



Middlefirth Church of England Primary School

Friday 21st November Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This week, we have started to see the signs of winter appearing all around us, and the children have certainly embraced the change in season during their learning and play. We have also had two fantastic nights of Parents' Evening, with wonderful attendance from almost everyone. It has been a real pleasure to share how well the children have settled into their new year groups and to celebrate the progress they have already made this term. Thank you to all the families who came along, it was so lovely to speak with so many of you across both evenings.

A group of Year 6 boys were invited to County Hall in Preston for a special event celebrating International Men's Day. The day was designed to inspire and empower young boys through positive role models, creativity, and connection, and they had a truly fantastic time representing our school. Back in school, Year 5 have been fully immersed in their English work, performing their stories to the rest of the class, there were some brilliant performances and lots of budding storytellers!

Our Parliament voting also took place in the hall yesterday morning, with children showing great enthusiasm, responsibility, and democracy in action. The new 2025-26 Parliament Members of Middlefirth will be announced on Monday 24th November at the end of Whole School Worship, we can't wait to reveal the results!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Mrs Pilkington

Stars of the Week

Nursery - Ayda

Rec - Darcie & Eleanor

Y1 - Holly & Hunter

Y2 - Louie & Olivia

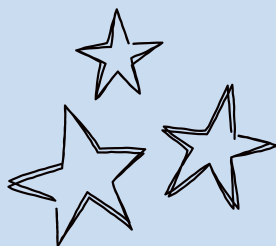
Y3 - Laney & Subhang

Y4 - Olivia H & Reuben

Y5 - Ava & Hattie

Y6 - Daisy-Mae, Ethan C & Sid

WELL DONE



Target 96%

Reception	93.8%
Year 1	88.3%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	98.7%
Year 4	99.7%
Year 5	92.7%
Year 6	97.1%
Total	95.4%

Values Awards

Reception - Harry, for showing respect in class and always being a good friend to others.

Year 1 - Flora, for serving others and treating everyone with respect and kindness.

Year 2 - Charlie, for showing respect to his friends and our classroom.

Year 3 - Akshat, for showing resilience with his English work which we know isn't always easy for him.

Year 4 - Oliver, for showing resilience and bringing joy to the classroom.

Year 5 - Marty, for persevering with all areas of Year 5 and finding joy in his learning.

Year 6 - Amirali, for being a constant shining example of service to others and oozing positivity.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

TAKEHOME

17th - 23rd November



Can technology ever help us too much?

In the news this week

Nike has revealed a new type of powered shoe, called Project Amplify, which uses small motors to boost a person's walking and running movement. The shoes are designed to reduce tiredness and make everyday movement easier, especially for those who need extra support. Nike says the aim is to help people stay active, independent and mobile in their daily lives.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Explain and share your thoughts with someone at home about the new shoe design.
- > Do you believe everyone should be allowed to use the same technology, or should some things be only for people who really need them?
- > Can you think of other technologies designed to make life easier? Which do you use?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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Healthy Snacks and Packed Lunches

As a healthy school we ask that only healthy snacks and packed lunches are brought into school. Over the past few weeks, we are seeing a big increase in sugary foods and snacks being brought in and in very large quantities. Please can you talk to your children about only having these in moderation and support school in sending in healthy snacks and lunches.



RE

Everyone's RE units link to Christmas this half term. The children in Y1 are learning all about the Wise Men and their special journey to find baby Jesus. The children in Y3 have interviewed the shepherds and then swapped roles, and answered those questions as a shepherd. Can you imagine just how amazing it must have been that night when the angels told the shepherds all about Jesus' birth? How would you feel?

Parent Questionnaire Feedback

It has been a little while since we have collected feedback from parents regarding how they feel their children are doing at Middleforth. Please can you take two minutes to complete the parents feedback form. The deadline for completing this form is Friday 5th December. If you have any questions, please let me know.

[Parent Questionnaire Form](#)



Middleforth CE Primary School
Parent Questionnaire



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16



Middlefirth Church of England Primary School 2025/2026 Yearly Planner



SEPTEMBER

10th - Meet the teacher
22nd - Fairtrade Fortnight
23rd - EYFS Phonics and Reading workshop
26th - European day of Languages

OCTOBER

9th - SEN/Family Support
Coffee morning
2nd - National Poetry Day
7th - Whole School Flamenco Day
2nd
16th - Whole School Church
20th - PTFA School Disco
21st - Reception 2026 Open Days
22nd - Individual Photographs
24th - Parents Exhibition Afternoon 2pm

NOVEMBER

Non-Fiction November Black History
Month 5th - Flu Vaccinations
6th - Outdoor Classroom Day
10th - Anti-Bullying Week
11th - Remembrance Day
12th - Y6 WW2 Trip
13th and 18th - Book Fair
13th - KS2 Church - Year 6 Leading
14th - Children in Need
18th & 19th - Parents Evening
21st - Year 4 Poetry Recital Competition
24th - School Parliament Week

DECEMBER

9th - KS1 Nativity
11th - Minis/Reception Nativity
12th - Christmas Jumper Day
16th - Christmas Carols in Church
17th - Christmas Parties and Christmas Lunch
18th - Whole School Church

JANUARY

22nd - Parents Coffee Morning
16th - Energy Saving week
20th - 3.30pm Year 6 SATs and Robinwood meeting
27th - National Geographic Day

FEBRUARY

1st - National Story Telling Week
3rd - KS1 Church - Year 2 leading
9th - Children's Mental Health Week
6th - Young Voices Concert (Co-Op Live Arena)
10th - Safer Internet Day
10th & 11th - Parents Evening
13th - Parents Exhibition Afternoon 2pm
14th - International Book Giving Day
Swimming Pool Arrives

MARCH

3rd - World Wildlife Day
2nd - 4th - Year 6 Residential to Robinwood
5th - World Book Day
16th - Sign Language Week
17th - Neurodiversity Week
26th - Whole School Church
Let's Go Sing- Year 4 DATE TBC
Red Nose Day - Date TBC

APRIL

15th, 22nd, 29th - Tots on Tyres (Reception)
15th - World Art Day
22nd - World Earth Day
22nd - Scoot Safe (Year 3)
23rd - Parents Coffee Morning
29th - International Dance Day

MAY

National Share a Story Month
6th & 13th - Y5 Bikeability
7th & 8th (PM) - May Day Festival
11th - Key Stage 2 SATs week
11th - Mental Health Awareness Week
18th - Walk to School Week
22nd - Parents Exhibition afternoon 2pm

JUNE

2nd - Year 4 Multiplication Check Window
5th - World Environment Day
8th - Phonics Screening Check week
11th - Book World Cup!
15th - National School Sports Week
19th - Sports Day
25th - National Writing Day
25th - Sustainability Conference
26th - Back up Sports Day
22nd - Key Stage 1 SATs week
Possibly Y6 trip to Harris Museum TBC

JULY

7th - Year 6 Performance
10th - Reports Home
14th - Reports drop in for parents 3.30pm - 4.30pm
15th - Year 6 Leavers PM
15th - Year 6 Prom 5.30pm
16th - AM Whole School Church
17th - Finish for summer

As a caring, Christian community, we aspire to 'let our light shine'. We will open up the world to celebrate God's wonderful creation and foster a sense of awe and wonder. We will nurture our God given talents to ensure that everyone reaches their full potential academically, socially and spiritually.

'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'

MATTHEW 5.16



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Headteacher

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18th November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We're excited to share something special with you!

The Good Morning Club (TGMC) is all about supporting children's wellbeing and development beyond the classroom - helping them grow in confidence, resilience, and emotional regulation.

As a TGMC School, we're proud to be using this approach across our setting, and we're excited to share it with you too. You can find out more in the attached digest. We're also delighted to invite you to enjoy free, exclusive access to the TGMC Parent Portal.

The Parent Portal is packed with practical tools and guidance designed especially for home life, including:

- Bite-sized video advice for common behavioural challenges - all aligned with the strategies we use in school, to create consistency and reinforce positive habits.
- Access to the Digital Backpack - an interactive tool to help children learn how to manage emotions and self-regulate more effectively.
- This is a fantastic opportunity for us to work together in supporting your child's growth and wellbeing both at school and at home.

To get started, simply follow the link below and enter your unique access code: [Click Here!](#)

We will also be holding a parent workshop to through this in more detail once we have everyone signed up. More details regarding this will follow shortly.

If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch. We can't wait for you to join up!

Nicola Pilkington

Headteacher



Lancashire SEND Roadshow

2025/2026

The roadshows are for families and practitioners to find out more about support and services available for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers.

These Roadshows are happening across Lancashire bringing the SEND Local Offer to your area.

The SEND Local Offer brings together all services in Lancashire for children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND, and their families.



Lancashire
SEND
Roadshow

Dates across Lancashire are:

25th Sept 2025 9:30 – 1 pm	Kirkham Family Hub
22nd Oct 2025 9:30 – 1 pm	Skelmersdale Family Hub and The Zone
3rd Dec 2025 9:30 – 1pm	Pendle and Burnley 1882 Lounge Burnley Football Club
28th January 2026 9:30 – 1 pm	The Park Family Hub Accrington
4th February 2026 9:30 – 1 pm	Inspire Youth Zone Chorley
26th March 2026 9:30 – 1 pm	Clitheroe Family Hub
15th April 2026 9:30 – 1 pm	Lune Park Family Hub Lancaster
6th May 2026 9:30 – 1 pm	Rawtenstall Family Hub and the Zone
16th June 2026 9:30 – 1 pm	Fleetwood Library
1st July 2026 1:30 – 4:30 pm	Moor Nook Ribbleson Family Hub

Please scan the following QR codes for more information:



Local Offer



Family Hubs

Lancashire SEND IAS

Information, advice and support
for Special Educational Needs and Disability



Who are we and what do we do?

SENDIAS is a statutory service and operates confidentially from the Local Authority to provide impartial and unbiased support to children and families across Lancashire.

Family Support

The service offers free information, advice, and support regarding SEND across the spectrum of education, health and social care, for example: EHCP processes, paperwork, communications with schools, and tribunal's.

Empowering families

The SENDIAS goal is to empower families to make informed decisions and have their voices heard throughout the SEND journey.

Service changes:

The team has recently expanded and we are currently reviewing the service offer following service user feedback to make it more flexible, accessible and empowering for families across Lancashire. These changes allow us to reach more families and offer consistent, high-quality accessible information advice and support across county.



Our Website with further details can be found here:

[SENDIAS Home - Lancashire SEND IAS](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/special-educational-needs-disability/)

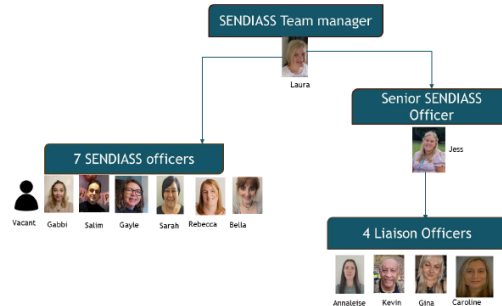


Lancashire SEND IAS

Information, advice and support
for Special Educational Needs and Disability



Team structure:



How SENDIAS can support Families:

- Practical Guidance will be available at one stop shops in family hubs.
- SENDIAS can provide advice on preparing meetings, understanding reports, and managing appeals effectively.

Contact can be made by families by phone, referral form or email to our helpline— referrals from professionals MUST come through our contact form: https://my.apps.lancashire.gov.uk/w/webpage/request?form=send_information_advice_and_support_contact_form

Community and Peer Networks Peer support groups and local networks help families share experiences and find reassurance.

Guidance Through EHCNA request

SENDIAS provides crucial guidance to parents during EHCP applications, helping to resolve school placement disputes successfully through groups and drop in's or in the future using digital options.





Online Safety Newsletter

NOV 2025

CapCut

CapCut is a video editing app. Their services are intended for those over the age of 13 (those under the age of 18 must have consent from their parent/legal guardian). It is rated as 13+ on the App store.

What can I do on CapCut?

CapCut is used as a video and image editing tool allowing users to edit their videos/ images as well as add music, sound effects, text and stickers.

What should I be aware of?

- The templates are user generated, therefore they may not always be appropriate for your child to view, for example may contain adult themes.
- CapCut includes access to a library of music that can be used within videos that may include explicit lyrics.
- Premium content – CapCut does include in-app purchases/monthly subscriptions to allow users access to premium content.

Further information

Internet Matters have created this useful guide:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/skills-building/capcut/>

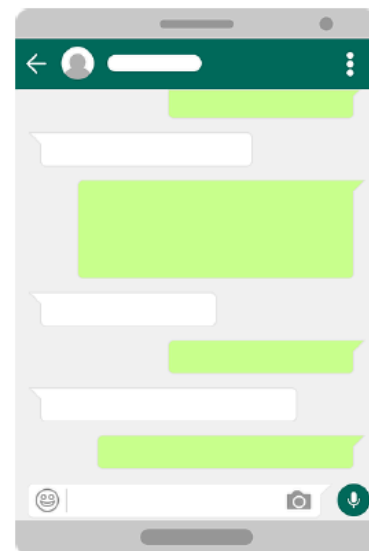
Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/november-2025-primary>

WhatsApp Update

School WhatsApp groups

Are you part of a parent WhatsApp group at your child's school? These groups can be useful for sharing information and reminders, but it is important to use them thoughtfully. Here are some tips on how we can ensure they remain positive and respectful:

1. Be considerate –we know messages can sometimes be misinterpreted so carefully think about what you share. These groups should not be used to share criticisms of the school, staff or other parents and children. Any concerns should always be discussed with the school directly.
2. Don't spread rumours – avoid sharing any gossip within the group.
3. Protect privacy - do not share photos or videos of other children.
4. Think before you send – be mindful of the time and if the message is necessary for everyone.



Our children watch how we communicate, so let's model healthy, online communication to them.

WhatsApp Channels

Users should be at least 13 years old to use

WhatsApp. If your child is using WhatsApp, then you should be aware of WhatsApp Channels. Channels are a one-way broadcast tool used by companies and individuals to send updates to followers. WhatsApp Channels can be found on the Updates tab. From here you can view a whole host of channels, including channels that will not be age appropriate and may include adult content.



You cannot switch off access to channels and there is no age rating associated with the channels so you would have to access them to know what the content truly is. Kicksafe highlight what you should be aware of: <https://www.klicksafe.eu/en/news/was-sind-whatsapp-kanale-und-was-muessen-eltern-beachten>

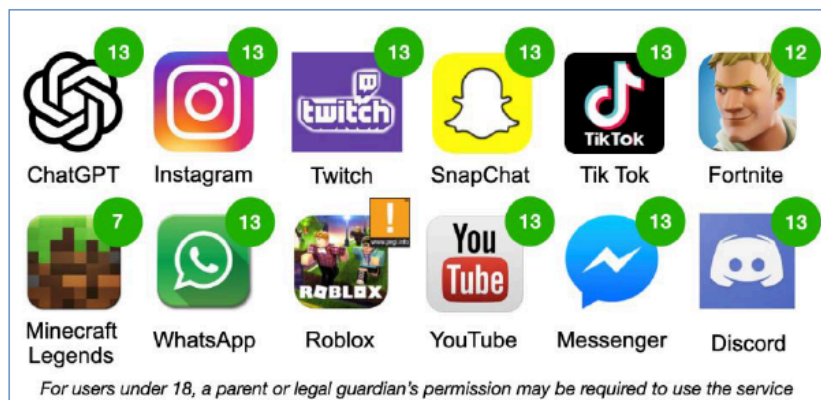
Find out more about WhatsApp channels in general here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/549900560675125>

Age Ratings

Age ratings exist to help protect your child by showing whether content is suitable for your child's age. Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online or using social media— make sure you check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough.

Popular apps and their age ratings

Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are currently accessing.



In addition to checking the age rating, the likes of PEGI (Pan European Game Information) provide further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might encounter e.g. violence or bad language within a game.

What else should I review?

It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, **it is also vital to review the content yourself**. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it is necessary to apply further parental controls. For example, does it include the ability to communicate with others and are in game/app purchases available?

What else can I do?

- Explain the importance of age ratings to your child and how they protect them.
- Go online together to see what your child is accessing.
- Set up parental controls on your broadband, devices and on any individual apps that your child is using. This will reduce the chances of them accessing or viewing anything unsuitable.
- Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and remind your child that if anything is worrying them then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information

You can find out more here:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/age-ratings>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.11.25. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership

Help to keep children safe online with Techosaurus

The NSPCC have created Techosaurus, a friendly dinosaur to assist you in having chats with your child about online safety. It is aimed at younger children and includes a book and activity pack (both chargeable). You can find out more here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/techosaurus/>

Online Roasting

Have you heard of this term? It has been around a while now, but Online Roasting refers to a form of cyberbullying. Roasting typically involves making fun and insulting somebody, sometimes with their consent and other times not.

What can I do?

- Talk to your child about what online roasting is, ask them if they have ever experienced it and what they think about it.
- If this has negatively impacted your child then save any evidence and involve the school (if appropriate). Childline also offer further advice and support in relation to cyberbullying.

Further information

Find out more here:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/online-roasting-signs-cyberbullying/>

What to do when...from CEOP

CEOP Education have published this poster directing you to the relevant information around six different situations, such as what to do to protect your child from online blackmail. You can access it here:

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/globalassets/professional/resources/wtdw-round-up.pdf>

New Ways November 2025

MONDAY



3 Get outside and observe the changes in nature around you

TUESDAY



4 Sign up to join a new course, activity or online community

WEDNESDAY



5 Change your normal routine today and notice how you feel

THURSDAY



6 Try out a new way of being physically active

FRIDAY



7 Be creative. Cook, draw, write, paint, make or inspire

SATURDAY

1 Make a list of new things you want to do this month

SUNDAY

2 Respond to a difficult situation in a different way

10 Be curious. Learn about a new topic or an inspiring idea

11 Choose a different route and see what you notice on the way

12 Find out something new about someone you care about

13 Do something playful outdoors - walk, run, explore, relax

14 Find a new way to help or support a cause you care about

15 Build on new ideas by thinking "Yes, and what if..."

16 Look at life through someone else's eyes and see their perspective

17 Try a new way to practice self-care and be kind to yourself

18 Connect with someone from a different generation

19 Broaden your perspective: read a different paper, magazine or site

20 Make a meal using a recipe or ingredient you've not tried before

21 Learn a new skill from a friend or share one of yours with them

22 Find a new way to tell someone you appreciate them

23 Set aside a regular time to pursue an activity you love

24 Share with a friend something helpful you learned recently

25 Use one of your strengths in a new or creative way

26 Try out a different radio station or new TV show

27 Join a friend doing their hobby and find out why they love it

28 Discover your artistic side. Design a friendly greeting card

29 Enjoy new music today. Play, sing, dance or listen

30 Look for new reasons to be hopeful, even in tough times



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



Middleforth Church of England Primary School



We have funded and paid nursery places available!

Call the office to book a visit and enquire about a place:
01772 746024



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'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'
MATTHEW 5:16

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term 2025

Re-open on:	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
School closes on:	Friday 24 th October 2025
Mid-term closure:	Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October 2025
School re-opens on:	Tuesday 4 th November 2025
School closes on:	Friday 19 th December 2025 at 2pm

Spring Term 2026

Re-open on:	Monday 5 th January 2026
School closes on:	Friday 13 th February 2026
Mid-term closure:	Monday 16 th February - Friday 20 th February 2026
School re-opens on:	Monday 23 rd February 2026
School closes on:	Friday 27 th March 2026 at 2pm

Summer Term 2026

Starts:	Monday 13 th April 2026
May Day:	Monday 4 th May 2026
School closes on:	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Mid-term closure:	Monday 25 th May – Monday 1 st June 2026
School re-opens on:	Tuesday 2 nd June 2026
School closes on:	Friday 17 th July 2026 at 2pm

INSET

Monday 1st September 2025
Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Monday 3rd November 2025
Monday 1st June 2026
Monday 20th July 2026