



# MIDDLESTOWN JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOL

## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2014

*What a start to 2014! As you will read throughout this newsletter there has been lots of fantastic things happening in school during this half term and lots of exciting things planned for next half term. I hope the weather improves and you all have lots of fun during the holidays.*

### Golden Pupils



**Well Done**

### 20<sup>th</sup> December

LF – Joshua Dean  
UF – Maia Rawson  
Y1 – Elizabeth Sykes  
Y2 – Mia Barton  
Y3 – Isabelle Rouse  
Y4 – Sophie Speirs  
Y5 – Daniel Bray  
Y6 – Isabelle Lindley

### 31<sup>st</sup> January

LF – Abbie Hurst  
UF – Jake Asquith  
Y1 – Amelia Hurst  
Y2 – Chloe Taylor  
Y3 – Ethan Cooper  
Y4 – Ciaran Bollon  
Y5 – Lucy Walker  
Y6 – Millie Bottomley

### REMINDER

There are still children arriving late to school. This causes disruption to the start of the lesson and the children are missing an important part of the first lesson.

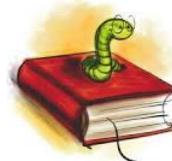
Please remember the school motto!

**Be on time**



**at five to nine**

### World Book Day



You should have received a letter to let you know that it is World Book Day on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March. To celebrate this we will be having a non-uniform day. Children can come dressed as their favourite book character if they wish.

### Mathletics Day

There was a great turn out of parents on Mathletics day, thank you to those parents that were able to come and support their children with Mathletics.

### Diary Dates/Events

#### February 2014

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Return to School

#### March 2014

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Class Photo's and Parents Evening (3pm – 5pm)  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Parents Evening (5pm – 7pm)  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day (Non-uniform)

#### April 2014

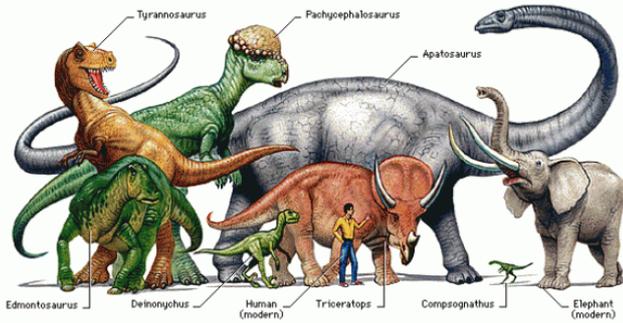
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> – Break Up  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Back to School

#### May 2014

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday (School Closed)  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 SATS  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Break Up  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> – INSET Day (school closed)  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> INSET Day (school closed)

## FOUNDATION

This half term our topic was dinosaurs and we have been learning all about how they move, what they eat and what their names are. We had dinosaur hunts, explored texture and made fossils.



We have set up lots of lovely new water equipment outside and the children are enjoying it immensely. We also will be setting up our construction and building set and also our den making equipment to improve the provision in our outdoor area.

Next half term our topic is fantasy, we will be exploring witches, princesses, princes and castles. We will also be making our investigations area into a potion lab. We will be making up stories and turning the role-play area into a fantasy world.

We will be having a visiting author reading stories to the children and encouraging them with their writing.

If you have any fancy dress costumes at home that no longer fit your child could we please have them for our role-play area.

## YEAR 1 & 2

Our topic has been Antarctica. We have learnt about the animals, the conditions and have compared the locality to that of the UK.



We wrote lots this half term; some non-fiction, like our non-chronological report on penguins and some fiction, like our Antarctica setting description.

In Science we looked at materials and reversible/irreversible changes. We had lots of fun making toast and popcorn and also melting chocolate (we even got to eat some!) We learnt about water as a solid, liquid and gas too and did an experiment to see what happened when we heated and cooled water.

Our new topic is based on 'Katie and the Art Gallery' books by James Mayhew. We will be looking at artwork and delving into the pictures to write some amazing descriptions. We also have an exciting trip to the Tolson Museum to look forward to.

Science this half term is all about electricity! We will investigate and make our own circuit with a bulb, battery and wire and work out how to add a switch.

Mr Pearson will be in year 2 for 6 weeks working alongside Mrs Hunter and Mrs Haigh.

## YEAR 3 & 4

In year 3 we have been learning about dinosaurs, researching different dinosaurs using the Ipads and presenting the information we have found using a research sheet. Next half term year 3 will be looking forward to the dinosaur egg hatching and discovering the dinosaur which is inside.



In literacy we have written exciting adventure stories and newspaper reports about dinosaurs. In numeracy we have looked at bar charts, pictograms and revised addition and subtraction.

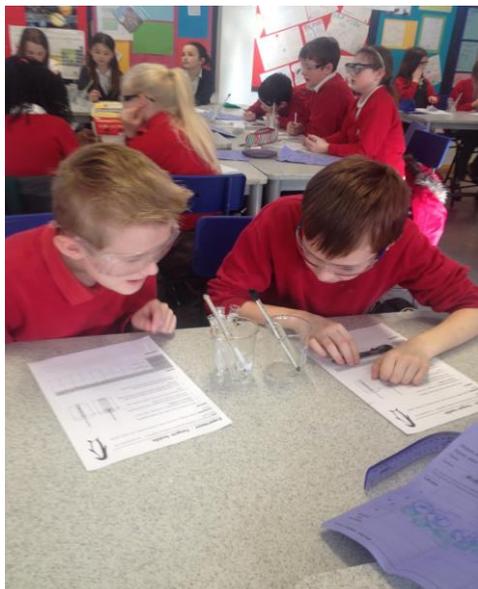
There will also be an exciting hockey tournament, where we will strive to win the Fair Player's Trophy again!

Read for My School is available on the VLE for all children in my class to take part. Details are there for anyone who wants to join.

## YEAR 5 & 6

Year 5 have really enjoyed their topic, "Graffiti" and completed a home school project to create a skate park out of any materials they had available. A competition for the best skate park will be held Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed their Taster Day at Horbury Academy. They took part in a variety of lessons throughout the day, including Science, History, ICT and a Maths roadshow.



This term in Year 6 the children have taken Graffiti into their lives. They have written explanations about it, arguments, Newspaper articles and even had a class debate.



The children have thoroughly enjoyed looking how Graffiti came about and why it still exists today, through this the children have learnt about expressing their opinion and backing it up with evidence.



Also in Geography, the children have worked hard learning about land Uses and have been inspired by the book The Window by Jeannie Baker.

The children have worked hard this half term and all progressing due their own determination. We also are improving our homework record – keep it up!

Next half term the children will step into the World of Room 13 (Written by Robert Swindells). Sorry can't tell you too much. We also have Robinwood next half term!



## SPORTING CELEBRATIONS

Year 1 and 2 won the Multi-skills festival! Our 2 teams were amazing and showed all the attributes of the ICARE hand

Year 3 took part in a bench ball competition and while we didn't win, we received the Fair Player's Trophy for having brilliant manners and being good sports.

## SCHOOL CLASS PHOTOS

Following the recent letter sent out about the style of class photos, I can confirm that 60% voted for the modern posed panoramic style.



**FEBRUARY HALF TERM FUN**

**Horbury Pageant Players  
Are performing**

**Robinson Crusoe & the Pirates  
At Horbury Academy**

**On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Februaury**

**Evenings at 7.00pm & Saturday  
Matinee at 2.00pm**

**Adult Tickets £6 Concessions £5  
Family Ticket £20 (2 Adults & 2  
Concessions)**

**Tickets available from:  
Star Travel, Horbury 01924 261188  
On the door at each performance**

**Contact Wendie 01924 267912 for more  
details**



### Complaints About Parking

You should have received a letter about complaints that we are receiving about parking issues. May I ask that:

- You do not park in the flats opposite the school, these are private property;
- You do not park where you will obstruct the crossing patrol; and
- You do not double park on Cross Road.

We do have an agreement with Middlestown Working Mens Club for parents/carers to use their car park.