



# Middlefirth Church of England Primary School

## Friday 2nd October Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and successful week at Middlefirth, it is fair to say that the weather has certainly been interchangeable! From sunshine to showers and everything in between, the children have experienced a little bit of every season. Thankfully, the changing weather hasn't stopped the fantastic learning taking place across school. It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm, resilience and positivity that our children bring to every day, whatever the conditions outside.

Our Reception children have been incredibly creative during their Discovery Time, making full use of the different areas of learning both indoors and outdoors. It is always a joy to see their imaginations flourish as they explore, investigate, build and create together. The outdoor area continues to be a hive of activity and learning, helping our youngest children to develop confidence, curiosity and independence through purposeful play.

In Year 3 with Mrs Allton the class continued to build on their Art learning inspired by Ancient Egypt. The children have been thinking carefully about their final artwork, using Egyptian symbols as inspiration before adapting and redesigning them to create images that reflect their own personalities, interests and experiences. The thoughtful discussions and creativity behind their designs have been fantastic to see.

Meanwhile, Year 5 transformed the playground into Wimbledon for the afternoon as they enjoyed a mini tennis tournament during their PE lesson. It was wonderful to witness such enthusiasm, teamwork and determination as the children practised their skills and competed in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome Liz Agbetteh, our adviser from Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education, to Middlefirth. Liz spent time around school visiting classrooms and talking with staff and pupils. She was incredibly complimentary about how well the children have settled into the new school year and commented positively on the calm, purposeful environment she experienced throughout the school. We were proud to share the wonderful learning, relationships and Christian values that make Middlefirth such a special place to be.

As the weather begins to feel a little more autumnal, can I please remind all families to ensure that children have a pair of wellies and a waterproof coat in school. As you know, we are proud of our outdoor provision and, thanks to our OPAL approach, children enjoy spending time outside in all weathers. Having the correct clothing means that everyone can continue to make the most of our wonderful outdoor spaces, resources and opportunities for play throughout the year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a lovely, restful weekend and I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday for another week of learning, laughter and letting our light shine.

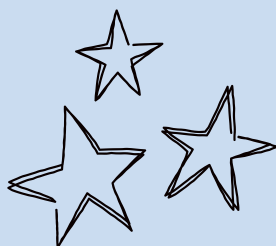
Have a wonderful weekend everyone! 🌟

Mrs Pilkington

### Stars of the Week

Nursery - Hallie  
Rec - Amaira & Ava  
Y1 - Corey & Logan  
Y2 - Peyton & Remy  
Y3 - Chloe & Evie  
Y4 - Akhil & Teo  
Y5 - Olivia H & Sam  
Y6 - Ava & Jack

WELL DONE



### Target 96%

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Reception | 92.0% |
| Year 1    | 93.5% |
| Year 2    | 93.8% |
| Year 3    | 97.3% |
| Year 4    | 98.7% |
| Year 5    | 98.3% |
| Year 6    | 93.5% |
| Total     | 95.3% |

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

# TAKEHOME

12th September  
- 4th October



How can we share  
our stories?

## In the news this week

The Bayeux Tapestry is a nearly 1,000-year-old very long piece of cloth covered with pictures sewn in colourful thread that tells the story of a very famous event called the Norman Conquest of England. The almost 70-metre-long piece of art has travelled from its usual home in France, to go on display at the British Museum in London. It shows the events leading up to the Battle of Hastings in 1066, and depicts soldiers, horses and ships.

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

- > Which stories are important to your family and how have these stories been passed from one person to another?
- > Do we have any photographs or objects that tell part of our family's story?
- > What do you think we can learn from different types of stories? E.g., written, photos or ones we retell.

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)



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## Poetry in Motion

### Curriculum Focus -English

#### ✦ National Poetry Day – Wonder! ✦

This week our children have been celebrating National Poetry Day with this year's theme of Wonder. From exploring the things that amaze and inspire us to creating their own imaginative poetry, the children have been encouraged to look at the world with curious eyes and find wonder in the ordinary. We've seen some fantastic ideas, thoughtful words and wonderfully creative poems across school! 📖💭

### EYFS Open Days

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October** - 9:30, 10:45 and 1:15

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November** - 9:30, 10:45, 1:15 and 3:30

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January** - 9:30, 10:45 and 1:15

Please ring the office to book your spot.



### Support for Children and Families

Please find below a range of services and courses available to support your child's wellbeing and your family. If you would like further information about any of the support listed, please contact school. We will be happy to help.

Key Peer Support – support for parents and carers of children with additional needs, including children who are awaiting assessment.  
<https://www.keycharity.org.uk/>

ADHD North West – online support and courses for parents and carers: <https://www.adhdnorthwest.org.uk/our-services>

Barnardo's My Time to Thrive – support for children's emotional wellbeing, including low-level anxiety and bereavement. Referrals can be completed online by parents/carers or professionals: <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/services/lancashire-and-south-cumbria-thrive-service>

Food Bank – available every Friday from 9.30am to 12.00pm at Kingsfold Community Centre.

Children and Family Wellbeing Service – a range of programmes and support are available, including Riding the Rapids – autism support, Nurturing Programme, Connection Programme and The Solihull Approach <https://www6.apps.lancashire.gov.uk/w/webpage/all-events?service=ALL>

Oliver House Autism Courses – free sessions held at Valley Church.

One Stop Shop – providing access to a range of services and support in one place.

School Nurse Support – support and advice for children, young people and families are also available through the school nursing service.  
<https://lancschildandfamily.co.uk/services/school-nursing/>

We are here to help

Please remember that you are not alone. If you are unsure which service may be most appropriate for your child or family, please speak to a member of the school team. We will be happy to talk through the support available and help you find the most appropriate service for your family.



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](http://www.justsclothing.co.uk)
- Sew Stunning Designs (SSD): [www.ssduniformshop.co.uk](http://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



# Optimistic October 2026



MONDAY



5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good

12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today

19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future

26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face

TUESDAY



6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better

13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing

20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time

27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time

WEDNESDAY



7 Look for the good in people around you today

14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation

21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you

28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?

THURSDAY

1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month

8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding

15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted

22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague

29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to

FRIDAY

2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)

9 Share an important goal with someone you trust

16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting

23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise

30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future

SATURDAY

3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you

10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently

17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society

24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently

31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month

SUNDAY

4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list

11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward

18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead

25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



## Autumn Term 2026

**Re-open on:** Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026

**School closes on:** Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

**Mid-term closure:** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026

**School re-opens on:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2026

**School closes on:** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2026 at 2pm

## Spring Term 2027

**Re-open on:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2027

**School closes on:** Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2027

**Mid-term closure:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2027

**School re-opens on:** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2027

**School closes on:** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2027 at 2pm

## Summer Term 2027

**Starts:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2027

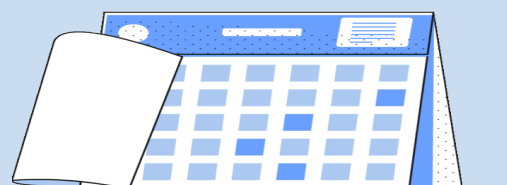
**May Day:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2027

**School closes on:** Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2027

**Mid-term closure:** Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2027

**School re-opens on:** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2027

**School closes on:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 2pm



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16



# Middlefirth Church of England Primary School 2026/2027 Yearly Planner



## SEPTEMBER

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

## OCTOBER

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

## NOVEMBER

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

## DECEMBER

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

## JANUARY

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

## FEBRUARY

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

## MARCH

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

## APRIL

15<sup>th</sup> - World Art Day  
22<sup>nd</sup> - Earth Day  
30<sup>th</sup> - Spring Celebration

## MAY

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

## JUNE

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

## JULY

5<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Performance  
8<sup>th</sup> - Reports Home  
14<sup>th</sup> - Reports drop in for parents 3.30pm - 4.30pm  
19<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Leavers PM  
19<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Prom 5.30pm  
20<sup>th</sup> - 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



With FREE  
Admission and  
Refreshments

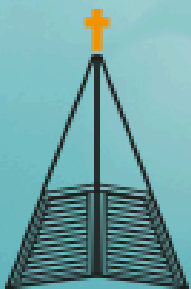
ST LEONARD'S

# MESSY CHURCH

This Saturday — 3rd October from 10am to 12 noon,  
we would love to welcome you, and your family, to our

# HARVEST THANKSGIVING

This Saturday, come and join  
us for a fun, hands-on session,  
especially for families with  
young children, where we  
will be making, playing and  
listening to stories about  
Jesus.



PENWORTHAM  
ST. LEONARD'S  
FAMILY CHURCH

For more  
details contact  
Rev Simon King  
**01772956698**

[revsimonking@gmail.com](mailto:revsimonking@gmail.com)

