



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



8th February 2021

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Dear Parents

My availability next week:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
w/c 8/2/21	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH
w/c 22/2/21	MH	MH	MH	MH	MH

HALF TERM

We have one more week of school before the half term break. School reopens on 22nd February 2021.

PARENTS' EVENING

On Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th, we have our parents evening which once again, will be carried out via a phone call. Your letter, which you should have received, will give you an hour slot in which we will call you with the number you have provided.

Appointments are 10 minutes long as we aim to get through 5 people in every hour.

Miss O'Neill, Mrs Bradbury and Mrs Bullock will be calling you on withheld numbers. Mrs Brown will be calling you from the Middleham School phone number.

Please ensure you answer your phone. If you do not pick up, if time permits, we will try to call you back.

As a staff, we have discussed the new challenges in sharing with you your child's progress so our conversations will be around the following points:

- Progress and engagement in online learning
- Quality and independence of work
- Reading
- Wellbeing

Checking you have all the relevant codes needed to Easimaths, Purplemash, SPAG.com and obviously Google Classroom. (If you can check this before our meeting, that would be appreciated)

However, please bring up any areas of concern you might have. If additional time is needed, we can arrange an additional phone call at a later date.

WELLBEING WEEK

This week, it was Children's Mental Health Week but we have decided to hold ours next week.

With our timetable, we know that some of you like the structure of the weekly timetable so for next week, the structure of the morning lessons continues but in the afternoon, we will be offering a variety of wellbeing



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activities to get the children away from the screen as in this unprecedented time, our children are looking at screens.

We hope you and your child enjoy this. Remember to post pictures of your activities so that we can see what you have all been up to.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Are you concerned about a child or children in your school who are experiencing domestic abuse?

Would you like FREE advice and a professional dialogue with an Education Psychologist about how to best support them?

Call the Operation Encompass Teachers' Helpline

0204 513 9990

(Charged at local rate)

Monday to Friday 8.00am to **EXTENDED TO 1.00pm**

Funded by
Home Office
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LATERAL FLOW TESTING

As from last Monday, staff in our schools have agreed to take part in Lateral Flow Testing linked to the battle against COVID 19. This is a government initiative offered to every school in the country and every staff member working in the school setting. This will help to identify adults in school who might be asymptomatic. An asymptomatic person is defined as someone who might unknowingly have the virus but feel fine and show no symptoms.

I felt it is important to make you aware of this as if a staff member tests positive, there would need to be bubble closures.

SAFER INTERNET SESSION

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, 'ASK THE EXPERTS – SAFER INTERNET SESSION': TUESDAY, 9 FEBRUARY, 7.00PM TO 9.00PM

9 February 2021 is National Safer Internet Day <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>
With more people working from home and children now having their school lessons online, the need to use the internet more safely and securely has never been greater. North Yorkshire Police are hosting another 'Ask the Experts' evening to support Safer Internet Day. This online event will consist of a number of presentations from officers from its Cyber Crime Unit and Online Abuse & Safeguarding Unit. Richard De Vere from the Anti-Social Engineer will give an insight into the tricks scammers use to manipulate their victims. As usual there will be the opportunity to ask questions of our panel of experts. This event will be conducted using Microsoft Teams and persons registering for the event will be emailed a link prior to the date. You do not need to have Microsoft Teams installed on your computer to participate, just a good internet link
To register for the event please click on the below link



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<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/internet-safety-day-ask-the-experts-north-yorkshire-police-tickets-135979661829>

LOCKDOWN SAFETY

Please see the below link to NSPCC some very good advice for students and families whilst in lockdown

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/online-safety-lockdown>

READING BOOKS

Need a new reading book? They are replenished every week for pupils in EYFS to Year 3 and as and when required for pupils in Years 4-6 but they are all ready for you.

Please bring your child's reading book back to Middleham and we will replace with another one. If you are going to struggle to get to Middleham, let us know and we will get them over to Spennithorne for you.

UPLOADING WORK ONTO GOOGLE

The effort you have put in to evidence work on Google Classroom has been fantastic and we thank you all for this. We know it is not easy.

It would be really useful, when posting photos to keep the picture as portrait rather than landscape as marking work sideways on is quite challenging for us. Please [click here](#) for a short video I have made to help you upload work once it is done

The teachers are working hard to try to respond to this but it does take a lot of time so not all work will be commented upon if it is posted after 4.30pm.