



THE COLLABORATION OF MIDDLEHAM CE (VA) AND SPENNITHORNE CE (VC) SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

29th September 2017

Tel 01969 623592 admin@middleham.n-yorks.sch.uk www.middleham.n-yorks.sch.uk

Tel 01969 623474 Fax 01969 622731 admin@spennithorne.n-yorks.sch.uk www.spennithorne.n-yorks.sch.uk

Dear Parent, Carers and Friends

AVAILABILITY

Next week, I will be in Middleham on Monday all day, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, and in Spennithorne on Tuesday all day, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.

PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2018, we have been advised to let you know about the admissions process which you need to complete in order to gain a place at your chosen school. You are advised to apply on line although paper copies of the form and information are available if requested. The deadline for on time applications is **15th January 2018**.

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions>

WENSLEYDALE SCHOOL

If you are interested, Wensleydale School is hosting an open evening for prospective parents on 12th October September at 7pm.

In addition, I was informed on Friday that Wensleydale has changed their transition dates for our Year Six pupils. This will now be on Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd July. This will also impact on class swap days.

TAPESTRY – ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL

In the EYFS in both schools, we are using the Tapestry Online Learning Journey to track the children's progress and document their activities and learning at school. Parents can access Tapestry to view their child's learning journey and it is a great way to keep up to date with their learning. You will be sent an email in the next week with a link and opportunity to create your own password to access your child's learning journal. When you log on, you can see photographs and observations of what your child has done during the day. We also encourage you to leave your own comments and even share information with us about what your child has been doing at home. You can also upload your own photographs which will be added to their learning journey. Once you have logged on, you will receive email updates telling you about the observations that have been uploaded for your child each day. It would be great if you could leave your comments and share your thoughts with us about the activities your child is engaging in at school. Miss Williams and Mrs Brown will discuss this with you in the next few weeks.

HALLOWEEN DISCO

The Friends of Spennithorne School are holding their annual Halloween Disco at School on the last day of half term, Friday 20th October. Times and ticket prices are to be confirmed and children from Middleham are welcome to attend.

However, the FOSS are in need of decorations for the hall. If you have any spare and wish to allow the FOSS to borrow them, please see either myself or Lucy Hall.

HOLIDAY REQUEST

As a school, we are required to encourage good attendance from all pupils. It is very easy for days off to mount up. Therefore, if you are requesting leave in an exceptional circumstance, leave will only be authorised if your request hits both the criteria on the form and that your child's attendance is above 95%.

HOLIDAY CLUB

Flyers have gone out for this yesterday, it's a bargain at £3.50 per day for over 5 hours of fun for your child and child care for you! Preference is given to pupils at Spennithorne and Middleham schools.



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HARVEST

Our joint Harvest Festival will take place on Friday 6th October at East Witton Church at 9.30am.

Could we please ask you to bring an item of in date food which the child can place at the altar as our Harvest donation. We can then donate these offerings to Storehouse, the foodbank in Richmond.

TAG RUGBY

A great display of rugby from both our teams on Tuesday in perfect rugby conditions. Well done to everyone who took part. The children have also received flyers about Wensleydale Rugby Club if they wish to join their Sunday age related training sessions.

Y5/6 GIRLS AND BOYS FOOTBALL

Good luck to our first mixed Spennithorne and Middleham football teams playing in a cluster event today at Leyburn Primary School.

Y3/4 FOOTBALL MATCH

To celebrate the work being finished on Spennithorne school field after it being out of action for a year, we have organised a friendly football match between Year 3/4 children from both schools, refereed by Mr Bullock on the afternoon of Friday 13th October. Further details will follow.

PARENT VIEW

If you would like to share your views about our school with OFSTED, please use the following website:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

SCHOOL COUNCIL

I am starting to look for members of a new school council in both schools who can be the mouthpiece for the student voice. People who are confident to listen to their peers and share that information in a group to effect change for the better. The pupil voice is important and makes them feel that they are a significant part of their school career.

However, there is a commitment involved. I would like to ask each person who is interested in this to put down I writing why they think they would make a good school councillor. What skills do they have? Are they a good listener? Kind? Thoughtful? I am happy that the younger children need help with writing and possibly spelling but would hope that children in Year 3 upwards write it themselves.

We have asked the children to submit their named letters by Friday 6th October.

MIDDLEHAM NEWS

EXTREME READING

Over the next few months, I am looking at working to make our library more accessible so that it becomes a great resource for all the children in our school.

To brighten up our library, we would love for you to take a picture of yourself reading in an extreme or strange place. Maybe it's on the football field or whilst helping mum or dad on the farm or maybe reading with your dog!!!



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I would love to open this challenge up to all of our children and you can email your picture to school (admin@middleham.n-yorks.sch.uk). You have until the end of the half term (30th October) so you have loads of time to think of some weird and wonderful places to take your picture!

TREKKERS

Don't forget – Trekkers' next session is on Tuesday 10th October.

WORLD FOOD DAY

We are going to be celebrating World Food Day on Thursday 5th October in school with a change to the menu. It is also our school Census day, this is important as our lunch numbers in Class 1 partially determine how much funding we receive, so please can as many Class 1 children as possible have a school lunch that day?

The menu for that day will be a choice of Italian or Indian with an American style dessert. The full menu and order form has been sent home last week, please complete and return to the office.

Parents, grandparents, siblings and friends are all invited to join us for this special lunch. Please come to the main front door at 12 o'clock and your children will come and collect you. Adult meals are £2.90, child meals are £2.20, and please can visitors pay by cash or cheque.

PLAYTIMES

I had the pleasure of being out on playtime duty on Thursday and it was great to watch the children playing with all the equipment. Some of them have discovered their inner dancer with the ribbons whilst others have been enjoying the jumbo skipping ropes although I wasn't convincing some of them to try double-dutch skipping! The outside classroom was also the setting for some French skipping action.

The children put all the equipment away and in the main looked after it very well. What a lovely way for me to spend a lunchtime.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 5 th October	World Food Day Lunch	Menu has gone home
Friday 6 th October	Harvest Festival	Letter has gone home
Tuesday 10 th October	Trekkers	
Thursday 12 th October	New to EYFS/Y6 Meeting	3.30-4.30pm in school
Monday 16 th October	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm	More details to follow
Wednesday 18 th October	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm	More details to follow
Thursday 19 th October	Y5/6 Crucial Crew	More details to follow
Friday 20 th October	School closes	Half Term
23 rd – 27 th October	Simon Carson Holiday Club	£3.50 per child per day, letter has gone home



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Monday 30 th October	School opens	
Tuesday 31 st October	Trekkers	
Thursday 2 nd November	Bags2school	More details to follow
Friday 10 th November	Y5/6 High 5 Netball	More details to follow
Tuesday 14 th November	Trekkers	
Friday 17 th November	Children In Need Day	More details to follow
Wednesday 22 nd November	FOMS Meeting	6pm in School
Tuesday 29 th November	Trekkers	
Thursday 30 th November	Y1/2 Skipping	More details to follow
Friday 8 th December	Flu Jabs YR/1/2/3/4	Email has been sent
Monday 11 th /Tuesday 12 th Dec	Christmas Play	More details to follow
Tuesday 12 th December	Trekkers	
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Lunch	Please note change of date
Wednesday 20 th December	Panto	More details to follow
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas Parties	More details to follow
Friday 22 nd December	Carol Service	More details to follow
Friday 22 nd December	End of Term	
Monday 8 th January	Staff training day	
Tuesday 9 th January	School opens	