

# Middleton St Mary's Newsletter 6



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Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

## Where have the last three weeks gone?!

It is really important that all parents/carers download the Arbor App – we send almost all messages via this app. We also try to post on the school Facebook page. You will miss out on events in school if you have not signed up. It has been forecast to snow next week – so watch out for updates! Please ensure that your child has wellies/boots (and change of indoor footwear), a hat, scarf, gloves and coat if you want them to play out in the snow. Children wearing shoes will not be allowed to play in the snow (if we have any!)

## Parents Appointments - Book now!

Parents' Evening appointments are live on Arbor – please book now – they are in person in the school hall and during the last week of this half term. Please remember, if you have an early appointment, you cannot collect your child early from school. Children should be collected at 3.10pm as usual. **Please sign up on Arbor.**

We break up on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February for one week, re-opening on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

## London 2026

Straight after Christmas, I had the pleasure of taking 50 Year 6 children to London with Miss Barnard, Miss Johnston, Miss Jacob, Mr Oxley and Mr Benson on their first residential, staying for 2 nights at St Paul's Youth Hostel. The children and staff had a great time seeing the sights... The Imperial War Museum, Madame Tussaud's, Trafalgar Square, The Houses of Parliament; met MP Hilary Benn, watched the show Hercules and explored The Natural History Museum... we were all exhausted but extremely happy! **A big thank you to the staff for giving up their own time for this residential – for our children!**



We are so fortunate that the governing board really value Educational Visits at Middleton St Mary's and that they agreed to heavily subsidise this residential visit as they do with all visits. Our children are very lucky. This 2-night residential was heavily subsidised for all children through our Pupil Premium funding. Children paid £100 for this wonderful experience. School subsidised this by £97.60 per child. Children had the opportunity to create life-long memories. The children who did not want to go stayed at school with Mrs Wilkinson and did some non-curricular activities and also went bowling.

We hope to do this again for the current Y5 children, but as you know, the cost of living is increasing which is why we need to secure the best prices now. Once the visit has been costed after half term, we will be advertising this for our current Year 5 children. There will be a non-refundable deposit of £25 to be paid before April, as we will need to start paying for the visit. We hope that this visit can continue moving forwards.

## Staffing update - new faces!

Sadly, we will say goodbye to Mrs Stubbs-Simms, Year 1 Teaching Assistant today who is moving on to pastures new. We will welcome Miss Sebina as our new Year 1 Teaching Assistant. Next week we will welcome Mrs Gilligan back 3 days per week following her maternity leave. 😊

Last week we welcomed Miss Wilson to our office team as our new but experienced School Business Manager. Miss Wilson will work Wednesday-Friday. This week we have welcomed two Teacher Training Students from Leeds Beckett University to Year 4; Miss Christopher will be teaching alongside Mrs Willetts in Elder and Miss Qabal will be teaching in Y4 Spruce alongside Miss Jacob.

Miss Airey has also officially taken up the position of Cook in our school kitchen for Leeds Catering – Congratulations!

Mrs Wood, Headteacher