploring a map of the world to locate them. In art lessons the pupils have been studying the work of artist Andy Warhol and then copying his technique and style to make their own creations;



Holidays!

It is my duty to inform families that schools are **not** allowed to grant pupils leave during term time to attend family holidays unless there are specific extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with the school.

At Middleton we do appreciate that for some pupils their particular needs make it a challenge to take a holiday at the busiest periods of the year. It is for this reason that we take a two week break at May half term. At the point when most other pupils are returning to school we have an additional week. This allows families to seek a holiday when it is quieter (and also not so expensive!) Next year this will be the week commencing Monday 5th June 2023. The days taken in this week are made up of INSET days , Occasional Days, and early returns from holiday periods so the pupils do not miss any dedicated learning time. We hope that this is helpful to many of our families and I request that families attempt to book holidays in this period and not in term time.

Dates for the diary

Attached to this newsletter you will find a list of term dates along with a calendar of events for this term. Further information will be

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communicated closer to the time of key events, but do store this information somewhere safe so that you can refer to it.

Thursday 15th September

Welcome to new parents; at 6.30pm we will be holding a welcome meeting for our new parents in the school hall. A letter has been sent out to our new families this week.

Wednesday 21st September; 'Meet the team'

Friday September 23rd

Jeans for Genes Day.  Pupils and staff may wear denim into school for a £1 donation which supports the charity Genetic Disorders UK.

Saturday September 24th; Family Picnic – more information to follow

Texting/ Email Communication

As a school our primary mode of communication is through the use of email. Please ensure that you **register your email address** with the school and then regularly check your email inbox. In addition, from time to time, we do send text reminders straight to your mobile phone. Messages sent this way tend to be those that are of short notice such as a cancellation of swimming, reminders about non-uniform days or snow closures.



It is therefore really **important that you tell us if your mobile number changes** so that you continue to receive these messages.

Healthy Snacks

We encourage pupils to bring snacks in from home to eat at snacktime in their mid morning break. However, this snack should **NOT** contain nuts and should be healthy in nature, for example; a piece of fruit, a yoghurt, a cereal bar, bread sticks. . We do not permit items such as chocolate bars, cakes or crisps. We do have a pupil in the school with a specific NUT allergy so I am sure you will appreciate the importance of considering the food items sent into school Lower School pupils do have a snack provided for them from a government initiative. Snack time is often a good opportunity for pupils to try some new tastes and textures and to explore new foods.

Queen Elizabeth II



It was with great sadness that we all received the news yesterday evening of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. As a school community we send our condolences to those who are bereaved and our thoughts are with her family In assembly today we shared some special time together remembering the Queen and viewing a

selection of memorable photographs. Over the next few weeks we will conduct some special activities in memoriam – more information to follow

I am sure that you may have some very tired children this weekend as they have enjoyed their first full week of school and all of the fun and enjoyment that that entails! Enjoy your weekend – we are predicted a dry one - and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday. Many thanks

Debbie Hartley

Middleton School Term Dates 2022/ 2023

Thursday 1st September – INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Friday 2nd September – school begins for pupils new to the school.

Monday 3rd September – school begins for majority of pupils

Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October – Half term

Monday 31st October - INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Friday 4th November – early closure at 1.00pm to allow for staff training

Wednesday 21st December – End of term. School closes at 1.00pm

Thursday 22nd December – Wednesday 4th January – Christmas holidays

Wednesday 4th January - INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Thursday 5th January – Pupils return to school

Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February – Half term

Friday 24th February - early closure at 1.00pm to allow for staff training

Friday 31st March – End of term. School closes at 1.00pm

Monday 3rd April – Friday 14th April – Easter holidays

Monday 17th April – pupils return to school

Monday 29th May – Friday 9th June - Half term (note; 2 week half term)

Friday 30th June - INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Friday 21st July – End of term. School closes at 1.00pm



MIDDLETON SCHOOL PLANNER FOR PARENTS
September – December 2022

	September	October	November	December
M			31 INSET DAY	
T			1 School photos	
W			2 Science Focus Week	
T	1 INSET DAY		3	1
F	2 Pupils return (grp 1)		4 1.00 close for staff training	2
S	3	1	5	3
S	4	2	6	4
M	5 Pupils return (grp 2)	3	7	5
T	6	4	8	6
W	7	5	9	7
T	8	6	10	8
F	9	7	11	9
S	10	8	12	10
S	11	9	13	11
M	12	10	14 Xmas Photos week	12
T	13	11	15	13
W	14	12 Parent Consultation till 7	16	14
T	15 New Parents Welcome Evening	13 Flu vaccinations	17	15 Carols round the tree 6.45pm
F	16	14 Harvest Festival	18 Children in Need	16 Pantomime
S	17	15	19	17
S	18	16	20	18
M	19	17	21	19 Father Christmas am Parties pm
T	20	18	22	20 Xmas Lunch
W	21 'Meet the staff team'	19	23	21 Disco 1.00 pm End of term
T	22	20	24	22
F	23 Jeans for genes	21	25	23
S	24 Family Pic-nic	22 Half Term	26	24
S	25	23	27	25
M	26	24	28	26
T	27	25	29	27
W	28 Electric Umbrella	26	30	28
T	29	27		29
F	30	28		30
S		29		31
S		30		

INSET Wednesday 4th JANUARY 2023

