Middleforth Church of England Primary School

Friday 9nd October Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we reach the end of another wonderful week at Middleforth, I would like to say how incredibly proud I am of our children and staff. Earlier this week, our School Adviser visited and joined me on a walk around every classroom from Nursery through to Year 6. He was amazed by the calm, purposeful and inclusive atmosphere throughout the school and commented on how confidently our children could talk about their learning. He was particularly impressed by the rich vocabulary being used and the way pupils could clearly explain what they were learning and why. Well done, everyone!

This week also saw our Year 6 pupils demonstrate tremendous courage and confidence as they delivered their speeches for the roles of Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl. The quality of every speech was exceptional, with children speaking thoughtfully about their ideas for the school and how they would represent our values. The whole school has now voted, and we are looking forward to presenting the badges on Monday. To those who are not successful this time, please remember how proud we are of every one of you for putting yourselves forward. There will be many other important opportunities for leadership throughout the year.

As many of you know, outdoor play is a huge part of life at Middleforth through our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme. Spending time outdoors helps children stay physically active, build friendships and supports positive mental health and wellbeing. As the weather becomes more autumnal, it is essential that all children have a pair of wellies and a waterproof coat in school so they can continue to enjoy our outdoor provision whatever the weather. Today, it was wonderful to see our school awash with yellow as we took part in #HelloYellow Day to raise awareness of children's mental health. At Middleforth, wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do, and our bespoke behaviour curriculum helps children understand their emotions and develop strategies to support their wellbeing. Next half term, we will be holding a parent session to share some of the free resources and approaches we use in school so that families can use the same supportive strategies at home.

Finally, a huge shout-out to our fantastic girls' football team, who started their league campaign last night. ⚽ The teamwork, determination and sportsmanship on display were a credit to themselves and our school. We are incredibly proud of you all!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday for another week of learning, laughter and letting our light shine. 🌟

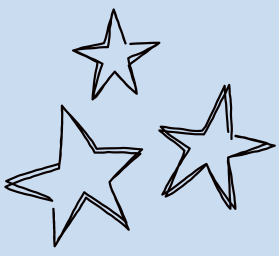
Mrs Pilkington

Stars of the Week

Nursery - Layla
Rec - Cecilia & Isabella
Y1 - Noah & Ruby
Y2 - Grace & Vinnie
Y3 - Matilda C & Matilda H
Y4 - Finley & Kaya-Mai
Y5 - Olivia W
Y6 - Chloe & Sam







Target 96%

Reception	98.7%
Year 1	95.4%
Year 2	92.4%
Year 3	98.3%
Year 4	97.7%
Year 5	97.0%
Year 6	97.7%
Total	96.8%

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - MATTHEW 5:16

TAKEHOME

5th – 11th October



In the news this week

The government has announced plans to make food served in schools across England healthier from September 2027. Under the proposed rules, schools would serve more fruit, vegetables and fibre-rich foods, while deep-fried foods and foods containing lots of fat, sugar or salt would be restricted. Schools would still offer familiar meals, but they would use healthier ingredients and cooking methods.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Who usually decides what your family eats at home? Do you take turns? Does everyone help choose meals?
- What are some of the things you think are important to consider when choosing what we eat?
- If you could suggest one new school meal, what would it be?

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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Curriculum Focus -Maths

This week, children across school have been building on their learning about place value and have begun exploring addition and subtraction using a range of practical resources, pictorial representations and written methods. It has been wonderful to see the progress being made and the pride children are taking in presenting their work carefully and explaining their mathematical thinking with confidence.

For more information about the calculation methods taught in each year group and how you can support your child at home, please visit the Maths section of our school website.

EYFS Open Days

Wednesday 14th October - 9:30, 10:45 and 1:15

Thursday 12th November - 9:30, 10:45, 1:15 and 3:30

Wednesday 13th 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

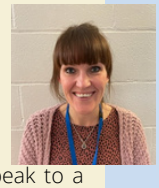
Oliver House Autism Courses – free sessions held at Valley Church.

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
- 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 earings 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	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list
5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	7 Look for the good in people around you today	8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward
12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation	15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead
19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you	22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?
26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face	27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time	28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?	29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month	





ACTION FOR HAPPINESS **Happier · Kinder · Together**

Autumn Term 2026

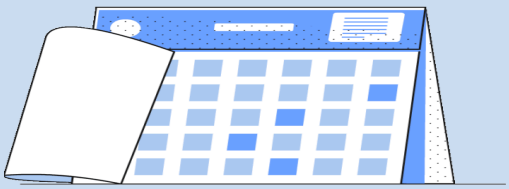
Re-open on:	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
School closes on:	Friday 23rd October 2026
Mid-term closure:	Monday 26th October – Monday 2nd November 2026
School re-opens on:	Tuesday 3rd November 2026
School closes on:	Friday 18th December 2026 at 2pm

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

Middleforth 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
9th - Hello Yellow for World Mental Health Day
10th - World Mental Health Day
13th - Whole School Harvest in school 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