

Middleton Newsletter 6

Middleton Primary and Nursery School

Harrow Road, Wollaton Park

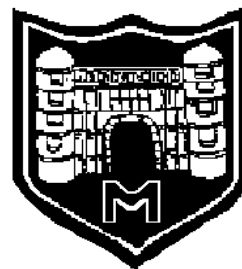
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Thursday 17th January 2007

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to you all!

Ofsted Inspection

You should all have received our Ofsted Report last week, I hope that you were pleased to see that the school did very well. We were thrilled that they identified areas of personal development and children's well-being as outstanding; a grade which is very hard to achieve. We were described as having created a harmonious school community and as the report states, this does not happen 'by chance'.

Our main issue for improvement is to address the achievement of some ethnic minority pupils, particularly in writing and our high attaining pupils across the school. This had already been identified by the school prior to Ofsted, and is the focus of our school improvement plan for 2007/2008. Much has already been put in place, including the appointment this term of a bilingual teaching assistant, Mrs Kaur. Revised target setting and assessment procedures have also been implemented. Over the coming weeks groups of parents will be contacted to discuss ways in which children can be supported at home too, in order to maximise the work we do in school. Please contact me directly if you have any concerns.

It is important to point out that the headlines of our Ofsted report were: 'Middleton is a good school that has improved well and where pupils achieve well'. You can be assured that we constantly strive to improve in all areas and for all children.

Make Your Child Brilliant

Most of you will remember that Channel 5 Television visited our school in the summer and autumn term to film one, in a series of six, television programmes about personalised learning. The series began on Thursday 10th January at 9pm on Channel 5. The programme which features our school will be shown on Thursday 31st January at 9pm. We hope you enjoy the programme, the children certainly enjoyed being involved!

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a midday supervisor within the school. If you would be interested in working with fantastic children and a friendly, happy staff then please contact our school office to find out more. This is a part time post (6.25 hours per week) from 12.00-1.15 each day. We are also keen to employ someone to be in charge of First Aid over this lunchtime period too. All appointments subject to an enhanced CRB check.

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Wollaton Road/ Eton Grove Junction

Plea for help! Our children desperately need someone to be their School Crossing Patrol. This only involves 30 minutes in the morning and again at the end of the school day. Please contact the school directly if you would be interested.

The Rock Garden - can anyone help?

I wonder whether any of our parents or friends could help us to try to find a solution to the problems associated with our Rock Garden? Unfortunately, this area of our playground causes some real problems and is currently cordoned off. When children are allowed to play in this area at playtimes, we seem to have an awful lot of accidents, particularly in wet weather when it becomes quite slippery. During the winter months we don't have the use of the field and so every inch of our playground is valuable space we need to make the most of. It seems such a waste of playing space but to remove it, or part of it, would cost a small fortune! I just wondered if we knew anyone in construction or design, who might be able to think of a solution and help us to make our playground better for the children? If you can help, please contact me or the school office.

Birthday Treats

Could we please remind parents that if your child has a birthday at school and they would like others in the class to share their celebration, could we ask that the treat be fruit and not sweets please? This is part of our Healthy Eating policy, which encourages healthy choices. We also allow individual cakes but with increasing numbers of children suffering nut allergies, this can cause problems, so please choose carefully. There is no obligation to bring anything in for birthdays, every child who has a birthday at school is celebrated within their class and receives a special mention on that day.

Extra Curricular Clubs

We are currently increasing the number of extra curricular clubs on offer to the children at lunchtime and after school. One of the requests we had via the parental questionnaire was to keep parents informed more regarding clubs. Our thanks go to all of the staff who kindly give up their own time to organise or run these clubs. Below is a list of what is being offered for this term:

Mondays: Y6 lunchtime Thinking Skills using ICT Mrs SadlerPenn
Y5/6 lunchtime Choir Mrs Clarke
Y3,4,5 after school Football Skills (girls) Seb Bloom

Tuesdays: Y6 lunchtime Circus Skills Mr Hughes
Y2 lunchtime Film Club run by Y5 pupils & Mrs Sadler Penn
Y5/6 lunchtime Choir Mrs Clarke
Y3,4,5 after school Dance run by Fernwood students & Mr Elliott

Wednesday: Y5/6 lunchtime Fashion Club Mrs Dolby
Y3/4 lunchtime Choir Mrs Clarke
Y2/3 after school Football Club Forest Football Club
Y2/3 lunch/after school French Club Mrs Gott

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Thursday: Y1/2 lunchtime Drama Club	Mrs Jowett
Y3,4,5,6 lunchtime Book Club	Mrs Morell
Y2-Y6 lunchtime Eco Club	Mrs Dolby/Mrs Bouttell
Y5/6 after school Netball Club	Miss Palmer/Mrs Bouttell
Y3,4,5,6 after school Dance Club	Mrs Bishop
Friday: Y1/2 lunchtime Computer Club	Mr Gilman
Y1/2 lunchtime Art Club	Mrs James
Y2 lunchtime Football Club	YMCA

Diary Dates for Spring Term 2008:

16th January Bitesize Theatre perform Aladdin to the whole school
22nd Nottingham Forest FC run sessions for Key Stage 1

1st February UNICEF - Day for change (details to follow)
7th Chinese New Year Celebrations
11-15th **Half term - one week**

18th Feb Return to school
20th/21st Parents Evening
4th March Nursery and Foundation classes 'Wheelie day'
4th/5th Book Fair in the hall- everyone welcome at 3.30pm
6th World Book Day (opportunity to dress up!)
Friday 7th March Inset Day - school closed for children

10th-14th National Science Week
13th PTA 'Spring Thing'
14th Last day of Spring Term
17-28th March Easter Holiday - Two weeks

More details will be sent out regarding the events above, a little nearer the time.

Yours sincerely

Miss R Plaskitt
Head Teacher