



Middleton News



Volume 6 Issue 1

6th September 2024



Welcome to the first issue of the 2024/2025 Middleton News. We hope that all of our families had a lovely Summer and were able to enjoy quality time together. The children have settled quickly into school and are already following new routines and making new friends.

HELLO

This term we are welcoming many new pupils across the school. We hope that the pupils and their families enjoy being part of the Middleton community and we look forward to our journey with you. We say 'Hello' to....:

Robins:

Adam, Joy, Freddie, Bertie, Fern, Indie, Dominic, George, Jessica, Forrest, Dollie Marie, Lorenzo

Penguins:

Marshall, Soraya, Cengis

Owls;

Jayden, Teddy, Samuele

Toucans;

Tommy, Ayyah, Alba, Josiah, Autumn

Puffins:

Delilah

Swifts:

Roman, James, Lucy Mae

Herons:

Stevie

We also welcome six new teaching assistants to the school this term; Miss Milne, Mrs Williams, Miss

Leenders, Mrs Jordan, Mrs Sadler and Mrs Schofield. We welcome all new members of our school community and look forward to many fun experiences with you.

About the

Middleton News

The Middleton News is compiled and sent home with your child every three 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, along with additional communications, on a regular basis. 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 payments via the School gateway account. 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 request 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 dedicated Family Liaison Officer as part of our staff team. You will have spoken to, or met, Helen Nash as part of your transition programme. Helen is here to support both pupils and their families with any challenges you may face.



Email contact is FLO@middleton.herts.sch.uk Stacey Ward has accepted a new position and will not be returning to Middleton School this term. Please do join us at coffee mornings and social events throughout the year.

Welcome evening for new parents



New families will have received a letter inviting them to a welcome evening next Tuesday – 10th September. Please do book your places at this event, where you will be able to gather more information about the school and meet other parents.

Meet the team!



We are looking forward to welcoming all families to the school on Wednesday 18th 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.

Parent volunteers

We are always grateful to volunteers from the wider community and would also welcome volunteers from our parent community. If you have some free time and would like to offer some support to pupils in school then please do contact the school office on 01920 485152 so that we may organise a visit into school.

Lost Property

With 111 pupils in the school we often have confusion over jumpers or shoes! Please do name all property that belongs to your child so that we can return lost items to their rightful owners!

Friday September 20th

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

Tales From The Chalkface!

Lower School

Lower School pupils have started the year with the topic 'Changes.'



They have explored changes in the weather with the weather song – experiencing wind, rain and snow!

The pupils have spoken about their new classes and the changes they have noticed in school.



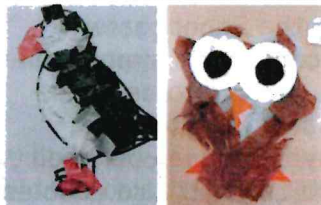
The children have settled into their new classrooms and made new friends.



Middle School

The children in Middle School are beginning with the topic 'Out of this world!' They have begun this week by exploring their own world and the changes within it!

In art lessons this week they have made collage representations of the birds in their class names.



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The pupils have engaged fully in their literacy and numeracy lessons.



All of the pupils in Middle School have enjoyed a full range of lessons this week, including PE, where they have learnt to use the space in the hall safely.



Upper School

This half term the Upper School topic is 'Beans!'. They will be learning about a range of countries across the world where all sorts of beans are grown. They will also be exploring the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. This week the pupils have made mini pizzas in cooking and have created art work in the style of Andy Warhol.



They have continued to develop their life skills – today spreading items on toast!



It is lovely to see the pupils who have moved up from Middle School becoming so responsible!

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 2nd June 2025. 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, as this will not be authorised. Term dates for the year are attached to this newsletter. Please make a note of the start and end dates for terms as they may differ to other schools.

Dates for the diary

Attached to this newsletter you will also find a calendar of events for this term, along with an

overview for the whole academic year. Further information will be communicated closer to the time of key events, but do store this information somewhere safe so that you can refer to it. You may want to book time away from work now for the Sports day so that you can compete in the parent race!

Texting/ Email Communication

As a school our primary mode of communication is through the use of email. Please ensure that you 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 or email address 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 are a

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nut free 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.

Wow! A very busy newsletter with lots to share!

I am sure that many of our pupils will end the week very tired (as will the staff!). I hope that you can enjoy a restful weekend, refreshed ready for Monday! I shall leave you with some images of the first week of the school year.

Many thanks

Debbie Hartley



Middleton School Term Dates 2024/ 2025

Monday 2nd September – INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Tuesday 3rd September – school begins for pupils new to the school.

Wednesday 4th September – school begins for majority of pupils

Tuesday 15th October - INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November – Half term

Friday 8th November – early closure at 1.00pm to allow for staff training

Week commencing 18th November – FOCUS week - History

Friday 20th December – End of term. School closes at 1.00pm

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January – Christmas holidays

Monday 6th January 2025 – Pupils return to school

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February – Half term

Friday 28th February - early closure at 1.00pm to allow for staff training

Friday 4th April – End of term. School closes at 1.00pm

Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April – Easter holidays

Tuesday 22nd April – pupils return to school

Tuesday 6th May - INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Wednesday 7th – Friday 9th May – Focus week

Monday 26th May – Friday 6th June - Half term (note; 2 week half term)

Monday 9th June – pupils return to school

Thursday 3rd July - INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

THURSDAY 10th July – TRANSITION DAY

Thursday 24th July – End of term. School closes at 1.00pm

(please note that this date differs to Hertfordshire term dates.)

Middleton School calendar 2024/25



2024												2025											
August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
1 Th	1 Su	1 Tu	1 Fr	1 Su	1 We New Year's Day	1 Sa	1 Sa	1 Tu	1 Th	1 Su	1 Tu	1 Th	1 Su	1 Tu	1 Fr	1 Su	1 We New Year's Day	1 Sa	1 Sa	1 Tu	1 Th	1 Su	1 Tu
2 Fr	2 Mo Inset Day	2 We	2 Sa	2 Mo	2 Th	2 Su	2 Su	2 We	2 Fr	2 Mo	2 We	2 Fr	2 Mo	2 We	2 Sa	2 Mo	2 Th	2 Su	2 Su	2 We	2 Fr	2 Mo	2 We
3 Sa	3 Tu New pupils	3 Th	3 Su	3 Tu	3 Fr	3 Mo	3 Mo	3 Th	3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Th	3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Th	3 Su	3 Mo	3 Fr	3 Mo	3 Mo	3 Th	3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Th INSET Day
4 Su	4 We All Pupils	4 Fr School birthday	4 Mo	4 We	4 Sa	4 Tu	4 Tu	4 Fr	4 Su	4 We	4 Fr	4 Su	4 We	4 Fr	4 Mo	4 Tu	4 Sa	4 Tu	4 Tu	4 Fr	4 We	4 We	4 Fr Whole school trip
5 Mo	5 Th	5 Sa	5 Tu	5 Th	5 Su	5 We	5 We	5 Sa	5 Mo Bk. Hol.	5 Th	5 Sa	5 Mo	5 Th	5 Sa	5 Tu	5 We	5 Su	5 We	5 We	5 Sa	5 Th	5 Th	5 Sa
6 Tu	6 Fr	6 Su	6 We	6 Fr	6 Mo	6 Th	6 Th	6 Su	6 Tu	6 Fr	6 Su	6 Tu	6 Fr	6 Su	6 We	6 Th	6 Mo	6 Th	6 Th	6 Su	6 Fr	6 Fr	6 Su
7 We	7 Sa	7 Mo	7 Th	7 Sa	7 Tu	7 Fr	7 Fr	7 Mo	7 We	7 Sa	7 Mo	7 We	7 Sa	7 Mo	7 Th	7 Fr	7 Tu	7 Fr	7 Fr	7 We	7 Sa	7 Sa	7 Mo
8 Th	8 Su	8 Tu PHOTOS	8 Fr	8 Su	8 We	8 Sa	8 Sa	8 Tu	8 Th	8 Su	8 Tu	8 Th	8 Su	8 Tu	8 Fr	8 Sa	8 We	8 Sa	8 Sa	8 Tu	8 Fr	8 Fr	8 Tu
9 Fr	9 Mo	9 We	9 Sa	9 Mo	9 Th	9 Su	9 Su	9 We	9 Fr	9 Mo	9 We	9 Fr	9 Mo	9 We	9 Sa	9 Su	9 Th	9 Su	9 Su	9 We	9 Fr	9 Mo	9 We
10 Sa	10 Tu Welcome 7pm	10 Th	10 Su	10 Tu	10 Fr	10 Mo	10 Mo	10 Th	10 Sa	10 Tu	10 We	10 Sa	10 Tu	10 We	10 Su	10 Mo	10 Fr	10 Mo	10 Mo	10 Th	10 Tu	10 We	10 Th Transition Day
11 Su	11 We	11 Fr	11 Mo	11 We	11 Tu	11 Fr	11 Tu	11 Fr	11 Su	11 We	11 Tu	11 Su	11 We	11 Tu	11 Fr	11 Tu	11 Su	11 Tu	11 Tu	11 Fr	11 We	11 We	11 Fr Swim gala?
12 Mo	12 Th	12 Sa	12 Tu	12 Th	12 Su	12 We	12 We	12 Sa	12 Mo	12 Tu	12 We	12 Sa	12 Mo	12 Tu	12 Fr	12 We	12 Su	12 We	12 We	12 Sa	12 Tu	12 Tu	12 Sa
13 Tu	13 Fr	13 Su	13 We	13 Fr	13 Mo	13 Tu	13 Tu	13 Su	13 Tu	13 Fr	13 Tu	13 Su	13 Fr	13 Tu	13 We	13 Tu	13 Mo	13 Tu	13 Tu	13 Su	13 Fr	13 Fr	13 Su
14 We	14 Sa	14 Mo	14 Th	14 Sa	14 Tu	14 We	14 Th	14 Sa	14 Mo	14 Tu	14 We	14 Mo	14 Tu	14 We	14 Su	14 Fr	14 Mo	14 Tu	14 Tu	14 Sa	14 We	14 We	14 Mo
15 Th	15 Su	15 Tu	15 Fr	15 Su	15 We	15 Tu	15 Tu	15 Su	15 We	15 Tu	15 Tu	15 Sa	15 We	15 Tu	15 Fr	15 Tu	15 We	15 Tu	15 Tu	15 Su	15 We	15 We	15 Tu
16 Fr	16 Mo	16 We	16 Sa	16 Mo	16 Th	16 Tu	16 Tu	16 Su	16 We	16 Tu	16 Tu	16 Sa	16 We	16 Tu	16 Fr	16 Tu	16 We	16 Tu	16 Tu	16 Su	16 Mo	16 Mo	16 We Open Evening
17 Sa	17 Tu	17 Th	17 Su	17 Tu	17 Fr	17 We	17 Tu	17 Su	17 We	17 Tu	17 Tu	17 Sa	17 We	17 Tu	17 Fr	17 Tu	17 We	17 Tu	17 Tu	17 Su	17 We	17 We	17 Th
18 Su	18 We Meet the team 3.30	18 Fr	18 Mo	18 We	18 Tu	18 Tu	18 Tu	18 Su	18 We	18 Tu	18 Tu	18 Sa	18 We	18 Tu	18 Fr	18 Tu	18 We	18 Tu	18 Tu	18 Sa	18 We	18 We	18 Fr
19 Mo	19 Th	19 Sa	19 Tu	19 Th	19 We	19 Tu	19 Tu	19 Su	19 We	19 Tu	19 Tu	19 Sa	19 We	19 Tu	19 Fr	19 Tu	19 We	19 Tu	19 Tu	19 Sa	19 Mo	19 Mo	19 Sa
20 Tu	20 Fr Genes 4 Jean	20 Su	20 We	20 Fr	20 Tu	20 Tu	20 Tu	20 Su	20 We	20 Tu	20 Tu	20 Sa	20 We	20 Tu	20 Fr	20 Tu	20 We	20 Tu	20 Tu	20 Sa	20 Fr	20 Fr	20 Su
21 We	21 Sa	21 Mo	21 Th	21 Sa	21 Tu	21 Tu	21 Tu	21 Su	21 We	21 Tu	21 Tu	21 Sa	21 We	21 Tu	21 Fr	21 Tu	21 We	21 Tu	21 Tu	21 Sa	21 Mo	21 Mo	21 We
22 Th	22 Su	22 Tu	22 Fr	22 Su	22 We	22 Tu	22 Tu	22 Su	22 We	22 Tu	22 Tu	22 Sa	22 We	22 Tu	22 Fr	22 Tu	22 We	22 Tu	22 Tu	22 Su	22 Mo	22 Mo	22 Tu
23 Fr	23 Mo	23 We	23 Sa	23 Mo	23 Tu	23 Tu	23 Tu	23 Su	23 We	23 Tu	23 Tu	23 Sa	23 We	23 Tu	23 Fr	23 Tu	23 We	23 Tu	23 Tu	23 Su	23 Mo	23 Mo	23 We Leavers assembly
24 Sa	24 Tu	24 Th	24 Sa	24 Tu	24 We	24 Tu	24 Tu	24 Su	24 We	24 Tu	24 Tu	24 Sa	24 We	24 Tu	24 Fr	24 Tu	24 We	24 Tu	24 Tu	24 Sa	24 Tu	24 Tu	24 Th End of term 1pm
25 Su	25 We	25 Fr	25 Mo	25 We	25 Tu	25 Tu	25 Tu	25 Su	25 We	25 Tu	25 Tu	25 Sa	25 We	25 Tu	25 Fr	25 Tu	25 We	25 Tu	25 Tu	25 Su	25 We	25 We	25 Fr
26 Mo Bk. Hol.	26 Th	26 Sa	26 Tu	26 Th	26 We	26 Tu	26 Tu	26 Su	26 We	26 Tu	26 Tu	26 Sa	26 We	26 Tu	26 Fr	26 Tu	26 We	26 Tu	26 Tu	26 Su	26 Mo	26 Mo	26 Sa
27 Tu	27 Fr	27 Su	27 We	27 Fr	27 Tu	27 Tu	27 Tu	27 Su	27 We	27 Tu	27 Tu	27 Sa	27 We	27 Tu	27 Fr	27 Tu	27 We	27 Tu	27 Tu	27 Su	27 Fr	27 Fr	27 Su
28 We	28 Sa	28 Mo	28 Th	28 Sa	28 Tu	28 Tu	28 Tu	28 Su	28 We	28 Tu	28 Tu	28 Sa	28 We	28 Tu	28 Fr	28 Tu	28 We	28 Tu	28 Tu	28 Su	28 Mo	28 Mo	28 We
29 Th	29 Su	29 Tu	29 Fr	29 Su	29 We	29 Tu	29 Tu	29 Su	29 We	29 Tu	29 Tu	29 Sa	29 We	29 Tu	29 Fr	29 Tu	29 We	29 Tu	29 Tu	29 Su	29 Mo	29 Mo	29 Tu
30 Fr	30 Mo	30 We	30 Sa	30 Mo	30 Tu	30 Tu	30 Tu	30 Su	30 We	30 Tu	30 Tu	30 Sa	30 We	30 Tu	30 Fr	30 Tu	30 We	30 Tu	30 Tu	30 Su	30 Mo	30 Mo	30 We Reserve sports day
31 Sa		31 Th		31 Tu	31 Fr	31 Tu	31 Tu	31 Su	31 We	31 Tu	31 Tu	31 Sa	31 We	31 Tu	31 Fr	31 Tu	31 We	31 Tu	31 Tu	31 Su	31 Mo	31 Mo	31 Th



MIDDLETON SCHOOL PLANNER FOR STAFF **September – December 2024**

	September	October	November	December
M				2
T		1		3
W		2		4
T		3		5
F		4 School birthday	1	6 Run through of show
S		5	2	7
S	1	6	3	8
M	2 INSET DAY	7	4	9 Dress rehearsal
T	3 Pupils return (grp 1)	8 SCHOOL PHOTOS	5	10 Performance PM
W	4 All Pupils return	9	6	11 Performance AM & PM
T	5	10	7	12 Carols around the tree
F	6	11	8 1pm close staff CPD	13
S	7	12	9	14
S	8	13	10	15
M	9	14	11 Xmas photos week begins	16
T	10 New Parents Welcome Evening	15 INSET DAY	12	17 Panto L/S + M/S U/S parties and FC
W	11	16	13	18 Panto U/S L/S + M/S parties & FC
T	12	17	14	19 Christmas Lunch
F	13	18	15 Children in need	20 Term End 1pm
S	14	19 Half Term	16	21
S	15	20	17	22
M	16	21	18 FOCUS WEEK	23
T	17	22	19	24
W	18 'Meet the staff team'	23 Parent Consultations	20	25
T	19	24	21	26 1
F	20 Jeans 4 Genes Day	25 Harvest Festival	22	27
S	21	26	23	28
S	22	27	24	29
M	23	28 Half term	25	30
T	24	29	26	31
W	25	30	27	
T	26	31	28	
F	27		29	
S	28		30	
S	29			
M	30			

Please note that pupils return to school on Monday 6th January 2024.