



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

1st December 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, Wednesday and Thursday and in Spennithorne on Tuesday and Friday.

MESSAGE FROM PASSENGER TRANSPORT - ADVICE IN SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Integrated Passenger Transport (www.northyorks.gov.uk/schooltransport)

In periods of bad weather it is necessary to take extra precautions to ensure that the safety of pupils is not compromised. It is not possible to provide precise instructions to cover every eventuality; the following notes reflect "good practice" which should, if followed, ensure children's safety.

1. Please remember that there may be occasions when it is not possible to operate the morning school transport journey, or the journey may operate late. You must ensure that your child can be safely looked after if there are problems. Please remember that you are responsible for their safety until they have got on the school bus or taxi. If the morning school transport journey does not operate and you decide to take your own children then you must also be prepared to collect them at the end of the school day.

2. There may be circumstances when the Head teacher decides it is necessary for children to be sent home from school early. In the case of primary school children it is essential that the school is able to contact you or a nominated responsible person at short notice. **Please make sure that the school has up-to-date contact information.** In the case of secondary school children please make sure that they can be looked after safely and that they are aware of what the arrangements are.

3. There may be rare circumstances where the transport is not able to operate the afternoon journey, in which case you will be contacted by the school.

Integrated Passenger Transport, County Hall, Northallerton. DL7 8AH
Tel: 01609 780 780 E-mail: schooltransport.services@northyorks.gov.uk

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY – FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

The School Council are asking all children, staff and visitors to either come to school or attend the school Christmas dinner wearing a Christmas jumper/top etc. for a donation and really get into the swing of the Christmas dinner. Monies raised will go towards both school's chosen charities.

The chosen charities for the year are Swaledale Mountain Rescue for Middleham and in Spennithorne, they have chosen Guide Dogs for the Blind.

CARETAKER REQUIRED 5 HRS PER WEEK

Middleham School is currently looking for a keen and willing person to cover 5 hours a week to fulfil the caretaking role at the school. Roles would need to be discussed but primarily the suitable candidate would need to open the school each morning, undertake minor maintenance, check heating and lighting and carry out various checks. If you are interested, please contact Middleham School on the number above.

Y1/2 SKIPPING EVENT

I had the pleasure of accompanying the Year 1 and 2 children to a cluster skipping event at Catterick Leisure Centre on Thursday with the other local schools. The children had a great time and were a credit to our schools.

Y5/6 RESIDENTIAL

I had intended to do a parents' presentation regarding Edinburgh in the New Year but due to a few parents asking questions, I have decided to bring this forward.

I will be holding an information session at both schools on the following dates/times



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- **Spennithorne Monday 18th December at 5pm**
- **Middleham Wednesday 20th December at 5pm**

Can you please let Mrs Ramsay or Mrs Martin know if **you are or are not** intending to attend?

WENSLEYDALE CUB GROUP

Wensleydale Cubs are organising the first of two *bring a friend* taster nights aimed at recruiting prospective new members to the pack.

On Tuesday December 12, from 6.15pm to 7.30pm, there will be Christmas by the campfire at Hill Top Farm Moor Road Leyburn with a little bit of bush craft skills and marshmallows thrown in for good measure. Dress warm and bring a torch.

The second is on Tuesday January 16th. Meet at the scout hall for fun and games from 6.15pm to 7.30pm.

Cub scouts are for boys or girls aged 8 to 10 ½.

Contact Helen Sunter on 01969 624806, email at helen@hilltopfarm.cc/ for more information or just turn up.

CHRISTMAS PLAYS

The Christmas plays will be performed on the following dates and times:

MIDDLEHAM	SPENNITHORNE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress Rehearsal Monday 11th December 1.45pm • Evening performance Monday 11th December 6pm • Day performance Tuesday 12th December 1.45pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress Rehearsal Monday 11th December 2pm • Day performance Tuesday 12th December 2pm • Evening performance Tuesday 12th December 6pm

CHRISTMAS HAMPER

If you have any items for the Christmas Hampers that are being made by The Friends of both Middleham School and Spennithorne School, we would appreciate them in school as your earliest convenience.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Cards should be back in school on next week.

PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

The deadline for applications is **15th January 2018**.

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

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%.

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/>



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MIDDLEHAM NEWS.

READING

Reading is a vital skill to develop not only a love of reading but a love of learning and can open up new worlds. To achieve such a lifelong skill, it is vital that you support this at home and read with your child on a regular basis, regardless of their age. Share books with them, you read a page, they read a page, read together, read their favourite book, and talk about what has happened, what could or might happen or why the author has written it in such a way. Read books read newspapers, read recipes, read match reports; SIMPLY READ!!

We understand that homes are busy places but one to one reading with a parent has massive benefits and form part of an evening routine.

We have noticed there has been a fall in children reading at home and a fall in reading ability has been noticed for those not reading at home.

We want what is best for your child but need your help and support too.

PE

Mr Bullock has started to notice children wearing combat style leggings and loud branded hoodies for PE. Could warm PE clothes (joggers and hoodies) be plain please.

FOOTBALL

Linked to feedback from the children, for the rest of this term, Mr Bullock will be running a football club after lunch for ½ an hour. If your children would like to join in, they will need to bring in appropriate clothing and football boots.

SPORTS CLUB

After Christmas, sports club will move to after school on a Wednesday.

TREKKERS

Trekkers has finished for this term.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 8 th December	Flu Jabs YR/1/2/3/4	Email has been sent
Monday 11 th December	Christmas Play	6pm at Middleham School
Tuesday 12 th December	Christmas Play	1.45pm at Middleham School
Tuesday 12 th December	Trekkers	
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day	Menu has gone home
Wednesday 20 th December	Panto	Letter has gone home
Wednesday 20 th December	Year 5/6 residential information evening	5pm in school
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas Parties	More details to follow
Friday 22 nd December	Carol Service & Christingle	1.30pm East Witton Church
Friday 22 nd December	End of Term	
Monday 8 th January	Staff training day	
Tuesday 9 th January	School opens	



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Friday 12 th January	Swimming lessons start for Y3/4/5	Letter has gone home
Thursday 18 th January	Year 5/6 science event at the Wensleydale School	More details to follow
Thursday 25 th January	Chinese New Year Lunch	Menu to follow
Thursday 1 st February	Yorkshire Pudding Day Lunch	Menu to follow
Friday 2 nd February	Y3/4 Dance	More details to follow
Monday 5 th February	Rotary Presentation	More details to follow
Monday 5 th February	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm	More details to follow
Wednesday 7 th February	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm	More details to follow
Friday 9 th February	School Council Pyjama Day	More details to follow
12-16 th February	Half Term	
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day	More details to follow
Thursday 8 th March	KS2 Cross Country	More details to follow
Thursday 8 th March	Mother's Day Lunch	Menu to follow
Friday 23 rd March	Sport Relief	More details to follow
Thursday 29 th March	End of Term	
Monday 16 th April	Staff Training Day	
Tuesday 17 th April	School opens	