



Middlefirth Church of England Primary School

Friday 18th September Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

What a wonderful and busy week we have had in school! In our worship this week, we have been exploring Matthew 5:1-10 and the message of being peacemakers. We talked about what it means to be a peacemaker in our school, our families and our wider community, and how choosing kindness, forgiveness and understanding helps us to let our light shine. Miss Stritch followed this up with a wonderful Faith in Action worship focusing on Desmond Tutu, who showed great courage and commitment to peace and justice. The children learned how he worked to bring people together during a very difficult time in South Africa and helped people to listen, forgive and heal through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

We also had a very special opportunity to take part in a 'Creation Experience' at New Longton All Saints' Church, as part of the celebrations marking 100 years of the Diocese of Blackburn. The children explored different parts of the church, learning more about each day of the Creation story. I felt incredibly proud of the children throughout the visit. Mrs Gordon, who attends the church, has helped to organise the event over the past few months, so it was particularly special for us to be invited to bring some of our children along to experience it. It was a wonderful and meaningful experience for everyone.

There has been lots of fantastic learning taking place across school too. In Year 3, the children have been learning about flowering plants, exploring the different parts of a plant and what they need to survive and thrive. They put their learning into practice by creating play-dough models of flowering plants and carefully labelling each part. It was lovely to see their creativity alongside their developing scientific understanding.

And finally, we simply cannot finish this week's newsletter without celebrating our amazing Year 6 children, who have been away on their three-day residential at Robinwood. They have faced challenges, conquered fears, supported one another and shown incredible resilience, including some children staying away from home for the first time. What a credit you have been to your families and to Middlefirth. We could not be prouder to have you leading our school this year. A huge thank you also goes to the wonderful staff who gave up their own time to make this experience possible. I think a very well-deserved rest is in order for everyone this weekend!

A polite reminder about our school car park

Please can I remind all families that the school car park is for staff use only and should not be used for drop-off or collection from either Breakfast Club or After School Club between 7.30am and 5.00pm. This is particularly important for the safety of our children while the roof works continue, as large vehicles are moving around the site and visibility can be limited. Please also use the path up to the front of school rather than walking through the car park for the same reason.

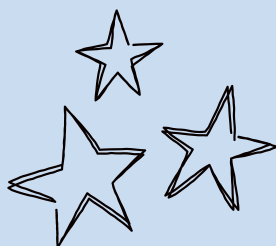
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a lovely and restful weekend.

Mrs Pilkington

Stars of the Week

Nursery - Sally
Rec - Alfie & Dean
Y1 - Ollie & Rutvika
Y2 - Archie & Aurora
Y3 - Sophie & Tommy
Y4 - Annabelle & Harley
Y5 - Amelija & Jasmine
Y6 - Everyone!

WELL DONE



Target 96%

Reception	100%
Year 1	98.4%
Year 2	92.1%
Year 3	97.7%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	99.3%
Year 6	97.7%
Total	97.9%

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

TAKEHOME

SEP - 20th September



Do we all have a part to play in helping those in need?

In the news this week

UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham has pledged that, by Christmas, everyone sleeping rough in England will be offered a safe place to stay. Accommodation will be found to end the need for sleeping rough. There will also be practical support for any health needs, as part of a £442m investment.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your response to the pledge that no one will be sleeping rough this Christmas.
- > Can you think of some different ways that people can help others in their local communities?
- > Can you share a time when you needed help from others? What help did you need and who helped you?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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Developing Our Forest School

We are excited to be working with a specialist Forest School company to continue developing our Forest School provision. This half term, Reception and Year 2 will have the opportunity to learn, explore and build confidence through hands-on outdoor experiences, following a child-led approach. Sessions may include games, challenges, bushcraft skills, tool use, fire building and campfire cooking, all safely supervised by trained practitioners. Forest School embraces learning in all seasons and weather, helping children develop resilience, independence and a deeper connection with nature.

Up Coming Parents Meeting

- 21st September 3:30pm KS1 Phonics and Reading Workshop - Year 2 Classroom
- 22nd September 3:30pm EYFS Phonics and Reading Workshop - Reception Classroom
- 30th September - Parents/Carers Online Safety Briefing. Mrs Allton will send the link on Class Dojo.
- 14th October - Reception 2027 Open Day 9.30am, 10:45am and 1:15pm



Mrs Knight - Family Support Worker



For those that don't know me and a reminder for those who do, I am Mrs Knight, the Family Support Worker at school. I offer confidential support to children and families and use my experience to provide a listening ear, practical help, and guidance during challenging times. Working closely with pupils, parents, school staff, and external agencies, I aim to remove barriers to learning and wellbeing. My role includes supporting with issues such as behaviour, friendships, family change, illness, housing, finances, and emotional wellbeing, as well as signposting to services, attending meetings, and delivering one-to-one child interventions such as Drawing and Talking and Lego Therapy. You can contact me by email at sknight@middleforth.lancs.sch.uk, by phone on 01772 746024, or via Class Dojo. My working hours are 8:30am – 4pm Mon to Fri.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

School Uniform

We expect all children to wear the correct school uniform each day. A smart appearance helps children feel confident and ready to learn, and it reflects our high standards across school life.

Where to Buy

Our uniform can be purchased from:

- Justs Clothing (Penwortham): www.justsclothing.co.uk
- Sew Stunning Designs (SSD): www.ssduniformshop.co.uk

Plain royal blue items without the logo are also permitted.

School Uniform

- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan with school logo
- Grey or white socks or tights
- Sensible black flat shoes (no trainers)

Summer options

- Pale blue gingham dress
- Grey tailored shorts

PE Kit (worn on PE days)

- White T-shirt (with logo or plain)
- Royal blue shorts
- Royal blue PE hoodie
- Black pumps or trainers
- Plain black jogging bottoms or leggings for outdoor PE



Bags

In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, children should bring a school book bag (available from uniform stockists). In Year 3-6 please avoid large rucksacks or bulky bags, as our lockers are compact (40cm deep x 26cm wide) and need to fit both coats and bags

Jewellery, Earrings and Watches

- For safety reasons, we would prefer no jewellery or earrings to be worn in school. If earrings are worn, please can these be a small stud and removed before school on PE days.
- KS2 children may wear a simple watch (no smart watches)
- Watches must be removed for PE and swimming
- The school cannot be responsible for loss or damage of any personal items

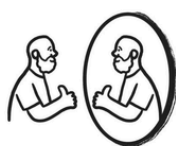
Hair and Accessories

- Long hair must be tied back at all times
- Haircuts should be neat with no extreme styles or colours
- Hair accessories should be simple, in school colours, and not over-sized



Self-Care September 2026

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

1 Find time for self-care. It's not selfish, it's essential

2 Notice the things you do well, however small

3 Let go of self-criticism and speak to yourself kindly

4 Plan a fun or relaxing activity and make time for it

5 Forgive yourself when things go wrong. Everyone makes mistakes

6 Focus on the basics: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time

7 Give yourself permission to say 'no'

8 Be willing to share how you feel and ask for help when needed

9 Aim to be good enough, rather than perfect

10 When you find things hard, remember it's ok not to be ok

11 Make time to do something you really enjoy

12 Get active outside and give your mind and body a natural boost

13 Be as kind to yourself as you would to a loved one

14 If you're busy, allow yourself to pause and take a break

15 Find a caring, calming phrase to use when you feel low

16 Leave positive messages for yourself to see regularly

17 No plans day. Make time to slow down and be kind to yourself

18 Ask a trusted friend to tell you what strengths they see in you

19 Notice what you are feeling, without any judgement

20 Enjoy photos from a time with happy memories

21 Don't compare how you feel inside to how others appear outside

22 Take your time. Make space to just breathe and be still

23 Let go of other people's expectations of you

24 Accept yourself and remember that you are worthy of love

25 Avoid saying 'I should' and make time to do nothing

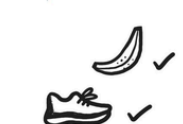
26 Find a new way to use one of your strengths or talents

27 Free up time by cancelling any unnecessary plans

28 Choose to see your mistakes as steps to help you learn

29 Write down three things you appreciate about yourself

30 Remind yourself that you are enough, just as you are



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

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 2027

School re-opens on: Monday 22nd February 2027

School closes on: Thursday 25th March 2027 at 2pm

Summer Term 2027

Starts: Monday 12th April 2027

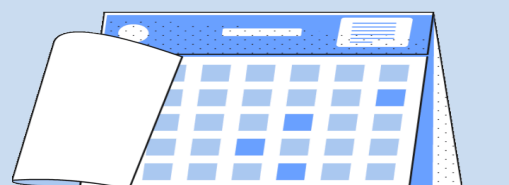
May Day: Monday 3rd May 2027

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 at 2pm



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16



Middlefirth Church of England Primary School 2026/2027 Yearly Planner



SEPTEMBER

9th - Meet the teacher
14th - National Coding Week
14th - 16th - Year 6 Robinwood Residential
21st - Fairtrade Fortnight & Recycle Week
21st - KS1 Phonics and Reading Workshop
22nd - EYFS Phonics and Reading Workshop
25th - Year 6 Careers Fair

OCTOBER

1st - Black History Month begins
1st - National Poetry Day
10th - World Mental Health Day
13th - Whole School Harvest at Church Y3 leading
21st - Individual Photographs
23rd - Parents Exhibition Afternoon 2pm

NOVEMBER

Non-Fiction November
4th - Book Fair Arrives
10th & 11th - Parents Evening
11th - Remembrance Day - Y6 leading
13th - Children in Need
16th - Enterprise Week
23rd - Parliament Week

DECEMBER

10th - EYFS/KS1 Christmas Performance
11th - Christmas Jumper Day
15th - KS2 Christmas Performance in Church
16th - Christmas Parties and Christmas Lunch
17th - Whole School Church

JANUARY

16th - Energy Saving week
18th - 3.30pm Year 6 SATs meeting
25th - Young Voices Concert (Co-Op Live Arena)

FEBRUARY

1st - National Story Telling Week
1st - Children's Mental Health Week
3rd - Book Fair Arrives
3rd - Y4 Leading Worship
9th - Safer Internet Day
9th & 10th - Parents Evening
24th - Reception Tots on Tyres
Swimming Pool Arrives - date TBC

MARCH

3rd - Y4 Trip - Eco Town
3rd - Reception Tots on Tyres (AM) & Y3 Scoot Safe (PM)
4th - World Book Day
8th - Science Week
10th - Reception Tots on Tyres & Whole School Bike Fix
15th - Sign Language Week
16th - Neurodiversity Celebration Week
17th & 24th - Y5 Bikeability
24th - EYFS to lead worship
25th - Whole School Church
19th - Red Nose Day

APRIL

15th - World Art Day
22nd - Earth Day
30th - Spring Celebration

MAY

10th - Key Stage 2 SATs week
10th - Mental Health Awareness Week
14th - Pentecost Party
17th - Walk to School Week
19th - Y1 & Y2 leading worship
20th - Outdoor Classroom Day
27th - Parents Exhibition afternoon 2pm

JUNE

5th - World Environment Day
7th - Multiplication Check Week
14th - Phonics Screening Week
15th - National School Sports Week
23rd - Book Fair (1 week)
23rd - Sports Day
25th - National Writing Day
24th - Sustainability Conference
28th - KS1 SATs week
30th - Y5 Leading Worship

JULY

5th - Year 6 Performance
8th - Reports Home
14th - Reports drop in for parents 3.30pm - 4.30pm
19th - Year 6 Leavers PM
19th - Year 6 Prom 5.30pm
20th - AM Whole School Church

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

