The Federation of Middleham Church of England (VA) Junior School and Spennithorne Church of England (VA) Infant Schools

Interim Executive Headteacher Mrs Helen Dudman

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Things are beginning to feel a little bit festive and we are approaching a really busy time of the year. Please keep a close eye on our newsletters for information about upcoming events

Staffing update

We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Savage back next Wednesday after a period of absence. Mrs Savage will be teaching Reception on a Wednesday and Year 1 and 2 on a Thursday and Friday. The class has been covered by Miss Peacock in her absence. Mrs Savage and Miss Peacock will teach together next week as the children get used to the change. Miss Peacock will still be with us on a Monday and Tuesday in her HLTA role until the end of term and we currently have an advert out for her replacement.

We would like to say a big congratulations to Miss Peacock who has been employed as the new reception teacher at Sowerby Primary Academy from January. We wish her all the best in this role.

NERF Event



Children in Year 3 had an amazing visit to Richmond school last week to join in with the NERF activity sessions. When they arrived the whole sports hall floor was covered in nerf guns and pellets and they played lots of fun games against children from other schools. The whole point of this sporting activity was to encourage children to be physically active – which they certainly were! There were a lot of tired children on the bus home!

Posada



Could you look after Mary and Joseph and the other characters for 1 night as they journey round the parish and they make their way to Bethlehem for Christmas?

All we ask is you provide shelter for the knitted characters for 1 night, and maybe take a photo to add to their travelling journal. Photos can be emailed to Mrs Clarkson or added to ClassDojo.



Take a look at this lovely picture of Ruben with the Posada two years ago!

Use this online form to add your child's name to the 'family host' list.
Posada – Fill in form

Christingle

On the 6th December, students and their families along with members of the community are invited to attend the Christingle Service at St Alkelda's Church in Middleham at 3pm. There will be popular Christmas carols sung and magical atmosphere as the Christingles are lit'. We look forward to seeing you there.

Spennithorne, Leyburn,
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Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Waller, she can be contacted via Middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

If you have concerns about a child please log it and report it immediately to either Mrs Dudman (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Mrs Ibbotson, Mrs Bradbury or Mrs Brown DDSL's (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads).

Worried about a Child

Where there are significant immediate concerns about the safety of a child, you should contact the police on 999.

Everyone has a responsibility to refer a child when it is believed or suspected that a child:
- Has suffered significant harm and /or;
- Is likely to suffer significant harm and/or;
- Has developmental and welfare needs which are likely only to be met through provision of family support services (with agreement of the child's parent).

If you believe the situation is urgent but does not require the police, please call 0300 131 2 131 to make a telephone contact. Should your call be outside of business hours (Monday – Friday / 9am-5pm) please still call 0300 131 2 131 to speak to the Emergency Duty Team.

Benedict's Law

As mentioned earlier in the term, in line with Benedict's Law, we are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all children, young people, staff, and visitors with allergies.

The Federation of Middleham and Spennithorne CE (VA) Schools has a whole school awareness approach, because it ensures all staff and students are aware of what allergies are, the importance of avoiding the individuals' allergens, the signs & symptoms, how to deal with allergic reactions and to ensure procedures are in place to minimise risk of exposure.

Allergens can include

- foods;
- insect stings
- medication
- latex



If your child has an allergy, that you have not already informed us about, particularly one that may cause anaphylaxis, please do so immediately.

FEAST

FEAST vouchers are now LIVE! Please look out for your email from Holiday Activity and redeem your voucher then check out activities on FEAST - North Yorkshire Together to make a booking.

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WINTER ILLNESS

We are seeing an increase in the number of children and staff falling ill with winter bugs, particularly Norovirus.
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/norovirus/
Symptoms include

- Sudden nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea
- High temperature
- Headache, stomach cramps, and aching limbs

Children should stay home for 48hrs after the last bout of illness to prevent the spread of infection.



FOMASS

Our current fundraiser is the 'FOMASS Christmas Square Draw'. Squares are available at £5 each, the draw will take place on the 17th December and the winning square will win £250. Squares can be bought by contacting FOMASS via Facebook or email friendsofspennithorneandmiddleham@outlook.com FOMASS members are also on https://www.facebook.com/FOMASSchools/



Stars of the week 27.11.26

Maple Class	Scarlett for trying so hard in our Drawing Club lessons. Super drawing and writing. Well done Stanley for an amazing effort this week in phonics and handwriting. Well done
Birch Class	Taylor for her amazing maths this week. Maybelle showing a mature and confident attitude during our nativity rehearsals
Sycamore Class	Ashton for excellent recall of knowledge in science. Toby for trying incredibly hard with his letter formation.
Oak Class	Jack D for demonstrating excellent mathematical enquiry skills during our fraction learning. Veer for always demonstrating our 3 Bs in all that he does.

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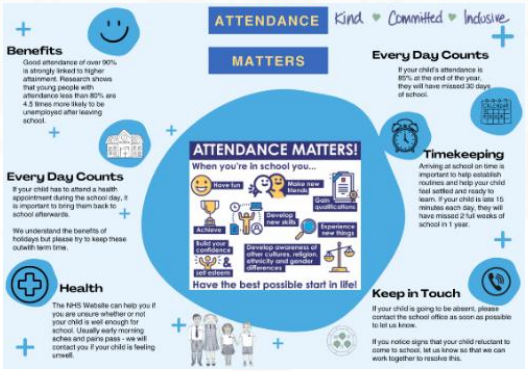
Jeremiah 17: 7 - 8

School Attendance

Regular attendance at school promotes pupils' wellbeing and gives them the best chance of learning and reaching their potential.
We aspire for attendance at The Federation of Middleham Junior and Spennithorne Infant schools to be 97%,

This week our attendance is **90%**

Our attendance for the school year so far is **95%**



Diary Dates

28.11 Let there be life, Grinton Church.
01.12 Posada, start of the nativity journey
02.12 Bags2School Collection, 9am at both schools
02.12 Oak Class Swimming 5/6
06.12 Christingle Service, 3pm at St Alkelda's Church Middleham, all families welcome
07.12 Open Evening at Middleham Junior School
09.12 Oak Class Swimming 6/6, final session
09.12 Final Rock Steady Music session of the Autumn term
10.12 Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
15.12 Infant School Nativity, Spennithorne school. 2pm + 6pm
16.12 Middleham Junior Pantomime Visit, more information to follow
17.12 Whole school Christmas Carol Service, 2pm. More information coming soon
18.12 School Closes for Christmas holidays
11.01 NCMP visit to Reception and Y6
28.01 Spennithorne Infant Theatre visit, more information to follow

Term dates for the next school year are available on our website
https://fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk/term-dates/

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