



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 8th November 2024 – Newsletter

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

Welcome Back

The children enjoyed welcoming Dave from Skip to Be Fit for skipping and boxing workshops on Tuesday, a great way to start the new half term. Dave was super impressed with the resilience and excellent sportsmanship that the children displayed.



Parent Survey Results Summer 2024
Q: The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.
Strongly Agree: 22%
Agree: 66%
Disagree: 3%
Strongly Disagree: 3%
Don't know: 6%

School Behaviour Policy

As part of our school development plan, we are in the process of reviewing the federation Behaviour Policy. Mrs Mann, staff and governors have been gathering different views over the last few months, including parent, pupil and staff voice and also from visitors in school. The staff met on the INSET day this week to reflect on the views gathered and also to look further into the latest educational research for behaviour management. With this in mind, we are beginning to make a few changes, including a slight change in the “3 B’s”, which are our school rules:

BE SAFE

BE RESPECTFUL

BE READY

You may also notice that the staff have been giving out more dojo awards when they recognise the children displaying positive behaviour. Each week we will have a pupil of the week for each class, who will be rewarded in Celebration Worship. We will also have a class of the week. When the class has won this 3 times, they will receive a reward.

We are also reviewing the steps that we have for inappropriate behaviour, the staff and children are trialling these over the next few weeks and we will share the steps with you in our revised behaviour policy.

You may also hear the children mention, “WOW Walking” which is a strategy we are using to “be ready” for learning!

Next week is anti-bullying week and the children will be focusing on this during PSHE sessions. We will share more about this in the newsletter next week.

Open the Book

We continue to have the wonderful Open the Book team visit both schools to share stories from the bible through drama. On 20th Nov and 4th Dec parents are invited to join us at Middleham at 2.45pm and Spennithorne at 3pm on 27th Nov.



Happy Diwali

We have loved hearing about how some of our federation families have been celebrating Diwali. Thank you to Jai’s mum for coming in to talk to Birch Class about their family celebrations. We had a fantastic morning learning about Diwali, making rangoli patterns, diya lamps and tea light holders.

Poetry Week

The children across the federation have been exploring different forms of poetry during English this week. Oak class kicked off poetry week by listening to and exploring lots of poetry. We watched Paul Cookson performing and talking about some of the poems that he has written. Children discussed what they liked and noticed about the poems. We closed our eyes and created pictures in our minds of the setting that the poem created as well as listening to limerick poems.

Parents Evening and Book Fair

Parents Evening is taking place next next, Spennithorne on Monday and Middleham on Wednesday. All time slots have been sent to parents, please check your junk folder if you havent received yours.

We will also have the scholastic book fair in school for these events, all children will have opportunity to browse the books during the week and create a wishlist to bring home. Orders can be placed during parents evening or online, please use postcode DL8 5PR to ensure payments are allocated to our Federation. Online orders will be sent home once the fair has finished.

FOMASS

Reminder that Bags2School collection is next Friday, 15th Nov at 9am. Bags can be left at either school between now and then, each child has been sent a plastic bag but bin bags are also accepted. Perfect opportunity to have a clear out before the festive season. Why not check if friends, family members or neighbours are having a clear out as well. Details of what can be collected can be found at <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

Date for diary – 23rd November

FOMASS have organised a bag packing day at the Co-Op in Leyburn to raise money for equipment and trips that are arranged within the year.

We require the help of children and parents to participate in this event and preferably from pupils in Yr3 to Yr6. A time slot of 1pm - 2pm is available but if your child and you can help at an alternative time then please let us know by emailing fomasschools@gmail.com

Stars of the week 08.11.24

Maple Class	Mia for being kind and caring to all her friends.
Birch Class	Woody for thinking carefully about his vocabulary choices in writing. Elspeth for consistent effort and super independent writing.
Sycamore Class	Sid for following our three bees all of the time. Walter for being aspirational in all subjects.
Oak Class	Jamie for super poetry writing. You have discovered such a talent! Thomas for enthusiasm, hard work and going above and beyond . Well done!



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Diary Dates

- 11.11 Parents Evening @ Spennithorne – email has been sent
- 12.11-19.11 Scholastic Book Fair at Middleham
- 12.11 Flu vaccination in both schools, more information has been sent home
- 13.11 Parents Evening @ Middleham – email has been sent
- 15.11 Maple Class Forest School
- 15.11 Bags2School Collection
- 20.11 Open the Book at Middleham, parents invited to join us
- 23.11 (Saturday) FOMASS Bag Packing at Co-Op in Leyburn
- 27.11 Open the Book at Spennithorne, parents invited to join us
- 29.11 Non Uniform Day in exchange for a raffle prize
- 4.12 Open the Book at Middleham, parents invited to join us
- 1.12 (Sunday) Christingle Service, 3pm – more information coming soon
- 11.12 Federation Nativity, 2pm and 6pm – more information coming soon
- 12.12 Federation Day @ Middleham and School Christmas Dinner
- 19.12 Federation Christmas treat to The Georgian Theatre – more information coming soon
- w/b 16.12 No extra-curricular clubs this week
- 20.12 School closes for Christmas holidays



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