



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 11th September 2026 – Newsletter

Welcome

It has been a really super first week back and we have been so impressed with how our reception children have settled in to school, they are full of enthusiasm and energy and have really enjoyed exploring the areas of provision. Our Year 3 children have settled very quickly at Middleham too and are buzzing with fresh energy!

We also welcome Mrs Foxwell who is teaching Sycamore class (Y3 and 4) on a Friday this year, and Miss Whitbread who will be working as a HLTA at Spennithorne Wednesday to Friday.

Miss Peacock will also be working at Spennithorne in the short term covering for Mrs Savage. Sadly Mrs Savage is not able to be in school at the moment; She is caring for her son in Brisbane. Our thoughts are with them at this time.

Restructure

As you will be aware we have been through a restructure process and from 1st September we are officially an infant and junior school. Our new official title is 'The Federation of Middleham CE (VA) Junior School and Spennithorne CE (VA) Infant School'.

The church school status of Spennithorne has also changed. We were previously a 'Voluntary Controlled' (VC) school and are now 'Voluntary Aided' (VA). This basically means that the Church of England has more responsibility for the maintenance of the buildings, and gives the governing body more autonomy.

Children and parents really shouldn't notice much difference, it just affects how things work in the background.

Benedict's Law



You may have heard about Benedict's law, which is a law that has come in to place to make schools safer places for children with allergies. All members of staff have recently completed comprehensive allergy training to ensure we can maintain a safe environment for everyone. Over the coming weeks, the children will also be learning about allergies and how they can support their peers. As part of these new measures and our commitment to protecting children with severe allergies, **we continue to aim to be a nut-free school**, and we kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring that no nut products are brought onto the premises.

Pupils with medical needs

The data collection sheets that came home this week provide vital information to us about your child's medical needs, so please could these be returned as soon as possible. If your child has an asthma or allergy plan, please make sure that school has the latest copy. We will be contacting parents of children with a medical plan next week to arrange an update meeting.



Spennithorne, Leyburn,
North Yorkshire DL8 5PR
Tel: 01969-623474
spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

Park Lane, Middleham,
North Yorkshire DL8 4QX
Tel: 01969 623592
middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk



Please help

Please can we remind you to ensure your child's name is in every piece of clothing for school, this makes returning jumpers and cardigans much easier. Also reminder that children need a named water bottle, please no juice, and a coat in school every day.

Parking

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

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. Please avoid parking directly opposite school, where possible, to ensure residents have access to their properties and the school buses have enough room to manoeuvre.

Alternative off road parking is available at the Key Centre and we encourage everybody to use this where possible.

At Spennithorne the school gates open at 3.20pm, please avoid waiting on the main road before this time to ensure traffic can flow freely. A polite reminder to leave the school site quickly so that staff can secure the site for after school clubs.

Safeguarding

We aim to provide a safe, supportive and inclusive environment, which secures the well-being and very best outcomes for the children in our care. We have a duty of care to safeguard and promote the well-being of all children. We take this responsibility seriously and as such, we have clear systems and procedures in place to ensure that no child should suffer from harm, at home or at school. Staff receive regular high quality training for safeguarding.

If you are worried about the safety or welfare of any young person, at home or at school, please ensure you report your concerns to Mrs Dudman (our school Designated Safeguarding Lead). If we have a concern about the welfare of a child, we will always act in the best interests of the child.

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

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. There are a number of resources to support parents and carers around a range of aspects of

safeguarding which can be found here: <https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/parents-carers>



Spennithorne, Leyburn, North
Yorkshire DL8 5PR
Tel: 01969-623474
spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

Park Lane, Middleham, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 4QX
Tel 01969 623592
middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk



Class News

Children in Birch Class worked really hard recalling and writing about the fun they had over the summer holidays. Mrs Bowkett and the class team were super proud of all the children.



Children in Oak Class have enjoyed expressing their creativity decorating rocks.

They considered shape, style, size and uniqueness as they created their personalised designs. Well Done Oak Class.



Diary Dates

- 22.10 School closes for Half Term
- 23.10 Staff Training Day
- 02.11 School reopens
- 04.11 Oak class swimming lessons start, more information coming soon
- 06.11 Tempest Photography in school, individual and sibling photos.
- 02.12 Flu Vaccinations in school, more information coming soon

Term dates for the next school year are available on our website

<https://fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk/term-dates/>



Spennithorne, Leyburn, North
Yorkshire DL8 5PR
Tel: 01969-623474
spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

Park Lane, Middleham, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 4QX
Tel 01969 623592
middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk

