MIDDLESTOWN NEWS

Middlestown Primary Academy: July 2025

Headteachers Welcome … We are tremendously proud of all the children and all that they have achieved this year. A special mention to Year 6, who have recorded some of the best results the school has ever achieved. We all can't believe how quickly the year has flown when we think back to what we were doing in September. The children have performed in productions and assemblies for you, they have all been on school trips (some of these being residentials) and you have joined us at school for Sports days, VE day celebrations and breakfast with books. And, to top it all off we had an Ofsted inspection thrown in as well, so it has been extremely busy. The children have started getting used to their new classes this week and we look forward to seeing how they progress when they return in September. We hope that you all manage to have a well-deserved break over the summer and that the sun continues to shine. Thank you for all your support this year and we look forward to working with you again next year.

Autumn 1 PE Days

UF — Friday

Year 1 — Tuesday & Thursday

Year 2 — Thursday

Year 3 — Monday & Wednesday

Year 4 — Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 5 — Monday & Thursday

Year 6 — Wednesday

Music Lessons

Would your child like to learn a musical instrument? We still have spaces available in the following music lessons which take place in school hours:

- Brass
- Woodwind
- Guitar
- Strings

If your child would be interested, please contact the office.

Staff Profile: Get to know our staff better…

Miss Rushforth

When did you start at MPA?
I started at Middlestown Primary Academy on 10th February 2025.

What do you do at MPA?
I am a Teaching Assistant based in Foundation.

What is your favourite thing about your job?
I love getting to know each child's individual personality. At such a young age, this can change daily but building trusting relationships with young minds is so rewarding and fills my day with laughter.

What do you enjoy doing outside of school?
I've had a love for musical theatre since childhood and I've been lucky enough to perform on the stage at the Wakefield Theatre Royal many times over the years. Throughout school, I took on roles like Dorothy in The Wizard Of Oz and Velma in Chicago, and that passion has never left me. Even now, you'll still catch me singing show tunes in the car like nobody's watching. It's something that will always be a part of who I am.

Favourite moment at Middlestown so far?
This question has taken me a while to answer. I've had so many amazing moments in the short time I've been at Middlestown. Leading up to Sports day must be one of my favourite moments. Seeing all the children learning how we will be doing our racing, seeing their worry, excitement and laughter has made me feel so proud to see their personalities shine. Seeing the difference in the children on their first practice to the main event was astonishing. Whether it was cheering on a worried child, taking part in every race or a competitive child laugh after dropping the egg off the spoon - I have loved every second of it!

Favourite food?
Old School Fairy Cake has always been a favourite for me!

Foundation Stage This half term, our topic has been 'Around the World'. We have been finding out what it is like to live in other countries and also learnt about which animals live in these different countries too. In Maths, the children have explored repeating patterns and directions/plotting a journey. The children also enjoyed taking part in Field work activities, exploring our school grounds using their senses. We enjoyed a fabulous class trip to Sheffield Tropical World. The children got to see lots of different animals including: meerkats, lizards, turtles, as well as many different types of butterflies. The children also loved playing on the play equipment and having a close up experience with mini-beasts. The children also enjoyed our annual Sports day and trying out new sports during Sports week. We recently took part in Art Day, where we looked at the art work by Steven Brown. The children loved looking at his McCoo paintings and discussing which ones they had seen in family members' home. They then recreated their own McCoo artwork. We have enjoyed welcoming our new starters for September for stay and play sessions and we look forward to welcoming them into the unit fully in September. After the summer holidays we will be beginning our 'Marvellous Me' topic, where we really get to know all about the children and their families.

Foundation Art Work

Enjoying Boogie Bounce

World Music Day

Trip to Sheffield Tropical World

Year 1 Year 1 have had a very busy last half term of the year. They have been reading books related to their topic 'Seaside'. They completed writing based around 'Snail and the Whale' and 'Winnie at the Beach'. They visited The Deep and had a great time exploring the sea life creatures, learning new facts and our 'Beside the Sea' workshop. They created a poster to persuade others to visit The Deep during English. In History, Year 1 have learnt all about how seasides have changed from Victorian times. They discovered what Punch and Judy is and even bathing machines! As part of their Geography topic, Local Area, the children went on a hunt around school to spot features and created their own map of Middlestown using ordinance survey symbols. In Art, the children explored colour and mixed primary colours to make secondary colours. They then used this knowledge to create a piece of artwork inspired by Jasper Johns. The children have worked incredibly hard in Year 1 and are ready for the challenges of Year 2. To start the year in Year 1, the children read 'Ruby's Worry' to help them discuss feeling scared or anxious about change. The children then read a variety of traditional tales including 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children will complete lots of drama activities so that they are fully immersed in the stories, which will give them a good understanding of the characters. The children will start their 'Weather and Climate' topic in Geography and learn about the seasons of the year and different weathers we experience. This will link closely to their Science topic all about the Autumn Season.

Year 1 at The Deep

Year 2 Year 2's topic this term has been 'Secrets of the Sea' and in History we have learnt all about the Titanic. The children have loved learning about the disaster and debating who was to blame. For their homework the children created their own Titanic projects. We were amazed by the fantastic work they produced, we had models, pictures, posters, paintings, poems, and games. In English, we read stories linked to the seas and oceans and wrote diaries, stories and persuasive letters. In Art, the children learnt about colour mixing and creating texture with paint. They used these skills to create their own textured papers, which they made into a collage based on Romare Bearden's work. The children hosted an Afternoon Tea for their parents and carers, and they made and served homemade sandwiches and sweet treats. The money they raised on the raffle they chose to spend on ice creams and ice lollies for the class. Next half term, our topic will be 'If you go down to the woods...' and we will be visiting Coxley Woods to support our learning. In English, we will read stories with woodland settings and use these to inspire our writing. In Science, we will be learning about habitats and minibeasts.

Year 2 Afternoon Tea

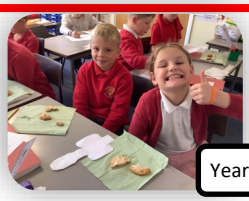
Year 3 This half term, Year 3 have finished their topic on Ancient Greece. They compared the ancient Olympics to the modern Olympics and looked at how the Greeks influenced Britain today. In Geography, the children have been learning about South America. In this topic the children located South America on a map and identified the countries in South America using an atlas. They also compared Brazil to Britain and learnt about the human and physical features in Rio de Janeiro. In PE, we have been focusing on striking and fielding games, the children enjoyed learning more about cricket and rounders, using their skills to play games against each other. As a stimulus for writing, the children have been using the book 'Quest' by Aaron Becker. This is the second book in the series after Quest which the children loved! The have produced some brilliant writing including: instructions, a missing person advert and a setting description. In Science, the children have enjoyed carrying out lots of investigations linking to their light topic. They tested how the size of shadows change as a light source is moved further away, objects that create shadows and the effects of UV rays on coloured paper. In September, the children will be learning about Early Civilisations as part of their History topic. This includes the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. In English, they will read a number of texts linked to their History topic such as, 'Stone Age Boy' and 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. In Science, the children will learn about rocks and fossils.

Year 2 enjoying Sports Week

Year 2 enjoying Art Day

Year 4 This half term, Year 4 have done lot of exciting things! The children have explored the school and the Middlestown area as part of their Geography topic. They have then identified human and physical features using fieldwork, looked at ordnance survey maps and even drawn their own sketch map. In English, Year 4 have been reading 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. This book has linked closely to their previous topic about the Amazon Rainforest, so the children have enjoyed exploring a story set in the rainforest. They have written in a range of styles including: a persuasive letter, diary entry and an information leaflet. In DT, Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed developing a biscuit recipe and making their own biscuits! They investigated existing biscuits already on the market, analysed the packaging to inspire their own design. They worked collaboratively with others to create a biscuit company, designed and worked out the cost of their biscuits within a given budget. The children really enjoyed this project. This half term there have been lots of sporting events. Year 4 did really well in their Sports day with Year 5 and 6. They showed good sportsmanship by cheering other children and houses, as well as trying their best in every race, Well done! Year 4 also enjoyed Sports Week! They had a fabulous time enjoying a range of sports and activities. Some of their favourites were Boogie Bounce, Drumba and Blind Football. Next half term, Year 4 will be learning all about the Anglo-Saxons in their History topic. They will also be exploring a range of diverse texts as part of English including, 'Malala's Magic Pencil'.

Year 4 enjoying Sports Week



Year 4 enjoying making biscuits

Year 5 Year 5 have had a fantastic final term! They wrote their own narratives on their class book 'The Arrival' and wrote detailed biographies on the author, Shaun Tan. In Science, they studied the stages of development in both humans and animals and created fact files on the gestation period of their favourite animal. They couldn't believe how long the gestation period lasts for elephants! In Geography, they explored the highly populated city of Athens and compared the city to Middlestown after completing fieldwork on the human and physical features. In PE, they brushed up on their rounders skills, working in a team and focusing on their batting and fielding skills. Year 5 had their final samba assembly where they blew everyone away with their beautiful singing and perfect timing. Year 5 had a fantastic time at Temple Newsam and were transported back to the Tudor times. They took an insightful tour around the grand house and admired the craftsmanship and artwork. Together, they constructed a timeline of the Tudor period and dressed up as famous Kings and Queens! In the afternoon, they sketched their favourite artefact and played in the endless gardens.

Year 5 at Temple Newsam

Year 6 Year 6 have had a busy half term, beginning their new topics: Evolution and Inheritance and Crime and Punishment through the Ages. The children particularly enjoyed the new History topic, comparing how punishment has changed over the centuries and suggesting reasons why. In English, they continued studying the book 'Kensuke's Kingdom', producing a newspaper report, narrative, letter, balanced argument, conversation, summary and character description. They have also been on different transition visits to their new high schools and completed transition work based around a theme park. For the end of the year celebrations, Year 6 have performed their Leavers' Assembly, played the teachers at rounders and have been to Capri for a meal . Next half term will be a new school year with many fun and interesting lessons. The new Year 6 class will be learning about World War II and reading the book 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'. The first topic in Science is Electricity and of course they will continue with Maths and English lessons.

Year 6 enjoying Sports Week

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Dates For Your Diary

The winner this half term is... **Upper Foundation**

September 2025

Monday 1st— INSET Day

Tuesday 2nd— Return to school for Autumn term 1

Thursday 25th— Sound Bathing Workshop

October 2025

Thursday 9th— Year 5 Class Assembly at 9:05am, Flu Vaccinations and Y5 & Y6 Bonfire safety talk

Monday 13th— Year 6 Bikeability

Tuesday 14th—Year 6 Bikeability

Wednesday 15th—Year 6 Bikeability

Thursday 23rd— Last day of Autumn term 1

Friday 24th— INSET Day