



Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.  
They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.  
It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green.  
It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

Jeremiah 17: 7 - 8

6<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Welcome Back – updates from Mrs Mann

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to have all the children back in school today and we have all thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the children's different experiences over the summer. We are particularly delighted to welcome our new Reception children into school. Once again there are some changes for the children to get used to, but everyone has settled very quickly, adapted to the new routines and are working hard. Over the first few weeks of this term we are spending time focussing on re-establishing learning behaviours, the children's wellbeing and settling them back in to the new school routine.

### Staffing Update

Today, we have also welcomed Mrs Arkle and Mrs Wheeler into our federation family, it is great to have them as part of our team. We also welcome back Mrs Ramsay who will be working in the school office at Spennithorne over the next few weeks in the morning. Please note, if you need to contact school in the afternoon please contact the Middleham Office (01969 623592) where Mrs Durrant will be able to help you.

Mrs Thompson (MSA) has moved on to pastures new with her family. We wish Mrs Thompson and her family every success for the future.

We currently therefore have two vacancies in our federation, if you or anyone you know may be interested in these posts please use the links below:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers>

### PE Kits

The children will need to come to school wearing their PE Kit on the following days:

**Maple Class (Reception)** Thursday

**Willow Class (Year 1)** Tuesday and Thursday

**Elm Class (Year 2)** Tuesday and Thursday

**Sycamore Class (Year 3/4)** Monday and Thursday

**Oak Class (Year 5/6)** Tuesday

### Safeguarding

At The Federation of Middleham (VA) & Spennithorne (VC) CE Primary Schools, Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We aim to provide a safe, supportive and inclusive environment, which secures the well-being and very best outcomes for the children in our care. We have a duty of care to safeguard and promote the well-being of all children. We take this responsibility seriously and as such, we have clear systems and procedures in place to ensure that no child should suffer from harm, at home or at school.

All staff have a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children. If we have discussions or meetings with you to discuss aspects of your child's well-being, medical needs, friendship issues, any bereavement, social and emotional issues, Special Educational Needs or anything that you would like support with, we will keep a record of this information and the actions that we have taken to support your child and you as a family.

If you are worried about the safety or welfare of any young person, at home or at school, please ensure you report your concerns to Mrs Mann (our school Designated Safeguarding Lead) or Mrs Ibbotson, Mrs Brown or Mrs Bradbury (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads). If we have a concern about the welfare of a child, we will always act in the best interests of the child.

### **Before & After School Procedures**

#### **Spennithorne (EYFS, Year 1 & 2)**

The school day begins at 9am. At Spennithorne, the school playground is supervised by a member of staff from 8.50am, ten minutes prior to the start of school and it should be understood that children will not be supervised in the playground before that time. For those being transported from their registered school to their teaching school via the school bus (pupils should arrive no later than 8.40am), the bus leaves Middleham at 8.45am.

#### **Middleham (Years 3 - 6)**

The school day begins at 8.45am. At Middleham, the school playground is supervised by a member of staff from 8.35am, ten minutes prior to the start of school and it should be understood that children will not be supervised in the playground before that time. For those being transported from their registered school to their teaching school via the school bus, the bus leaves Spennithorne at 8.30am.

Punctuality is very important as not only does it set standards, but important information sharing and teaching often takes place in the first session of the day. For those being transported from their registered school to their teaching school via the school bus, the bus will only wait for the children transported by the county buses. If a child is late, it is the parent's/carer's responsibility to transport their child to their taught site.

At the end of the school day pupils should be collected from the playground at Spennithorne and outside the school gate at Middleham. Teachers will only handover children to adults pre-agreed by the parent/carer. This information has already been given to school and it is parents/carers responsibility to inform us of any changes. Data Collection Sheets will be sent out via pupil post (please check school bags) in the next few days, which has the agreed list stated on it. These need to be checked, signed and returned to school no later than Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and you would like them to walk home alone then please send an email to Mrs Durrant at [middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk)

### **School Meals**

Due to increased costs to the school from NYCC County Caters, school meals will increase by 20p to £3.20. This will take effect from Monday **10<sup>th</sup> October £3.20.**

### **Free School Meals**

If you get certain benefits, your child could also qualify for free school meals during **all** school years. To qualify you must be receiving:

- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods (£616.67 per month)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guarantee element of Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit, provided you are also not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual household gross income that does not exceed £16,190 (as assessed by HMRC)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

**Even if your child is in Reception/Year 1 or Year 2 you can apply now as the school will also receive additional funding to improve educational outcomes.**

North Yorkshire County Council have made it much easier for parents/carers to establish if you are entitled to free school meals. Please use the link below, then complete the form on 'Apply for Free School Meals'. You will receive an instant decision on whether your application is successful.

**<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>**

I am looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mrs Mann". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mrs Mann

Executive Headteacher