



*“Excellence, Truth
and Grace”*

MIDDLETON PARISH CHURCH SCHOOL

Keeping In Touch Newsletter

Spring 2 What's Been Done...

As I write, the summer fair has just ended and there is a buzz around school as the staff pack away the event. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces in school having fun and supporting the event. A HUGE thank you goes out all staff who have gone above and beyond to ensure the smooth running of the fair; thanks to parents for coming along to support and most importantly, thank you to the children for bringing in items to enable the fair to take place and for having so much fun - seeing so many happy faces is definitely a highlight of our work in school. Going back to church with the whole school has been another key occasion this half term, having St Leonards filled with a sea of red jumpers, singing and smiling faces isn't something I'll forget quickly. Our garden party for the Queen was a great success and the rain stayed away long enough for all 445 children plus staff to enjoy a picnic lunch together. Next half term is the final of the academic year 2021-2022, let's continue to work together to ensure all children fulfil their potential.

Mrs Wainwright

Experience Pentecost

Key Stage 2 had a fantastic time at St Leonard's church taking part in Experience Pentecost. Whilst there, the children were put into groups and moved around different stations set up in the church. Each station taught the children about a different aspect of Pentecost and the children were given an activity to help them to think about how they could be a disciple of Jesus. Children were given a goody bag and along the way picked up different items to place inside their bags that represented a different part of the Pentecost story.

EYFS Open Morning

This half term, we hosted a successful open morning for EYFS. We welcomed a number of families, many new to our school as well as a host of familiar faces. The sun shone for us and it was a joy to meet the children and begin the important process of transition into their new school. If your child is joining our nursery or reception classes in September, look out for further information about our stay and play sessions after half term.

Jubilee Events

The Jubilee celebrations started with our Junior Faith Leaders leading a church service. We celebrate seventy years of the Queen's sovereignty and service and thought about how we can all look to Queen Elizabeth with respect and gratitude for her life of dutiful, faithful service. In classes, children completed a range of work to explore the Queen's reign and duties. The weekly highlights from 27th May shared information about classes work.

The whole school meet together twice, once for a garden party lunch and once to record 'A Life Filled with Grace', the song commissioned for the commonwealth.

The week's celebrations culminated in the Summer Fair! What a wonderful time we all had!

Archbishop of York Sessions

The children in Year 4 have recently been given religious education lessons from Mr Maguire from St Anne's Academy. The themes and lessons have so far included courage and thankfulness. The lessons have featured people who have had to deal with situations requiring enormous courage such as the surfer Bethany Hamilton and Dutch World War 2 survivor Corrie Ten Boom. The work has been supported with bible stories and modern film.

Sporting Events

It's been another busy half term with sports at Parish, with 12 teams having been in action: a total of 87 children representing team Parish! We've seen a huge improvement in our overall performances and this is down to the sheer work ethic and commitment of the children giving up their lunchtimes to practise for these events. For many events, we have even had to put in more than one team due to the increased number of children wanting to represent the school. Despite some close losses and a few semi-final defeats, 3 teams have walked away with bronze medals; the Year 5 girls netball team; the Year 6 boys netball team; and the Year 5 mixed rugby team, 1 team has walked away with silver medals; the Year 5 boys football team, and 1 team walked away with gold medals and a trophy; the Year 5 mixed rugby team.

We are extremely proud of all of these children as they give nothing but 100% at these events and represent the school ethos of Excellence, Truth and Grace.



Pupil Voice

The **School Eco Group** had their first meeting this half term. Children from Reception to Year 6 met to discuss ways that we can help and support the environment at school and in the community. The group came up with some fabulous ideas such as litter picking and helping to educate through posters and videos on Class Dojo, planting more plants and trees and growing vegetables and fruit for school meals. We look forwards to the next meeting where we can begin the process of meeting the criteria for the Eco School award.

School Council have met to discuss returning to the hall to eat lunch. The council put together a question to hand out to classes to find out the pros and cons and get the wider child voice. Votes are due in after half term and the chair will take their findings to Mrs Wainwright to help inform her decision.

Health Bodies and Mind Council have considered new initiatives for classrooms to help manage stress and emotional health. They have also begun to survey children across school to find out what changes pupils would like to see at lunchtime. They are amazing at recognising the needs of different pupils in school and understand that not everyone likes sport; they are keeping that in mind as they plan new ideas. The Council are also keen to represent themselves at school events and are taking ownership of their own ideas. The Healthy Bodies and Minds Council will be talking to pupils across school and are looking forward to the work they will do in the future.



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Summer 1 What's to come....

Christian Distinctiveness Day

June 30th will be a day focused on our Christian distinctiveness. We are excited to announce that the Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) plane will be on site! MAF believe nothing should stop people from receiving the love of God and the essentials of life – no matter how remote they are. Their vision is 'to see isolated people changed by the love of Christ.' They use aviation and technology, because in many places those are the only ways to reach isolated people in need.

The MAF team will support us in opening our prayer space. This will be a quite area in school with a range of creative activities that encourage prayer and personal reflection on issues such as forgiveness, and thankfulness. The volunteers from church will help to run a messy church style sessions about our Christian Values and our

Forest School Family Session

Being outdoors is great for mental health and wellbeing. The children at Middleton Parish Church School love engaging in Forest School curriculum lessons and our extra-curricular club each Wednesday. Before the pandemic, we held Family Forest School evenings, giving parents the opportunity to see what their children get up to in the Forest! We've decided to do this again and listening to feedback have opted to open school on Saturday 2nd June from 10am—11:30am for a Family Forest School. To cover cost, we need ask for £2.50 per adult and £1 per child. Places are limited and must be booked via the office in advance.

We hope you can join us!

Communication

We have worked hard to ensure effective home-school communication systems are in place within school. Thanks you for the positive comments received regarding our 'Weekly Highlights' and 'Sunday Reminders'. Class emails are working well to support the parent—teacher communication and our return to face to face class clinics were well received by those who attended. We have received feedback that some parents would prefer a more hybrid approach to support those who can't make it to school and will explore this approach before the next class clinics on 11th July.

We didn't have any parents attending our SLT and Engagement and inclusion Drop Ins, this tells us that you are able to contact who you need when you need to, which is great—we will of course make ourselves available to parents during class clinic times.

Please continue to email class emails if you have any queries and telephone the office if you have an urgent message you need to pass on. Please can we remind you to ensure children are logging reading on GoRead—it is essential we know the reading that is taking place at home.

Badge It!

Around school, on our website and on class dojo, you will begin to see badges appearing! These badges will highlight and promote the work school are completing in areas of school priority and development. We believe that in 'badging' the work we are doing, our community will continue on its journey of togetherness; everyone knowing and living out our ethos of 'Excellence, Truth and Grace'.

Year 6 Leavers

We will say goodbye to our Year 6 children at the end of this term and the staff have once again planned lots of events to ensure their final time at school is memorable. Each Tuesday afternoon will now be dedicated to transition and our pastoral team have planned a robust set of events to ensure the children are as ready as they can be for the next stage of their journey. Below are the key dates for events:

- Friday 8th: July Camp Out
- Wednesday 20th July: Presentation Evening
- Thursday 21st July: Leavers Service

Childhood Day : 10th June

Childhood Day brings everyone across the UK together to have fun and raise money to support the NSPCC to protect children! We have signed up to 'The Big Breaktime!'. For one hour, the children will get an extra play to do what they enjoy—the important thing is we're all taking part, huge game of rounders, the important thing is we're all taking part, downing tools, connecting, and having fun together.

[Thank you to Year 6 who organised a stall at the summer fair to raise money for our school donation.](#)

Festival Manchester

Mrs Mitchell's pop choir are in full rehearsals for their performance at Festival Manchester in July. The festival has opened up to Year 3 and 4 children—watch out for a letter to express interest. Please note should you wish for your child to be involved you will need to transport them to Audacious Church, Manchester, on June 30th from 5pm—6pm for the rehearsal and then to the festival at Wythenshawe Park on Saturday 2nd July from 2pm.

For more details about the event please follow the youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?>



Key Dates:

Please keep an eye on Class Dojo for any additional dates and also the 'Key Dates' section of our website.

- 17th June: Childhood Day
- 21st June: Tuesday Transition afternoons begin
- 29th June: Ex-Pupil Keeping in Touch Evening
- 30th June: Christian Distinctiveness Day
- Saturday 2nd July: Family Forest School
- 5th July: Year 6 Visits to Secondary Schools/Full transition day in school
- 8th July: Year 6 Camp Out
- 13th July: Class Clinics
- 15th July: Reports to Parents
- 20th July: Presentation Evening (by invitation)
- 21st July: Year 6 Leavers Service 6S 9:30am 6L 10:30am
- 22nd July: End of Term 2pm Finish

Ex-Pupil Keeping in Touch Evening

The evening of Wednesday 29th June will see our ex-pupils, who left us in Year 6 in either 2020 or 2021, invited back to school to share their experiences of secondary school and say a proper goodbye to Parish. If you know a pupil in these year groups, please tell them to keep an eye out for their invitation.