



'Let your light shine!'

Our Christian Value this half term is courage

Friday 15th February 2019

How lovely to see the sun shining on our last day of the Half Term....long may it continue! Today our year five children are down at Harry Potter World having a great time. We wish them a safe journey home tonight.

After half term our nursery children will be joining us in Celebration Worship's on a Friday and being part of star of the week awards. Today they have had a visit from Bailey Bunny who they have all loved having in with them. I imagine he will have to make a few return visits. The guinea pigs also continue to cause a stir every Monday and Wednesday. I am starting to worry what will be joining us next!

We have some further staffing changes after half term. Unfortunately Mrs Garner will not be back in school this academic year. Year one will now have Mrs Gordon, as planned, and Miss Edmondson, who has been teaching the class since Christmas will be working in year one on a Thursday and Friday. The first week back Mrs Gordon and Miss Edmondson will both be in class full time to ensure a smooth transition into class for Mrs Gordon.

Have a great Half Term holiday

Mrs Adams

Star of the week – Friday 15th February 2019!

Our stars of the week this week are;

Reception	Scarlett & Jack
Year 1	Zach & George H
Year 2	Riley & Ava
Year 3	Ruby & Beaux
Year 4	Cameron & Anna
Year 5	(On School Trip)
Year 6	Archie & Lily



KS2 Merit Badge Winners

Class	Red – Ruby	Blue – Sapphire	Green - Emerald	Yellow – Amber
Y3	Lucie	Ryan	Jasmine	Ruby
Y4	Olivia	Emily	Noah	Lucia
Y5	(On School Trip)			
Y6	Thomas B	Archie	Anya	Lily

Middleforth's Houses – House Points

Ruby	Sapphire	Emerald	Amber
2240	2115	2185	1936

Child protection

Occasionally we get asked as a school what to do if someone has a concern about a child's welfare. If we are in school then we are always happy for you to come in and raise concerns with either Mrs Adams or Mr Swindells, who are the safeguarding leads in school.

If you think a child is at immediate risk of harm the best advice is to call 999.

If you think a child is at risk of harm then ring Children's social care on 0300 1236720.

If you are worried about a child and want further advice ring NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 or visit their website for further information.

Temporary Changes during the next half term

We will be using the old method of sending the newsletter via email and not using the school spider system for communication purposes for the time being. If there is a school trip, we now have a useful option of a consent box and a comment box on the scopay system for you to tick or add any useful notes such a choice of sandwich if your child requires a school packed lunch.

Just a quick re-cap to let you know of the systems that we are currently using in school to keep you up to date:-

Parentpay:- Used for school meal bookings and payments only

Scopay:- Used for breakfast/after school club bookings and payments

Trips & Events

Food Technology

Teachers2parents:- Text Messages & Emails

Contact the office:- office@middleforth.lancs.sch.uk or via the school text number.

(Please note that you that you cannot reply to teachers2parents emails only text messages)

A copy of the school newsletter will be displayed in the school office window every week for you to refer to for upcoming dates etc.

Thank you from the School Office ☺

Thank you to everyone who is helping the office by keeping children's lunch orders up to date and booked in advance, using the ParentPay system. Meals are currently available to book until the end of March. If you use breakfast and after school clubs, it would also be great if you could again, keep your bookings up to date and in advance, if at all possible. We can accept last minute bookings for After School Club but please ensure you have credit on your account for to booking to go ahead and please only do this in an emergency, not as a routine as it puts additional pressure on the office staff.

Please check both **scopay** and **ParentPay** to keep your payments and accounts up to date. We do fully appreciate that there is a lot to deal with at times but it would really help us to keep things running as smoothly as possible. The office can be very busy first thing in the morning and the end of the school day. If you have a query that can be dealt with by email (office@middleforth.lancs.sch.uk) or text message instead of having to queue, that would also help immensely. **This of course does not apply to matters of an urgent or delicate nature.**

Thank you in advance of your understanding and patience during the coming weeks, your support with this will help us so much, *Donna Hardman* ☺

Special Lunches

After half term and leading up to the Easter break there are a few themed lunches that the children might like to join in with. These should be booked on Parentpay, we have asked them to update the



choices which should be available from next week. **Please be aware that if you have already made lunches choices for these special days, the new choice will have overridden it and you will need to re-book those days.** Order forms for Mother's Day lunches will be coming home with the children.

<p>Tuesday 5th March <i>Pancake Day</i></p>	<p>Enjoy a tasty Pancake for dessert</p>	
<p>Thursday 7th March <i>World Book Day</i></p>	<p>Sausage Roll & Baked Beans (veg option available) <i>Or</i> 'Fantastic Mr Fox' Fish Burger & Crunchy Salad <i>All served with 'Bruce Bogrotters Potato Balls</i> 'Room on the Broom' Ice Cream Roll <i>or</i> 'Polyjuice' Jelly & Fruit</p>	
<p>Thursday 4th April <i>Easter Lunch</i></p>	<p>Roast Turkey or Quorn Fillet with all the trimmings <i>Or</i> Jacket Potato <i>Or</i> Cheese Panini Easter Nest <i>or</i> Fruit & Yoghurt</p>	
<p>Tues 26th March Weds 27th March Thurs 28th March</p>	<p><i>Mother's Day Lunches</i> <i>(please use paper order forms)</i></p>	

Online safety outside of school

As half term approaches can I please remind parents to monitor closely the use of technology at home. We are having increasing problems in school with children feeling uncomfortable about discussions of games which are age inappropriate or inappropriate activity on mobile phones outside of school. We do not allow children to discuss in school their activity on any technology which is age inappropriate, but monitoring every conversation in school is of course impossible.

We remind children of the age levels for Fortnite (12 years) WhatsApp (16 years) Facebook. Twitter and Instagram (13 years) and you tube (13 with parents' permission) and the dangers of misuse of these programmes and we hope that we can work together with parents to help children how to use these programmes with appropriate care and regard for online safety.

Chats on group chats on xbox or through whatsapp are also becoming something of an issue and we have done a lot of work with the children around this in school. Please help us by monitoring your children on these group chats and ensuring the content and discussions are appropriate. Children are telling us many of these chats are happening very late at night and even into the early hours and some are very unsettled by the peer pressure of being involved.

We are also aware that some children have been drawn into "spamming" which is constantly sending the same word or message to someone else through social media. It is often not offensive or derogatory but can still feel quite threatening to the recipient.

BIG Battery Hunt

This year we will be entering the **BIG** battery hunt competition. This initiative helps encourage young people in schools across the UK to think about the importance of recycling, and then challenges them to collect as many used batteries as they can. The aim is for each pupil to contribute to an overall total. So as soon as they arrive, each child will receive their own recycling battery box

which they can fill and bring into school. Not only will we be helping promote the importance of recycling, this is a competition and as a school we stand to win one of these wonderful prizes:

- A 2-night class trip to the sustainability centre
- A 3-year subscription to MyMaths worth £1,000
- £2000 worth of school equipment vouchers
- iPads

All battery boxes to please be returned to school by the 1 June. Happy recycling!

Mrs van Zyl.

Dates for the year 2018 – 2019

Tuesday 12 th February	Y2 Dance/Gymnastics Priory Academy (10 children)
Friday 15 th February	Y5 Harry Potter Trip
Thursday 28 th February pm and evening	Y5 WRIST celebration of Friendship
Tuesday 5 th March	Pancake Day – Special Lunch (<i>Details to follow</i>)
Tuesday 5 th March	Y6 Manchester Museum Trip - £17
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day – Special Lunch (<i>Details to follow</i>)
Thursday 7 th March	FMS Disco
Friday 8 th March	Y3 Liverpool World Museum - £8
Thursday 14 th March pm and evening	Y6 Sing together Blackburn King Georges Hall
Monday 25 th March 1.30-3.30pm	Parent teacher meetings
Tues 26 th / Weds 27 th / Thurs 28 th	Mother's Day Lunches (<i>Details to follow</i>)
Wednesday 27 th March 3.30-6.00pm	Parent teacher meetings
Friday 29 th March	Easter Bingo
Thursday 4 th April	Easter service at church
Thursday 4 th April	Easter Bake off
Wednesday 8 th May	May Day celebrations
Thursday 9 th May	May Day celebrations
Friday 10 th May	May Day celebrations
Week commencing 13 th May	Key Stage two SATS tests
Monday 17 th – Wednesday 19th June	Y6 Residential Trip to Tower Wood
Tuesday 2 nd July	Sports Day
Week commencing 8 th July	Healthy bodies, Healthy minds week
Thursday 11 th July morning	Leavers service in school for year 6
Thursday 11 th July evening	Year six prom
Friday 12 th July	Reports out
Thursday 18 th July	End of year church service.