



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

Executive Headteacher – Mrs Zoe Hirst

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 6th February 2026 – Newsletter This term our Christian Value is Respect

Mrs Hirst news

It's been a wonderful week in school. The children have really brought our half-term value of Respect to life—kind words, good manners, careful listening, and looking after our environment. Older pupils have been fantastic role models, helping others and showing fair play in games and PE.

In classrooms, pupils have shown respect by valuing different opinions, working collaboratively, and taking pride in their learning. On the playground, we've noticed kindness, inclusion, and team work. A big thank you to our staff for nurturing these habits daily, and to parents and carers for reinforcing them at home.

Together, we're helping every child to flourish—academically, socially, and spiritually.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Hirst

Eye testing



Ideally children should start having regular eye tests from the age of 4. But they can be tested at any age, even if they can't read or speak. Testing no longer takes place in school but appointments can be made at any opticians. Children under 16 are entitled to NHS-funded (FREE) eye tests and if your child needs glasses they will receive a voucher to help with the cost. For more information contact any opticians.

FOMASS



Penny War in well underway across the Federation, thank you so much for the contributions so far. Points will be counted on Thursday so there's still time to send your donations in.

Next Friday, 13th February, is non-uniform day for both schools. Children are invited to come to school wearing what they love with a suggested £1 donation for FOMASS funds.



Keep up to date with our fundraising efforts at <https://www.facebook.com/FOMASSchools/>

FOMASS Dates for Diaries

01.02 Penny War fundraising fortnight
13.02 Non uniform day. 'Wear what you love'
24.02 Bags 2 School Collection
26.03 Chocolate Bingo, venue and time TBC



Spennithorne, Leyburn,
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Park Lane, Middleham,
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Stars of the week 06.02.26

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Maple Class | Beatrice for trying really hard in phonics lessons and writing activities. Well done |
| Birch Class | Rileigh for reading to the class beautifully Daniel for completing his maths confidently. |
| Sycamore Class | Walter for working hard on his handwriting and letter formation. Sid for sharing super ideas across all subjects. |
| Oak Class | Theo for super geography work and for always being on task and working hard. Finlay for trying so hard with his presentation of work and handwriting. |

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 **94%**

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

GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY DOES MATTER

DID YOU KNOW...?

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...

| In a school year, if your child is late every day by... | Your child would have lost approximately... | or they would have missed approximately... |
|---|---|--|
| 5 minutes | 3 days from school | 12 lessons |
| 10 minutes | 6 days from school | 24 lessons |
| 15 minutes | 9 days from school | 36 lessons |
| 20 minutes | 12 days from school | 48 lessons |
| 30 minutes | 18 days from school | 72 lessons |

PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE

Diary Dates

- 01.02 – 12.02 Penny War fundraising
- 13.02 Non Uniform Day 'Wear what you love'
- 13.02 Pancake Day lunch
- 13.02 School closes for Half Term Holiday
- 23.02 School Opens
- 24.02 Bags 2 School Collection
- 25.02 KS1 Skipping cluster event, more information coming soon
- 17.03 Final Sports After School Club
- 19.03 Final Thursday After School Club
- 27.03 School Closes for Easter Holidays
- 13.04 School closed for Training Day
- 14.04 School Reopens



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Half Term Activities

LEYBURN ARTS CENTRE

INVITES YOU

TO A



BEETLE DRIVE

Family Games Afternoon

TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
4.00 - 5.30PM

ADULTS £5, CHILDREN £2, UNDER 7'S FREE

PRIZES AND AFTERNOON TEA

Let's play!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO BOOK YOUR PLACES PLEASE CONTACT THE ARTS CENTRE ON 624510 OR email. admin@leyburnartscentre.com no later than February 10th 2026 so we know how many to cater for.

Leyburn Arts Centre, TOSH

Leyburn Arts Centre are hosting a beetle drive on the 17th February for local families. If you would like to attend please call or email them directly, 01969

624510 admin@leyburnartscentre.com

The Falling Stars Theatre, Leyburn Methodist Church

The Falling Stars Theatre group is staging two free performances of 'The River Project' on Friday 20th February at 11am and 2pm, in Leyburn Methodist Church Hall.

It's a free family event (children must be accompanied by parents/carers) and each performance lasts up to an hour. Booking is advised, even though it is free entry please follow the link or QR code on the poster. Entry may be possible on the door, depending on numbers.

The River Project

An interactive family theatre performance

Join Falling Stars Theatre for a trip down the river like you've never experienced before!

Friday 20th February 2026
11am and 2pm

Leyburn Methodist Church Hall,
Market Place, Leyburn DL8 5BB

Children must be accompanied
by an adult. **FREE** entry.
www.ticketsource.co.uk/falling-stars-theatre
Entry may also be available on the door
subject to availability.

← Book here →



Heritage Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players



Yorkshire Dales
Rivers Trust



FALLING STARS THEATRE



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