



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

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 8th May 2026 – Newsletter This term our Christian Value is Joy

Mrs Hirst news

It has been another busy and successful week at Middleham, with lots of fantastic sporting achievements to celebrate—well done to everyone involved!

It has also been a pleasure to hear Birch Class learning the recorder; their enthusiasm and progress are wonderful to see. Meanwhile, Maple Class have been making the most of their outdoor learning, enjoying valuable experiences beyond the classroom.

As SATs week approaches next week, we would like to wish all of our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck. Remember to stay calm, do your best, and not to worry—you are all amazing and we are very proud of you. Have a lovely weekend.

Parking at school

Please remember to park with consideration at both Middleham and Spennithorne school. You should avoid parking in front of the school buses as they require access at all times. Avoid parking in the drop off area for prolonged periods. We have an agreement that parents may use the car park at The Key Centre and we ask this is the primary point of parking.



Cricket Cluster Event

Congratulations to the children who represented our Federation during the cricket cluster event in Middleham this week. Both groups did exceptionally well and the girls team have made it through to the finals which will take place at Richmond school later in the school year.



PSHE

Unhealthy VS healthy

In PSHE children in Sycamore class have explored keeping our bodies healthy. We have learnt about the importance of food, sleep, exercise, oxygen and water.



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School lunches



Across the Federation we are reflecting on keeping our bodies healthy and choosing healthy foods to fuel our bodies, school lunches are provided following North Yorkshire's Healthy Eating. These meals are free for children in Reception to Year 2 as part of the Government's Universal Free School meal programme (UIFSM), this is different to the means tested Free School Meals that require a parent to apply for via the North Yorkshire website, to check your eligibility you can complete an online form via this link [Is my child eligible for Free School Meals?](#)

From September 2026 the Department for Education is introducing new benefit criteria which will mean that all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit will be entitled to receive a free school meal.

Additionally transitional protection is ending, If your child currently gets a free school meal because they have been protected under transitional protection rules but you no longer receive Universal Credit, then their entitlement will end in August 2026. From then on, only families in receipt of Universal Credit will qualify.



If your child is on packed lunches we ask you follow the healthy eating guidelines and aim to provide items of food from each of the food groups. Sweets and chocolates are discouraged due to the high sugar however alternative pudding items are acceptable. A poster with further details of this is attached to this week's newsletter.

Class News

Children in Year 5 have been busy entrepreneurs over the last couple of weeks. Their challenge was to create a business idea where they had to sell their pitch/business idea back to the Year 6 who acted as 'mini dragon den'.

We had ideas such as Super Mario Merchandise, a new game for your console and a new app to play on a device. The children created posters and power points to sell their ideas and the Year 6 were amazing at grilling them with questions on their idea.

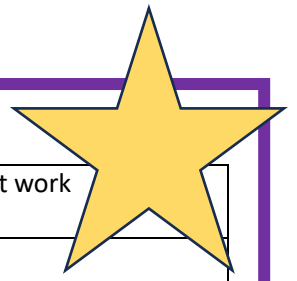


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Stars of the week 08.05.26



Maple Class	Dylan for trying so hard with his letter formation and handwriting this week. Great work
Birch Class	Flo for trying super hard in recorder lessons. Olivia for amazing sentences about the dragon machine.
Sycamore Class	This week's award goes to the children who participated in the cricket cluster event.
Oak Class	Thomas for showing enthusiasm in all his learning this week. Theo for amazing work in all learning this week and allowing me to show examples of your work to the rest of the class as I was so proud.

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 **96%**

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

Diary Dates

- 11.05 Sycamore Class Forest School
- 22.05 School closes for May half term
- 01.06 School reopens
- 12.05-15.05 Y6 SATS week
- 18.05 Oak Class Forest School
- 09.06 Tempest Photography class photos
- 10.06 FOMASS Bags2School Collection
- 18.06 Y5 Sports event at The Wensleydale School, more information coming soon
- 03.07 Federation Day at Middleham
- 03.07 FOMASS Summer Fair, 3.15pm, Middleham School
- 17.07 School closes for summer break



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