



Middleforth Church of England Primary School

Friday 22nd May Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

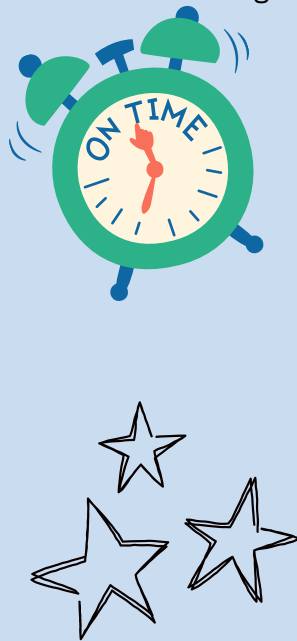
This week has been another busy and exciting one across school. Our Minis and Reception children enjoyed a special visit from Rosie's daddy, who is a police officer, as part of their People Who Help Us learning. The children loved finding out about his role, exploring the police van and hearing the siren - although Reception may have enjoyed locking Miss Monk in the back a little too much! Year 2 have completed their final Forest School sessions, where they have developed new skills and explored the outdoors, whilst Year 4 have been incredible artists and designers this half term. Their finished pieces are amazing, so please take some time to visit our Exhibition Day this afternoon and admire their fantastic work.

Looking ahead to next half term, we have lots of exciting events coming up including class transition days, Reception starter sessions and Year 6 high school transition activities. We are also continuing to work hard on staffing arrangements for next year and will share these with families as soon as they are finalised. We also have some staffing news to share: Mrs Powers has secured a full-time teaching position in a SEND class in Burnley from September. We are delighted for her and know she will be fantastic in her new role, although she will remain with us until the end of summer term. We are also pleased to welcome Miss Reeder, who will be joining our Middleforth family as a teacher in September. Have a wonderful half term break, enjoy the sunshine and we look forward to seeing everyone back for another exciting half term. Mrs Pilkington

★ **Stars of the Week** ★

Nursery - Alfie
Rec - Freya & Rutvika
Y1 - Ethan & Remy
Y2 - Henry & Sophie
Y3 - Artemis & Penny
Y4 - Emilie, Jasmine & Roman
Y5 - Alex & Isaac
Y6 - Eva & Noah

WELL DONE



Target 96%

Reception	90.8%
Year 1	70.3%
Year 2	84.1%
Year 3	94.7%
Year 4	91.0%
Year 5	96.0%
Year 6	86.7%
Total	87.6%



Values Awards



Reception - Harry, for showing loyalty and being a considerate friend and class member.

Year 1 - Hunter, for showing perseverance in his phonics and being proud of himself.

Year 2 - Emilia, for showing gratitude to her teachers and peers.

Year 3 - Laney, for showing kindness and respect - a shining example to others.

Year 4 - Seren, for displaying service by supporting another child in their learning.

Year 5 - Jasmyn, for showing resilience and dedication in her writing.

Year 6 - Toby, for always saying 'Thank you' and showing gratitude.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

TAKEHOME



In the news this week

Last weekend, football teams Manchester City and Chelsea competed in the Men's FA Cup Final at Wembley Stadium. The FA (Football Association) Cup is one of the oldest football competitions in the world, with teams from across England and Wales taking part each year. Millions of people watched the match, supporting their teams and hoping to see them win the famous trophy. For the players, reaching the final is a huge achievement after months of hard work.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Can you think of a time when you won something – what did you learn?
- > What about a time you didn't win – what did that teach you?
- > In your opinion, why do some people keep trying even after losing?
- > Talk together about how you believe we should behave when you lose.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



© Picture News 2025

Key Dates



01.06.2026 - INSET Day - Closed to pupils

W/C 08.06.2026 - Year 1 Phonics Screener and Year 2 catch up Phonics Screener

05.06.2026 - Year 4 Multiplication Check

W/C 22.06.2026 - Year 2 SATS

It is really important as it is everyday that children are in school on these dates and arrive to school on time.

Sports Day - Friday 19th June



Key Stage 2 - Parents arrive from 9am.

EYFS and Key Stage 1 - Parents arrive from 1 pm and it will conclude at 3pm.

Please bring your own chair for the field. PTFA will be selling drinks on the day too



Crisis and Resilience Fund – Important Update (for families who received free school meal vouchers or anyone in a crisis)

If your family is going through a difficult time or facing an unexpected emergency, your local district council may be able to help. From 1 April, the Government introduced a new scheme called the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF). This fund will run until 31 March 2029 and is designed to support families who need extra help. This new fund replaces the Household Support Fund, which ended on 31 March 2026. Because of this change, **free school meal vouchers will no longer be provided during school holidays.**

How your district council can help

Your local council may be able to support you with things like:

- Food, essential household items, other practical help

You may want to contact your council if you are:

- Struggling with money unexpectedly, dealing with a family emergency, finding it difficult to afford food or essentials, experiencing changes at home that mean you need support or feeling extra financial pressure, for example during school holidays

How to get help

Each district council has a team you can talk to about your situation. They will explain what support is available in your area. This help may come directly from the council or through local organisations.

- You can contact your district council by phone or through their website
- If you're unsure which council covers your area, you can check using your postcode here:
- <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/district-council>

If you are already working with someone such as a Family Hub, a health visitor, an Early Years practitioner, they can help you to get in touch with the right support.

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
 25th - 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, 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
 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

JULY

7th - Year 6 Performance
 10th - Reports Home
 15th - 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



Meaningful May 2026

MONDAY



4 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together

TUESDAY



5 Let someone know how much they mean to you and why

WEDNESDAY



6 Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful

THURSDAY



7 Make a list of what matters most to you and why

FRIDAY

1 Do something kind for someone you really care about

SATURDAY

2 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do

SUNDAY

3 Take a step towards an important goal, however small

11 Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder

12 Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you

13 Find out about the values or traditions of another culture

14 Get outside and notice the beauty in nature

15 Do something to contribute to your local community

16 Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better

17 Find a way to make what you do today meaningful

18 Send a hand-written note to someone you care about

19 Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful

20 Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable

21 Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger

22 Find a way to help a project or charity you care about

23 Recall three things you've done that you are proud of

24 Make choices that have a positive impact for others today

25 Ask someone else what matters most to them and why

26 Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful

27 Focus on how your actions make a difference for others

28 Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight

29 Today do something to care for the natural world

30 Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost

31 Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future



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

Term Dates 2025 - 2027

SPRING TERM 2026	
School closes on	Friday 27th March 2026 at 2pm
SUMMER TERM 2026	
Re-open on	Monday 13th April 2026
May Day	Monday 4th May 2026
School closes on	Friday 22nd May 2026
Mid-term closure	Monday 25th May – Monday 1st June 2026
School re-opens on	Tuesday 2nd June 2025
School closes on	Friday 17th July 2026 at 2pm
AUTUMN TERM 2026	
Re-open on	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
School closes on	Friday 23rd October 2026
Mid-term closure	Monday 26th October – Monday 2nd November 2026
School re-opens on	Tuesday 3rd November 2026
School closes on	Friday 18th December 2026 at 2pm



SPRING TERM 2027	
Re-open on	Tuesday 5th January 2027
School closes on	Friday 12th February 2027
Mid-term closure	Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February
School re-opens on	Monday 22nd February 2027
School closes on	Thursday 25th March 2027 at 2pm
SUMMER TERM 2027	
Re-open on	Monday 12th April 2027
May Day	Monday 3rd May 2027
School closes on	Thursday 27th May 2027
Mid-term closure	Friday 28th May – Monday 7th June 2027
School re-opens on	Tuesday 8th June 2027
School closes on	Wednesday 21st July 2027 at 2pm

FreezeNova (Unblocked games)

FreezeNova unblocked is a website that is free to access and contains a wide variety of games, including shooting, multiplayer and racing games. This site may bypass usual filters, making it easier for your child to access games that you may not want them to play. As there are a variety of games, not all games may be suitable for your child.

There is also FreezeNova Chat, allowing users to chat to their friends and meet new ones. Clearly there are concerns with any online chat facility as there is the potential to view inappropriate content, risk of bullying as well as grooming.

We could not locate any age ratings on this site and there are constant adverts. Childnet have a webpage providing advice on gaming and chat features here:

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/gaming/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You

can use the translate tool on our web version:

<https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/may-2026-primary/>

Group Chats

Is your child part of any group chats? This could be on social media, for example on WhatsApp or within games such as Fortnite. If so, it is important that you are aware of the potential risks, which include:

Inappropriate content – there is often a lack of moderation within chat facilities so users could be exposed to content/language that is not suitable for their age.

- **Bullying** – there are many instances where inappropriate/hurtful comments are shared within groups, this could take the form of name calling or body shaming. Bullying can also be in the form of excluding others from the group. These issues often overspill into ‘real life’.
- **Strangers** – your child could be added to groups with people they do not know or even with someone that they have previously blocked.
- **Conversations can be shared/screen shot** – make sure your child is aware that anything they share within a group can be shared with others.
- **Sharing personal information** – remind your child to be aware of the information they share with others, including images and location.

How can I help make group chat safer?

- Check the recommended age ratings and adhere to them.
- Set up age-appropriate parental controls, suitable privacy settings and set screen time limits.
- On WhatsApp you can do a privacy check, by going to settings, privacy and privacy checkup.
- Show your child how to use any reporting and blocking tools.

What else can I do?

- It is crucial to have regular conversations with your child about the risks outlined above and about what they are doing online.
- Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about what they send and how it could be perceived by others. **Talk about positivity and not saying anything hurtful. Ask them to think about whether they would say what they are messaging, face to face.**
- Devices should be used in family rooms so you can monitor what they are doing and who they are interacting with.
- Finally, make sure to model good digital behaviour yourself, as children often learn by observing the adults around them.

Further information

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>



Roblox - update

What is Roblox?

Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. **As a lot of the content is user generated, not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play.** If your child is playing Roblox, it is important to monitor



what your child is accessing as well as set up appropriate parental controls. PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance recommended label, this is because it is a platform of individual, user generated games.

New Age-Based Accounts

From next month, Roblox will introduce two new age-based accounts: Roblox Kids for users ages 5 to 8 and Roblox Select for users ages 9 to 15. Roblox Kids Accounts (ages 5–8) will be limited to games with a 'Minimal or Mild' content maturity label and all communication is disabled by default. Roblox Select accounts (ages 9 to 15) will be limited to games with content maturity labels up to and including 'Moderate'. By default, Experience Chat is ON and Direct Experience Chat is OFF. The differences in chat are outlined here: <https://about.roblox.com/safety-by-age>

Parental Controls

As part of parental controls, you can manage content ratings, communication, screen-time, and spending limits as well as see which games your child is playing on and who their friends are. Roblox are extending these controls to allow you to:

- Block specific individual games (to age 15).
- Manage direct chat settings (to age 15).
- Approve access to specific games.

It is important to regularly monitor what your child is playing on Roblox and who they are interacting with, even if you have parental controls set up. You can find out more about the new accounts and parental controls here:

<https://about.roblox.com/newsroom/2026/04/introducing-roblox-kids-and-select-accounts>

Further information

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/roblox-releases-updated-parental-controls-and-age-appropriate-experiences/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.05.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or

Screen time guidance for under 5s

The Government now advise limiting screen time for young children. They advise avoiding screen time for under 2 years and to try to keep it to less than 1 hour a day for 2-5 years. Best Start for Life have published an article outlining what content is better, how your own screentime affects your child and how screentime can affect your child's development. Find out more here:

<https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/screen-time-under-5s/>

Do you know what 'looksmaxxing' is?

It is the idea of improving and maximising your looks. Internet Matters have published this article, which provides more information on this topic and outlines the risks (including links to the manosphere):

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-looksmaxxing-online-safety-guidance-for-parents/>

PEGI is expanding their age ratings

From June, PEGI is adding new categories. "Newly submitted games will be classified with a broader set of criteria that will focus on content and functionality, such as purchases of in-game content, paid random items, communication features, and features that incentivise players to continue playing." Find out more here:

<https://pegi.info/news/pegi-expands-age-rating-criteria-interactive-risk-categories>