



The Federation of Middleham (VA) & Spennithorne (VC) CE Primary Schools

Executive Headteacher – Mrs Marie Mann

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

Friday 14th March 2025 – Newsletter

This term our Christian Value, chosen by the Collective Worship Leaders, is Forgiveness

Home and Out Alone Guide

It is lovely to see the sunshine making an attempt to come out and play. I wanted to take the opportunity to share with you some useful guidance from the NSPCC on children being at home and out alone:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/leaflets/home-or-out-alone-guide>

Parking in and around school

Please be aware of parking safely outside Middleham Primary School at pickup and drop off times including after school clubs.

We are aware that there have been incidents of unsafe parking outside Middleham School, such as cars parking on zig-zag sections on the road opposite and driving along pavements.

At school times the area is very busy with pedestrians and other vehicles, including the Federation Bus and we do not wish any accidents or injuries to occur.

Alternative off road parking is available at the Key Centre, please use this where possible.

Please continue to park considerately when dropping off and collecting your children, continue to be mindful when entering and exiting Spennithorne car park that children are walking across the car park.

To enable staff to safeguard and secure the school grounds, please can parents and pupils leave the school site promptly at the end of the day. Also a reminder that younger siblings remain the responsibility of parents whilst on school grounds.

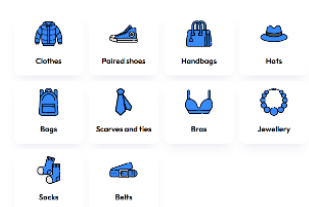
Easter Service

Family and friends are invited to join us at St Michaels Church, Spennithorne on the 2nd April, at 1.45pm for our Easter Service. After the service the school council will be selling cakes and sweet treats at school to help raise funds for new playground equipment, donations of cakes to sell will be greatly appreciated and can be left at either school on the 2nd April.

FOMASS

Bags to School collection is on Tuesday, thank you to everybody who has already dropped off bags for collection. Donations must be in school by 9am on Tuesday morning, more information about what can be donated can be found via this link [What We Collect |](#)

[Bag2School](#)



Finghall Barrel Push 2025 Quiz Night
At the Queens Head Pub Finghall
Friday 14th March from 7.00pm
Tickets £10.00 including Pie & Peas supper
Get your brain in gear and test your knowledge
Tickets only available from the Queens Head
Facebook – The Queens Head
Phone – 01677 450259
Email – claire_mckinlay@hotmail.co.uk

RAFFLE
Donations welcome

Maximum Team Size – 6 People
Prizes for Winning team

Fundraising for – Dementia Forward, Herriot Hospice, Prostate Cancer, Federation of Middleham & Spennithorne Schools, Friends of Crakehall school & other good causes

Tonight, 14.3.25, is Finghall Barrel Push Quiz, 7pm at The Queen's Head Pub, Finghall. Tickets are £10 which includes a pie and pea supper. Thank you to Finghall Barrel Push for choosing FOMASS as one of their charities to support this year!

The Chocolate Bingo will be held on Thursday 3rd April 2025, at **Middleham Key Centre**. Doors open at 5.45pm (eyes down at 6pm). Bingo books will be available to buy on the night, £5 each. We would really appreciate donations of chocolate eggs for this event, these can be left at either school or given to a member of FOMASS.

Our next meeting will be on the 24th April, 7.30pm at The Old Horn Spennithorne. Please come along to hear about the fundraising plans.



Ygam

YGam is an incredibly informative website that supports you with information around game types, age restrictions and why children choose to engage in gaming. The website provides you with information on why children like to game, along with what you need to know to keep your child safe by identifying potential risks, holding conversations and setting safety controls. The next online workshop is on Tuesday the 18th March 10am – 1pm. More information and online booking can be found at https://parents.ygam.org/workshops_booking_page/



LEAP

'LEAP' is coming soon! We are collecting items for our new playtime initiative, LEAP (LEARN, EXPLORE, ADVENTURE, PLAY)

There will be special 'zones' set up around the playground for children to LEAP!

If you have any items on the card, please send them into school. Much appreciated. Thank you!

Dances of the Dales Workshop - parents and children invited to join after school for a fun dance session!



Children in Sycamore and Oak are looking forward to dancing with Peter and Mark from Dances of the Dales on Tuesday morning in school.

Pupils, parents, carers, family and friends are invited to an afterschool workshop from 3.30-4.30pm at Middleham School to have a go at some of the traditional dances, no prior knowledge or experience of folk dancing is required. There will be no cost for this event but please let Mrs Durrant know if you plan to attend.

Rhythm of Life

Relationships are an essential part of our lives. As we approach Lent, we will be taking time in our collective worships this half term to reflect on the relationships with people, with the world around us and with the things that we do. During Lent this year, we are going to use the seven Rhythm of Life habits (reflect, celebrate, share, encourage, pray, create and rest) to help us to reflect on these relationships in a positive way.

This week we have been thinking about the environment – both our school environment and also the wider environment.

This week's action is :-

Find some recycled materials and make a dove to remind you of God's spirit with you today
Or
Create a poster, to show people a change they can make at home, work or school that will have a positive environmental effect.

The children will be given the opportunity to share their action in collective worship next week. We would love you to share these challenges in action by either sending in photos on dojo or to spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk



Teaching Assistant Training

Swaledale Alliance are running the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning starting in September 2025. If you or somebody you know is interested in this training more information can be found at <https://www.swaledalealliance.org/> or emailing info@swaledalealliance.org



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An update on SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabilities) from Mrs Barber and Wear Blue Day Friday 4th April 2025

Each week this half term, I will be including in the newsletter some information for parents regarding some learning differences and conditions which can affect children's learning in school. These articles are just a brief overview and should you wish any further information on a particular subject, please see the links attached and/or speak to your child's class teacher or myself.

This week, we continue with:-

ADHD (Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder)



ADHD is a condition that affects people's behaviour. People with ADHD can seem restless, may have trouble concentrating and may act on impulse. People with ADHD may also have problems with sleep or anxiety. Many children go through phases where they're restless or inattentive. This does not necessarily mean they have ADHD. But if you think their behaviour may be different from most children their age, it may be worth discussing this with your GP or with us in school. The exact cause of ADHD is unknown, but the condition has been shown to run in families. ADHD is a condition which is medically diagnosed, but – as with all the conditions we are focusing on this half term – we are able to carry out a profile which could identify if the behaviour's your child is presenting may fall into this category.

Once again, in school we don't wait for a diagnosis before we put in strategies to help your child. These will be in place based on the needs we see in school.

As with all things, there are many sources of information available on the internet and below are some links which might be useful. However, if you are concerned about your child, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/attention-deficit-hyperactivity-disorder-adhd/>

<https://adhduk.co.uk/>

Finally : POSCH (Parents & Carers of Special Children) is a group which helps to support families of children with additional and special needs, whatever they may be.

<https://posch.org.uk/>

Class News

Spring has Sprung in Maple Class as everyone helped to pot some beautiful flowers to decorate the outdoor area.



Oak Class enjoyed a walk to Middleham playground to explore the playground equipment and look closely at the structures and how they move and work. The children made some great sketches ready to design and make their own playgrounds!



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Stars of the week 14.3.25

Maple Class	Ava for super sentence writing.
Birch Class	Lucy for super orienteering in PE. George LJ for fantastic imaginative writing.
Sycamore Class	William I for super English ideas and descriptions Minnie for trying really hard in ours practises for the WTOS.
Oak Class	Isla for amazing fraction and decimal work and for improved confidence. Reuben for being an amazing friend and member of our school community.

Diary Dates

18.03 Bags 2 School Collection
 18.03 Dance the Dales Workshop after school 3.30-4.30pm
 21.03 Sycamore Forest School
 28.03 Wensleydale Tournament of Song
 2.04 Easter Service followed by cake sale at Spennithorne
 3.04 FOMASS Chocolate Bingo, 5.45pm at Middleham Key Centre.
 4.04 Wear Blue Day!
 4.04 School closes for Easter
 21.04 School closed for Bank Holiday
 22.04 School opens to all pupils
 21.06 Save the date – FOMASS Summer Fair

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 and Spennithorne schools to be 97%, this week our attendance is **94.77%**



[The Federation of Middleham and Spennithorne Facebook](#)



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