



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



23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Tel 01969 623592 [middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk) [www.middleham.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.middleham.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Tel 01969 623474 Fax 01969 622731 [spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:spennithorneadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk) [www.spennithorne.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.spennithorne.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Dear Parents

My availability for the 2 weeks (after half term):

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
w/c 2/11/20	MH	SP	MH	SP/MH	SP
w/c 9/12/20	MH	SP	MH	SP/MH	SP

### HALF TERM

Next week, the school is closed for half term. We reopen on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November where the children will be joined by Mrs Bullock in the Badgers class.

### GOLDEN DAY

Today, as a thank you for good behaviour, the children enjoyed sessions of Kidditch, a child version of the Harry Potter game Quidditch.

They also made Christmas cards which you will find in their bag. If you would like to purchase some cards or a mug etc. with your children's design on it, please return the form by **TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER** so we can get them back for printing. We will add this to your ParentPay account linked to your order amount.

Instructions can be found with the card.



### PREFECTS

Congratulations to our new prefects, Matilda, Ewan, George and Jack. They have been awarded their special badges today!

### HALLOWEEN – ADVICE SENT FROM PUBLIC HEALTH

We have some tips on celebrating Halloween this year in a fun and safe way. To prevent further spread of the virus over Halloween and to protect children and others, this year we are recommending people do not go knocking on doors on

Halloween, or collect sweets from communal bowls.

We're encouraging children and families to be creative in coming up with alternative ways of having an enjoyable Halloween.

Some suggestions we have include;

- Create a pumpkin trail where you live so everyone can join in without knocking on doors.
- Be active: get dressed up and take a walk around your neighbourhood to see homes decorated for Halloween.
- Be virtual: consider an online party with decorations, fancy dress and themed food. Play Hallowe'en games, bake Hallowe'en treats or tell spooky stories.
- Be social: take pictures of your spooky costumes and activities to share on social media.



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- Be colourful: dress up the outside of your house with Halloween decorations for you and your neighbours to enjoy.
  - Be treat-wise: buy your own sweets to give to your children so they don't miss out.
  - Be bright: if you carve a pumpkin, use a battery-powered light inside it to reduce the risk of fire.
- We also ask that people take care to stick to the everyday Covid-19 safety rules over Halloween and half term. Follow the "Hands. Face. Space" advice and;
- Wash your hands regularly and take hand sanitiser if you go out.
  - Wear a face covering indoors where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet
  - Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or one metre where extra precautions are in place such as indoor ventilation.
  - When seeing friends and family you do not live with, or who are not part of your support bubble, do not meet in groups of more than six indoors or outdoors.
  - When meeting friends and family you should also follow social distancing rules, meet people outdoors where practical and limit how many different people in total you see socially over a short period of time. Keep up to date with Covid-19 guidance and news in North Yorkshire at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-and-information](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-and-information)

## REMEMBRANCE DAY

Both schools will be selling poppies and other items, having requested separate boxes of goodies for Rabbits and Foxes. These are now in school ready for after the half term holiday.

## CHILDREN IN NEED DAY Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November

We are going to be joining in with this day with a non-uniform day. Please bring £1 as payment for not wearing school uniform.

Sadly, we cannot have either a cake stall or book swap this year.

## YEAR 5/6 EDINBURGH RESIDENTIAL

Thank you to everyone who responded with their thoughts about this possible trip next summer. Obviously, things are all up in the air and we are advised not to carry out any overnight residential visits at present but I now have a good indication about parents' feelings.

## PACKED LUNCH GUIDELINES

Can I please ask you to read our guidelines, published on our website and in our new starter packs, about appropriate packed lunch food. Chocolate bars (such as KitKats) or sugary drinks are not appropriate and we will ask pupils to put these back in their lunch boxes to take home.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Provision is made for children to consume their own packed lunch if desired and that consideration is made to their nutritional value. Work on the school's guidelines on packed lunches follow the National Standards set following the National Diet and Nutrition Survey. As a school, we recommend a variety of foods from the four main food groups:

**CARBOHYDRATES**

bread, potatoes, pasta, rice, other cereals etc



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FRUIT AND VEGETABLES	salad in sandwiches, tomatoes, dried, fresh and canned fruit, smoothies, fruit juice.
MEAT, FISH AND ALTERNATIVES	various meats and fish, nuts, tofu/quorn etc.
DAIRY	milk(unflavoured), cheese, yoghurts, fromage frais, rice pudding etc.
DRINKS	milk(unflavoured), smoothie, fruit juice, water.

**We encourage children to bring in a water filled bottle to drink during the day.**

**We DO NOT allow squash or flavoured water and will ask the children to put their water bottle away and give them a cup for that day.**

## COATS AND SHOES

As the weather is getting colder, please can you ensure your child has a coat every day. We go outside as much as we can so this is vital. Can I also ask that the appropriate footwear is worn to school. Hoodies are for PE as are trainers - these are not school uniform.

## PARENT ZONE

We were sent this link for a new interactive app designed to support parents with their children's mental health, mainly for those pupils in KS2.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/introducing-ollee>

Ollee is a virtual friend for children aged 8-11, available via a web app. It was created by Parent Zone and is funded by BBC Children in Need's A Million & Me initiative, which aims to make a difference to children's emotional wellbeing.

Take a look and see if it's something that might be useful for you.

## GOOGLE CLASSROOM

If you are self-isolating with COVID symptoms and we are aware, work will be set for your child that day on Google classroom.

## SPORTS CLUB

Sports club for the 2 weeks after half term is as follows:

w/c 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov Oct Badgers (finish 4.15pm) Rabbits (finish 4.30pm)

w/c 9<sup>th</sup> Nov Badgers (finish 4.15pm) Foxes (finish 4.30pm)