



# Middleforth Church of England Primary School

## Friday 13th February Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we come to the end of another half term, it has been a real pleasure to see how much all of our children have continued to grow and shine in everything they do. Our half-term value has been perseverance, and every child has shown this in so many ways - both academically and personally. Each week, I am amazed by the wonderful things happening across school, and it is truly a privilege to be the headteacher of such a special community. As it says in Galatians 6:9, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Our children certainly live this message every day.

This week has been full of exciting learning opportunities. Our Minis and Reception children enjoyed a visit from a special guest who talked to them all about teeth and dental hygiene. Year 2 were incredible ambassadors for our school during their trip to Blackpool Zoo and represented us beautifully. Year 3 and Year 5 have had their final Forest School sessions of the half term, showing resilience, determination and teamwork while enjoying the outdoors. Meanwhile, Year 6 welcomed Rev. Simon into school and interviewed him all about the Eucharist, asking thoughtful and insightful questions.

Looking ahead to next half term, there is lots to look forward to, including the start of swimming sessions - please make sure you read the separate letter and timetable for details. We will also be holding an OPAL Stay and Play on Wednesday 25th February, and it would be lovely to see as many families there as possible. Thank you all for your continued support this half term. Have a wonderful break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 23rd February.

Mrs Pilkington

### Target 96%

Reception	93.8%
Year 1	87.3%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	95.7%
Year 4	97.3%
Year 5	94.3%
Year 6	92.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94.0%</b>

### Stars of the Week

- Nursery - Theo
- Rec - Alice & Ollie
- Y1 - Darcie & Ethan
- Y2 - All of Year 2
- Y3 - Ivy & Jessica
- Y4 - All of Year 4
- Y5 - Emma & Muhammed
- Y6 - Theo & Toby

WELL DONE



thankful

### Values Awards

TRUST

**Reception** - Lenny, Service - for helping Miss Stritch around the classroom.

**Year 1** - Niamh, for always being so polite, well-mannered and thankful.

**Year 2** - Aurora, Respect - for always letting her light shine.

**Year 3** - Freddie, Resilience - for keeping going with his work when he found things tricky.

**Year 4** - Isla M, Respect - for always being so kind and respectful to all staff and children.

**Year 5** - Max, Respect - for always showing respect and trying your best.

**Year 6** - Ethan C, Perseverance - Not giving up in English despite a few challenges.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

# TAKEHOME

9th - 15th February

## In the news this week

Adults in the UK are talking about whether children under 16 should be allowed to use social media, as the government is considering new rules to help keep children safe online. Some people believe social media helps children stay connected, while others worry it can affect wellbeing and mental health. During Children's Mental Health Week, the story reminds us how important it is to look after our mental health both online and offline.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- > What rules or agreements can help us feel safe when using technology at home?
- > Can you think of ideas for families to help balance screen time and other activities?
- > What are some of the activities that you do online? Do you do different things online to others at home?



Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



© Picture News 2026



### Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday we celebrated Safer Internet Day. The theme this year was 'Smart tech, safe choices - exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.'

We discussed uses of AI, the benefits and how it can also be unsafe. In classes children explored the use of AI and Smart Choices online.

Jasmyn from Year 5 wrote a prayer for us:

**Dear God,**

**Please help everyone to stay safe online and give us guidance to tell a trusted adult when we feel uncomfortable or nervous about something we have seen or heard on the internet. Please give us the right path to know the difference between safe and unsafe so we are not using AI in ways that we shouldn't. Help everyone to be kind and respectful to each other whether we are online or offline.  
Amen**

### Children's Mental Health Week

This week we have celebrated Children's Mental Health week. Children across school have taken part in different activities and on Friday we all came in our own clothes to celebrate being ourselves. It has been wonderful to see how children have been able to express their interests and talents in their choice of clothing. Year 4 had a wonderful time learning some Irish Dancing with Miss Lakeland as she shared her talent. Year 3 have written wonderful things about their peers and Year 1 have made creative maps to show off their talents. It's been a wonderful week!



### Local Food bank:

Friday 9.30-12.00

Penwortham  
Community Centre

Kingsfold Drive

PR1 9EQ

Email: [penworthamfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:penworthamfoodbank@gmail.com)



### Foodbank and other services of support

Children and Family Wellbeing service are offering a range of different empowering parenting courses. These courses aim to offer support for issues such as emotional wellbeing, mental health, neurodiversity and understanding relationships.

The courses can also help if your child is currently on a pathway for Autism or ADHD.

Please click the QR code for more information.





# 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  
 20<sup>th</sup> - 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  
 25<sup>th</sup> - OPAL Stay and Play

## 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, 29<sup>th</sup> - 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  
 21st - Class Photographs  
 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



# Friendly February 2026

MONDAY



2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently

TUESDAY



3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone

WEDNESDAY



4 Invite a friend over for a 'tea break' (in person or virtual)

THURSDAY



5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour

FRIDAY



6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while

SATURDAY



7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others

SUNDAY

1 Send a message to let someone know you're thinking of them

8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust

9 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you

10 Look for good in others, particularly when you feel frustrated with them

11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost

12 Focus on being kind rather than being right

13 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day

14 Tell a loved one or friend why they are special to you

15 Support a local business with a positive online review or friendly message

16 Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help

17 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life

18 Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself

19 Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing

20 Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun

21 Really listen to what people say, without judging them

22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today



23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise

24 Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them

25 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why

26 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

27 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them

28 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today



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



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

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

# Come and join us for our OPAL Stay and Play

What is OPAL ?



OPAL is our outdoor play and learning. We focus on the children assessing the risk of play and help them understand how we can mitigate the risks to discover the benefits. There will be short talk from Jess (our OPAL advisor) and then time to go out and experience OPAL first hand



Wednesday 25th

February 2026

1:30pm - 3pm

Bring your wellies !!

Let your children tell you the Risk Benefit of our main areas.

# Parents and Carers, tell us about your experience of using childcare in Lancashire



Scan the QR code to  
access our short survey

[lancashire.gov.uk/childcare](https://lancashire.gov.uk/childcare)



# 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 we are 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/SENDIAS)

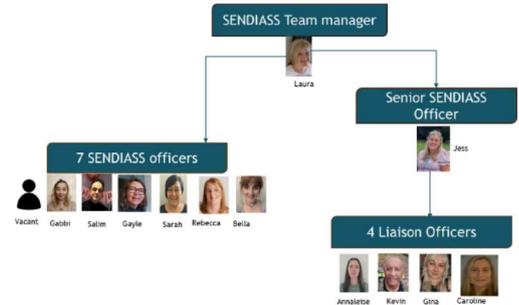


## Lancashire SEND IAS

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](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.



# Term Dates 2025 - 2026

## Autumn Term 2025

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

## Spring Term 2026

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

## Summer Term 2026

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

## INSET

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