



The Federation of Middleham Church of England (VA) Junior School and Spennithorne Church of England (VA) Infant school 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 2nd October 2026 – Newsletter

New Headteacher

The governors are delighted to announce that following the interviews for a new Headteacher for our schools, a conditional offer to a candidate has been made, to begin in January, 2027. We will confirm more details when all statutory checks have been completed. We invite you to join with us in our prayers for the candidate.

Staff Vacancy

We are currently advertising for a GTA+MSA role within the Federation, if you, or somebody you know, is interested in applying for this position more information and the application pack is found on the North Yorkshire Jobs website. [Fedmas GTA + MSA](#)

Online Safety

The Online Safety Newsletter for October is attached to this week's newsletter. This month the awareness is regarding Digital Well Being, there is also a short 2minute video for parents and carers to watch [Digital Well Being, Video for parents/carers](#)

Road Safety

Traffic related incidents pose a significant risk for children and young people, including pedestrians and cyclists. Attached to this week's newsletter is a handy guide with 10 Top Tips for Road Safety.



Sumdog



All children in Reception to Y6 will now have access to the maths programme Sumdog. Sumdog is a games-based digital learning platform that helps children practice and improve their numeracy skills with adaptive and engaging games. It creates a personalised learning experience by using a diagnostic test to determine a student's level and then adapting the difficulty of questions.

It is important that children answer all questions themselves, parents don't be tempted to play for them even though the games are lots of fun!

All children are expected to access Sumdog for at least 20minutes each week as part of their home based learning, if you have any problems logging in please contact Mrs Clarkson at spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk



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School librarians

Birch Class awarded the library monitor badge to 4 classmates this week. Congratulations.



Class Fundraising

Please send all designs back to school by Monday next week, we have some lovely pieces of art work already returned and we are very excited to see them made into gifts and keepsakes.

Cross Country

Children at Middleham were this week invited to run and compete for a place in the upcoming Cluster Cross Country event that will take place at Richmond School.

We had some excellent runners who will be representing our schools next week at the event, we can't wait to hear how you all get on.



RockSteady – Launch

Coming soon! Rock and pop band lessons with Rocksteady

On the 9th October we will have the RockSteady team in both schools to introduce our students to the joy of music, we will then be partnering with Rocksteady Music School to deliver fun and inclusive rock and pop band lessons, right here at The Federation of Middleham Junior and Spennithorne Infant schools!

These weekly music lessons will take place in school and are led by professional musicians who make learning music fun. It's the perfect way for children to learn new musical skills, make friends and have a great time – all at school! Rocksteady lessons are also shown to amplify confidence, wellbeing and social skills. More information about booking your child onto these lessons will be available from the 9th October.

Harvest Festival

We are very busy practising for the Harvest Festival, you may hear some wonderful renditions at home of fluffy cauliflowers and broad beans sleeping in a blanket bed!!

Family, friends and community members are invited to join us for the service at St Michaels Church Spennithorne at 2pm on the 15th October, please ensure you have completed the form to let school know how your child will be going home after the service. [Harvest Festival Going Home Arrangements](#)

Recycling boxes

If you have any unwanted recycling boxes, due to the new wheelie bins distributed by North Yorkshire Council, Spennithorne school would be very grateful for any donations. They can be dropped into the office or handed to a member of staff on the playground.



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Sukkot

Children in Reception have been learning all about Sukkot, the Jewish Harvest festival. We made our own Sukkah and tried treats that are eaten during Sukkot.



FOMASS



We are very busy planning our annual Autumn Disco which will be held on the 22nd October. For more information follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FOMASSchools/> Have you signed up to easyfundraising? Scan this QR code to find out more.

We have a new WhatsApp News group for parents and carers, come and join us for all the latest news, updates and events .



The Gruffalo visits Leyburn

The Gruffalo will be visiting The Wonky Tree Bookshop this Saturday, 3rd October at 11.30am and 2.30pm.

Pop along and meet him and be sure to have a photo with him!



Stars of the week 2.10.26

Maple Class	Stanley for showing he follows our classroom rules and routines so well. Well done George for a great effort in our phonics and writing lessons this week. Great work
Birch Class	Maisie for super phonics and using her segmenting fingers. Charlie B for having a super week in all of his learning.
Sycamore Class	Olivia for all her hard work in Maths. Jai for showing love to people in our school community.
Oak Class	Toby C for concentrating fully in each subject and always giving his all. Savannah for making an excellent effort in every lesson.



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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 **97%**

Our attendance for the school year so far is **97%**

Diary Dates

05.10 Class Fundraising designs to be returned to school
09.10 RockSteady Launch
13.10 FOMASS meeting, check Facebook page for further details.
15.10 Federation Harvest Festival, St Michaels Church Spennithorne, 2pm. Family and friends invited. Please complete the online form.
19.10 NSPCC Workshops for Y2, Y5, Y6. More details to follow
22.10 School closes for Half Term
22.10 FOMASS Disco night at Middleham, time TBC.
23.10 Staff Training Day, school closed
02.11 School reopens
02.11 + 03.11 Parents Evening for Spennithorne Infant school.
04.11 Oak class swimming lessons start, more information coming soon
06.11 Tempest Photography in school, individual and sibling photos.
09.11 + 10.11 Parents evening for Middleham Junior school
12.11 Children in Need – wear something spotty
13.11 Crucial Crew for children in Oak Class
16-21.11 Anti Bullying Week
02.12 Flu Vaccinations in school, more information coming soon
06.12 Christingle Service at St Alkelda's Church Middleham, all families welcome
15.12 Infant School Nativity, Spennithorne school.
17.12 Whole school Christmas Carol Service, 2pm. More information coming soon
18.12 School Closes for Christmas holidays

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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