



MIDDLESTOWN JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2014

What a great start to the school year, the children have settled down to work very quickly and there have been many activities during the term. Miss Tomlinson is recovering well from her operation and we will hopefully see her return to school a couple of weeks after the half term break. Have a great half term break, enjoy the Halloween festivities and we will see you all back in school on Tuesday 4th November.

Golden Pupils



Well Done

10th October 2014

Lower Foundation – Siena Kirby
Upper Foundation – Albi Rodriguez
Year 1 – Darren Oldroyd
Year 2 – Charlie Portman
Year 3 – Ebony Fairley
Year 4 – Ben Denton
Year 5 – Emma Tait
Year 6 – Emily Harrap

FOMS (Friends of Middlestown School)

There will be a FOMS meeting on Thursday 6th November 2014 at 6pm at school. This will be the Annual General Meeting and we will also be planning the school Christmas Fair.

The target for the FOMS fundraising is to raise money to extend the trim trail in the playground.

NATIONAL BAKING WEEK

All the children really enjoyed National Baking Week, taking it in turns in the cookery suite to bake a selection of cakes, buns and biscuits. We also had fantastic support from parents, both contributing cakes etc and turning up to enjoy a tea/coffee with the children. We would like to thank everyone for their support and contributions, we managed to raise a whopping £240.00.

OSSETT & HORBURY ROTARY CLUB DONATION

Mr Neville Oughtibridge and Mr Peter Whitworth visited Middlestown Foundation Unit on 14th October. We were delighted to receive a very generous cheque for £250.00 from them on behalf of The Ossett and Horbury Rotary Club. This will be a massive help towards developing our outdoor area. We look forward to a return visit from them when the work is completed.



Be on time



at five to nine

HALLOWEEN DISCO

Thank you for everyone's help and support at the Halloween Disco. It was a huge success and we managed to raise £341.81.



FOUNDATION

Foundation Stage had a great time this half term learning all about jungle animals. In the Role Play area, children were able to listen to the sounds of the jungle and spot the characters from the book, Rumble in the Jungle. Outside, we built a hide, the children spotted wild animals from inside with binoculars and then wrote down which animals they had seen. We looked at, and made animal patterns, learning how they use camouflage. We have read animal stories and sung animal songs. We loved learning the story of Noah's Ark and how the animals went into the two by two.



The children also identified animals from shapes in the dough and learnt the Makaton signs for lots of wild animals.

This half term we all enjoyed working with the author Conrad Burdekin. During baking week, the children baked and decorated buns. We also had a visit from the Rotary Club who kindly donated to us £250 for our outside area.

Next half term we are following the children's interest in super heroes and aliens and looking at space. We will also be celebrating Christmas with lots of activities and a visit from Santa.



YEAR 1 & 2

Our topic for this half term has been Weather and Seasons and the children have been busy learning about the changes between seasons and how this affects us and the things we enjoy doing. In Art we have created autumnal pictures in paint using different techniques. We have also practised weaving.

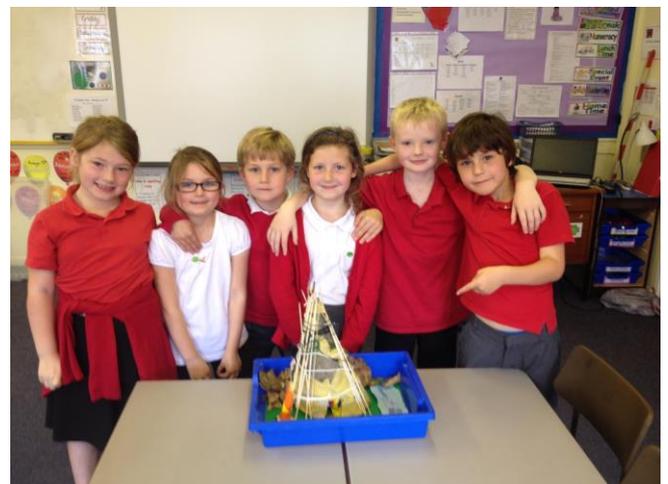
An exciting half term is planned for the second half of the Autumn term. Our topic will be 'Puppets and Plays' and we will be researching the best puppets before designing, making and evaluating our own. In Literacy we will be looking at traditional stories and plays, with a focus on characters. Our science work will be about materials and their suitability for purpose, with the topic question being 'which material should the three little pigs have used to build their houses?' To link with our theme, we will be going on a whole school trip to see the pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Year 1 & 2 class assembly – 13th November 9.15am.

Katie Hamilton, a 3rd year teaching student from Huddersfield University, will be teaching Year 2 after the half term until mid January. She will be supported by Mrs Young and Mrs Hunter.

YEAR 3 & 4

We have really enjoyed learning about the Stone Age, including lots of descriptive writing and a Stone Age story. They have done some fantastic art work to depict the paintings in Stone Age caves, as well as creating their own model shelters.



In addition, they have really enjoyed their time in the cookery suite, designing and baking French baguettes as well as some shortbread biscuits.



We will be moving on from the Stone Age to the Bronze Age and Iron Age after the holidays. We will also be going on a trip to the Rydale Folk Museum to learn more about what life was like in the Iron Age.

YEAR 5 & 6

This half term we have read Michael Morpurgo's thrilling adventure story, *Kensuke's Kingdom* and completed persuasive pieces of writing, descriptions, discussions and newspaper articles. The children then presented their work in a really successful assembly.

In our topic Mayan work, the children have designed and created Mayan calendars, mastering the use of compasses. They have also learnt all about the Mayans, completing research using the internet and referencing their work.

We also completed a Mayan temple competition with some amazing creations, ranging from the huge and adventurous to the delicious with innovative designs and ideas! The winners were:



The children have baked tortillas, flavouring these with herbs and seeds and they have all baked a bun for the successful bake sale!

Next half term we will be continuing learning about the Mayans and in science we will be learning about light. We also have an exciting visit from the planetarium.



Friday November 14th

We will be taking part in Children In Need and raising money for the worthwhile cause by children coming to school dressed as 'heroes'.

We will also be holding a colouring competition like the one we did last year.

More details will be sent out after the holidays.

THE WEATHER IS TURNING

The weather is definitely turning and starting to get wetter and colder. Please could you ensure that your child has an appropriate outdoor coat and footwear.

MIDDLESTOWN SPORTING NEWS



Year 1 and 2 won the benchball festival at Horbury Academy. Yippee!



Year 5 and 6 along with Year 4 also took part in the cross country event at Horbury Academy.



Year 5 took part in the football tournament and played really well.

Diary Dates/Events

November 2014

- Monday 3rd – Inset Day School Closed
- Tuesday 4th – School Opens
- Tuesday 4th – Parent Partnership Meeting 3.30pm
- Thursday 6th – FoMs Meeting 6pm
- Tuesday 11th – Parents Evening 3pm to 5pm
- Thursday 13th – Parents Evening 5pm to 7pm
- Thursday 13th – Year 3 and 4 Trip

December 2014

- Wednesday 3rd – Upper Foundation / KS1 Christmas Production 2.00pm
- Thursday 4th – Upper Foundation / KS1 Christmas Production 9.30am
- Thursday 4th – Christmas Fayre
- Wednesday 10th – KS2 Christmas Production 2pm & 6pm
- Wednesday 17th – Whole School Trip to Wakefield Theatre
- Thursday 18th – Carol Service at St Luke's Church 6.30pm
- Friday 19th – School Finishes for Christmas Break