



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 24th November 2023 – Newsletter This term our Christian Value is Compassion

A message from Mrs Mann

Well, it is hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of November! The children continue to work hard and I have been particularly fascinated when popping into Sycamore Class over the last few weeks who have been learning about Ancient Egypt – the children are obviously extremely inspired by some of the unusual rituals from long ago!

Hopefully you have seen the Facebook post about our Christmas Community Stay and Play being held at Spennithorne for pre-school children. Please help us spread the news of this event and our amazing federation.



Christmas Hampers – FOMASS

On Friday 1st December 2023 we invite the children to come to school in non-uniform in exchange for a donation to the Christmas hampers e.g chocolate, biscuits, candles.

FOMASS will be selling tickets for the Christmas Hamper Prize Grid. 200 squares will be available for £5 each, please contact a member of FOMASS to buy your square or you can send money in an envelope to either school office. Check the FOMASS Facebook page for updates on number availability.



Christmas Light Switch on in Middleham.

The children have been invited to sing carols at the light switch on in Middleham, Friday 1st December 2023 at 6:30pm. Children will need to be accompanied by an adult for the duration of this event. Mrs Mann will meet the children at the Christmas tree.

Safeguarding Update

This week, two of our governors, Ruth Pink and Revd. Jeff visited school to meet Hilary Cave, the School's Local Authority Education Adviser. The purpose of the visit was to make sure that governors are giving proper oversight of the school's safeguarding processes and procedures and are themselves fulfilling their obligations. Hilary also met with Mrs Mann, children, and staff to fulfil the safeguarding objective in the school development plan and an outworking of the school vision. Ruth Pink and Revd. Jeff would like to encourage the school community by sharing the following comment that Hilary made. 'Marie is a very good headteacher with a very good team.' Hilary also expressed that: 'The children were extremely articulate and confident in explaining the ways in which the school keeps them safe. All the children spoken to confirmed that they felt very safe in school, how kind their teachers and Mrs Mann were and how well understood and listened to they felt.'

Global Neighbours

The federation started its Global Neighbours journey at the beginning of 2023 and as we begin to think about what 2024 might bring, we have reflected on our journey so far.

The children at our federation have always been champions of social justice; and this week, as our Global Neighbours team has grown, they have considered various ideas for their next act of courageous advocacy.

The Global Neighbours Team expressed that, "We think everyone should be treated equally and we want to live in a world that is fair and young and old people are given a chance to shine, just like us."

The team have already sponsored a plot of rainforest in the cloud forest of Ecuador which will go a long way to protect local communities from the impacts of deforestation. They are also in the process of donating money, already raised, to the 'Toilet Twinning' programme, funding global water, sanitation and hygiene programmes run by Tearfund. Toilet twinning's approach is about dignity and self-respect as much as it is about alleviating poverty and accessing safe sanitation.'

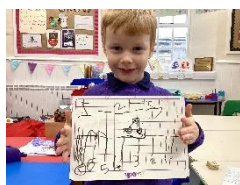


Once again, we couldn't do any of these projects without the support of parents and our school community; we are so grateful to you all.

Cold Weather Clothes

As the cold weather is now here please ensure your child comes into school with a **named** warm coat, hat and gloves so we can enjoy being outside every day.

Class News



Birch Class

This week Birch Class have been working very hard in maths with subtracting. They used number lines to help and even did this outside on the playground.



Stars of the week 27.11.23

Maple Class	Oliver for super concentration during our phonics sessions.
Birch Class	Mia for making a brilliant effort in all our lessons. Sid for some beautiful descriptive writing.
Sycamore Class	Elliott for an amazing start to the week. Ruby for shining so brightly in her Ninja maths. Amazing work Ruby! <u>Growth Mindset Box</u> Theo for a super maths mindset and always having a go.
Oak Class	Jamie for using efficient strategies in maths. Amazing work this week Jamie! Oliver G for fantastic writing about the Titanic this week. Well done Oliver! <u>Growth Mindset Box</u> Lily for always being positive, enthusiastic and contributing fully! Well done Lily.

Diary Dates

- 29.11 Year 3/4 Football (date change) – emails have been sent to participating children
- 1.12 Community Stay and Play, 9.30 – 10.30am at Spennithorne
- 1.12 Oak Class Forest Schools
- 1.12 Christmas Light Switch on – Middleham 6:30pm
- 6.12 Skip 2B Fit for KS1 – see email for further information
- 8.12 Federation Day Christmas treat day – more information coming soon
- 8.12 Christmas lunch Day – please email Middleham office with choices
- 11.12 Federation Day – Dress rehearsal for the Christmas Nativity – more information coming soon
- 13.12 Christmas Nativity – 2pm & 6pm – more information coming soon
- 14.12 KS2 singing at the Senior lunch at Middleham Key Centre
- 16.12 FOMASS Co-op Bag Packing
- 19.12 Christingle Service 6pm – more information coming soon
- 22.12 Last Day of term