



THE FEDERATION OF MIDDLEHAM CE (VA) AND SPENNITHORNE CE (VC) SCHOOLS' NEWSLETTER



26th March 2021

MIDDLEHAM Tel 01969 623592 **SPENNITHORNE** Tel 01969 623474 **WEBSITE** www.fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

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Dear Parents

MY LAST NEWSLETTER

Thank you to all parents who have spoken to me this week and wished me well for my move to Somerset.

Moving in the middle of a pandemic is not the easiest of things to do but one thing this last year has taught me is that family is important and on occasions, needs to come before school! My husband finished his posting in North Scotland and is now based in North Devon and we made the decision for me this time to move closer, having been up in the north of the country for 16 years.

I have spent 8 ½ years at Spennithorne and the last 3 ½ years bringing our 2 schools together. It has been a fulfilling journey but like any journey, it has had its difficulties. However, what has been an absolute pleasure has been having the chance of being able to be a part of your child's life. To watch your child grow and develop has, for me, been an honour and a privilege. I have never taken this for granted and I would like to thank you for allowing me this opportunity. It is one I will not forget and I am richer from all the memories I have from my time at our schools.

The schools now start a new era and there will be new leaders who will come in with different skills, different mind-sets and different methods to continue to move these two special places forward to where they deserve to be. We have great staff who work tirelessly for your children - please never forget that.

In the summer, I read an amazing book called 'Wonder' by R J Palacio. It is designed for our Year 6 readers but I would recommend you read it. (It has also been made into a film too.) At the end of the book, the Head Teacher, Mr Tushman, says these words at a 5th grade graduation which I think, sums up all I want to say to our special band of pupils.

...When you reflect on this past year, I want you all to look at where you are now and where you've been. You've all gotten a little taller, a little stronger, a little smarter... I hope.

"But the best way to measure how much you've grown isn't by inches or the number of laps you can now run around the track, or even you grade point average though those things are all important, to be sure. It's what you've done with your time, how much you've chosen to spend your days, and whom you have touched this year. That, to me, is the greatest measure of success..."

Take care of yourselves and take care of each other.



Cycling for All

Dates:	In conjunction with the Big Lottery Fund and Stage 1 Cycles Hawes, YES @ Areté Learning Trust are hosting a six session cycling training event for all abilities .
Tuesdays:	These sessions will be fun, game led and skilled based, and will be tailored to meet individual needs.
18.05.21	15.06.21
25.05.21	22.06.21
08.06.21	22.06.21

Time: 4.30pm – 5.30pm

Venue: Richmond School
Darlington Road, Richmond,
North Yorkshire DL10 7BQ
Tel: 01748 850111 ext 8180

Audience: differentiated group lessons for all abilities

Standard price:
£29 / pupil

To book please visit
www.yesatarelearningtrust.org/
Training-Events or email
yes@aretelearningtrust.net

Places won't be secured until payment and completed consent forms have been received.

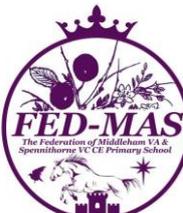


FREE BIKE CHECKS
Prior to the programme a free bike check is offered to all participants. This includes:

- 30 minute mechanic time
- Safety Check and basic tune
- Replacement of brake pads if needed
- Replacement of cables if needed
- Replacement of tubes and punctures repair if needed

Parents / carers will be informed of any other elements that need replacing which are not covered.

Special Offer



Yes @ Areté Learning Trust MOUNTAIN **STAGE 1 CYCLES** & ROAD



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SUMMER TERM

Please do not forget that the Monday 12th April is a training day and school reopens on Tuesday 13th April 21.

RED NOSE DAY

Thank you for your kind contributions to our non-uniform day and buying red noses. We raised £138.

If you didn't see it on our Facebook page, [click here](#) to see the pupils' video joke book.

ROOFING

Work starts on Monday to replace the roof at Middleham. It is anticipated that this work will take about 6 weeks. There will be scaffolding around the building but it will not affect the business of the school.

CHANGES TO THE TEST AND TRACE SUPPORT PAYMENTS FOR PARENTS

Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The extension of the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme, which is administered by district and unitary local authorities in England, ensures that parents receive the financial support they need if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities.

Parents and carers should apply to their local authority to receive a payment. Applications for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme are made via the local authority in which the parent or carer resides, not the local authority where the setting is situated, if these are different.

To be eligible applicants must meet all of the criteria that:

- they are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self-isolate. This is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person's self-isolation period
- they are employed or self-employed
- they cannot work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result
- they meet all the other means-tested eligibility criteria for a Test and Trace Support Payment or locally determined criteria for a discretionary payment

That their child or young person:

- is aged 15 or under (or 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC)) and normally attends an education or childcare setting
- has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting because they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)



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SCHOOL DINNER PRICES

We have been informed that, due to rising costs, our dinner prices will increase with effect from Monday 12th April. The new cost per pupil will be £3 (10p increase per meal) but adult meal prices will remain unchanged.

SWIMMING

We are planning to restart our swimming lessons with everyone going swimming at some point next term. The letter for the Badgers class has already gone out and the children will be swimming on the first Wednesday back. As the Monday is a training day, we will only have Tuesday to collect information slips re groupings and abilities. Therefore, it would be very useful if you can return your swimming information forms as soon as possible.