



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



25th September 2020

Tel 01969 623592 middlehamadmin@fed-mas.n-yorks.sch.uk www.middleham.n-yorks.sch.uk

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Dear Parents

My availability for the coming 2 weeks:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
w/c 28/9/20	OUT	OUT	MH	SP/MH	SP
w/c 5/10/20	MH	SP	MH	SP/MH	SP



**If your child has:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of
smell or taste**

**This could be a sign of
coronavirus**

Book a test

**If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell
But they don't have:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste**

**These are
not normally symptoms of
coronavirus**

**Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial
111 or see your GP**

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

If your child is at home having to isolate or have symptoms linked to Coronavirus and cannot attend school, our online learning system, Google classroom, will kick in if we know your absence is linked to self-isolation.

Every child has logged on to their google school account and details of this can be found in their reading record.

One thing we have noticed for many of our younger pupils is that they are having trouble manipulating a mouse. I am aware that technology has moved on and many of us now have tablets which don't need a mouse but using this is an important skill, helping manual dexterity.

If you have a PC at home, getting your child to use a mouse is a very useful skill. As well as helping fine motor control, the children need to learn the different actions required with a left and a right click.

RECOMMENDED READS

Last week, we introduced our new sets of reading books, Recommended Reads, to the pupils. Funded by the Elizabeth Barnet Trust, these are books which children in each year group should aim to read. They are a mixture of genres; fiction, non-fiction, picture books, books about famous people and everything else in between.

If your child is reading phonics phase books or books coloured pink, red, yellow, blue, green, orange, turquoise, purple, gold or white, they can choose a recommended read to supplement their reading book. If your child is reading books lime, brown, grey, dark blue and dark red, they can choose a recommended read in place of a reading book.



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However, there is a twist. If your child chooses to read one of our recommended reads, we will also send them home with a book review and we have asked your child to fill this in. These will be collated and will become part of a bank of book reviews to help others pupils decide on a book they would like to read. At the end of the school year, the teachers will choose the most informative (not the neatest) book review in each of the year groups to win a prize.

You can tell if your child has a recommended read as there is a sticker on the front cover.

If you would like to see which books we have in each year book box, [click here](#) to take you to the book lists.

MENTAL WELLBEING

As we have returned to school, we are very aware of the importance of ensuring our children's mental wellbeing. In fact, the theme of this week's collective worship is mental and physical wellbeing.

Below is some information for parents about a new website supporting parents in addressing this at home.

The Go-To – www.thegoto.org.uk – is a portal or 'single point of information' for the wide range of mental health support services available to help children and young people in the county address their social and emotional health needs.

With the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and prolonged absence from the classroom, online mental health support for young people has never been more important. Now more than ever we need to be looking after our mental health and The Go-To offers access to the support young people and their families need during these changing times.

While the website has been designed to support young people directly, there is also a section aimed at families and professionals.

- You can read more, here: <https://www.northyorkshireccg.nhs.uk/the-go-to-website-launched-to-help-young-peoples-mental-health/>

DATES SHEET

At the start of each year, we normally send out a sheet with dates of key events; harvest festivals, Christmas plays, church services, parents' evenings, open lunches and sporting events etc.

Due to the current situations, we have not sent these out because at the present moment, we do not know whether we can fulfil these commitments.

PARENTS EVENING

For this term, parents evening consultations will be held over the phone. This is not how we would like to do this but feel this is the safest way for all concerned.

The parents' evenings will continue to be 10 minutes in duration and a letter will be coming out for you to book your phone consultation on either Monday 19th or Tuesday 20th October only

Certain slots fill up early so please ensure you reply to the email next week at your earliest convenience – it will be running on a first come first served basis.



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FACEBOOK

To all new parents, please search for us on Facebook. We only post photos of events, reminders and other useful local and national information. Nothing goes on here that has not appeared in the newsletter or has been emailed to you. We do not respond to messenger (unless it is an emergency) but it is a great way of seeing what the children are up to. It is a closed site for parents only and once pupils leave the school, parents will be removed.

Please send a friend request to our school site.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

We will be holding a simple online service with the 3 classes coming together virtually on Friday 9th October. It would be great if you could send your child in with a packet or a tin for us to add to the community pantry at St Alkeldas on that day. We will of course, quarantine donations before delivering them.

COVID 19 TIME CAPSULES

Do we have any more time capsules to come back into school?

PE KITS

PE is on Wednesdays and Thursdays but please ensure PE kits are in school from Monday to Friday in case of changes. We also undertake the daily mile on non-PE days so children will need plimsolls/trainers at all times.

Free school hoodies have arrived and have been handed out today. Please ensure your child's name is written in the item this weekend and put in their PE bag as part of their PE kit.

We are out in all weathers and this will help to keep the children warm.

SPARE FURNITURE

After receiving our new furniture with funding from the Co-op at Spennithorne, we have some spare shelving units if anyone would like them. Free to a good home (or a small donation would be appreciated).

You would just need to come to collect.

SPORTS CLUB

Sports club for the next 2 weeks is as follows:

w/c 28th Sept. Badgers (finish 4.15pm) Rabbits (finish 4.30pm)

w/c 5th Oct. Badgers (finish 4.15pm) Foxes (finish 4.30pm)