



# The Wolds and Vale Federation

Executive Headteacher

Mr Ian Taylor

[www.woldsandvalefederation.co.uk](http://www.woldsandvalefederation.co.uk)



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## *'One federation family, with transformation at its heart'*

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Certificates**

#### **Stars of the week -**

Class 1 – Jack C super attitude towards learning and setting a good example in following class rules.

Class 2 – Kyle M for taking all of the challenges he faces in his stride and for always giving tasks a go even though he may be out of his comfort zone. His confidence is starting to grow, which is really lovely to see.

#### **Children receiving praise postcards from the headteacher this week –**

Being **adventurous** – Paige H

Being **positive** – Ellie C

Being **creative** – Lewis P

Being **adventurous** – Emily W

### **School lunches after the holiday**

Monday – School closed

Tuesday – Sausages, wedges and beans

Wednesday – Pizza and chips

Thursday – Pork and Apple plait with roast potatoes

Friday – Bubbly battered fish and chips

It seems strange that only a year ago we would be celebrating all our Christmas activities through carol services and nativities including trips out to the pantomime. The last week of the autumn term is always extremely busy and the highlight for me is sharing Christmas dinner with you as parents. Unfortunately, this year we have been unable to hold all of our community activities. Nevertheless, we have tried very hard to make Christmas as magical as possible for all our children in school and judging by the reaction to our online nativities and sharing of Christmas activities on Dojo – we have been very successful!

Every week of this term has brought a new challenge for our schools. The ever changing landscape of Covid-19 with constant alterations to restrictions and guidance from the DFE and the government has meant that the schools have been in a constant state of reaction. Having said that the progress that we have made with your children has been proactive and quite frankly remarkable! I would like to say a huge thank you to my staff and you as parents for allowing this to happen in challenging circumstances.



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Enjoy Christmas this year as more than ever we deserve some cheer. Make it as special and as exciting as you can for your family and children. Continue to do as many things as normal following restrictions and I am sure that with a safe and common sense approach the excitement for the children will be just as high as Christmases past, present and future!

## **From the Chair of Governors, Val Bottomley**

Many thanks to all our parents who have continued to give their support to our hard working staff in both schools during these difficult times.

In order to 'attend' meetings and training courses, Governors have had to learn new skills, using Zoom, Skype for Business and, for next term, Microsoft Teams. Some of us have been more successful than others, but I think I'm just about getting there. Our priority at the moment is to ensure that our schools are as safe and 'child - friendly' as possible for your children and our staff and that we are following Government and County guidelines.

This term we have lost two long term Governors, Rev. Andy Bowden and Rev. Joe Kinsella. In September, Andy was asked to be a member of the Interim Executive Board of Weaverthorpe CE Primary School, which meant a significantly increased workload. Joe will be taking up a new post in the New Year and as yet we have no news of his successor. We wish them both well and thank them for their thoughtfulness and hard work as governors.

We now welcome new governors Dan Outhart as a Co-opted Governor and Sally Gibbon as an Associate Governor.

It has been a very odd end of term. I know that staff have been making sure that the children have exciting activities to celebrate Christmas, but I've missed the chance to buy presents at our Christmas Fairs, Christmas Dinners to share with the children and Christmas performances I could come and see. Let us hope that 2021 will bring more control over this virus and less disruption to our lives.

On behalf of all the Governors I'd like to wish you peace and joy at Christmas and a better 2021.

## **Christmas performances**

We hope you enjoyed our Christmas performances posted on Class Dojo.

## **Reception places for September 2021**

FAO Parents of Nursery Children (born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017)

If you have a child who falls into the age range above they are due to start school in September 2021 and you must apply for a primary school place for them to start in Reception.

Important – you must apply for a school place even if your child has an older sibling at the school or



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they are attending the nursery attached to the school. You can apply for a Reception place at a primary school for your child from 12 October 2020 and the deadline to submit your application is 15 January 2021. [www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions)

## 2 year old's Golden tickets

From November 2020, North Yorkshire will be sending out the new Golden Ticket Letters to eligible 2 year olds. All parents who are newly eligible will be sent a Golden Ticket letter stating that their child will be entitled for up to 15 hours of Government funding childcare provision per week for 38 weeks per year. In the Golden Ticket letter, parents will be asked to contact a NYCC childcare provider to discuss their child's place. We are accepting children at play school so please pass on our details if you know of anyone receiving a letter.

## Thank you

As we are unable to meet face to face this year, we thought we would share the link to the Thank a Teacher website where you can send an electronic thank you card to a teacher, teaching assistant or the whole school.

<https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher/thank-a-teacher-form/>

We're also asking for one last favour for 2020, please can all parents and carers login to the Ofsted Parent View site and give us some feedback, we need 10 people to respond before we can see the results. <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=/give-your-views>

Have a fabulous Christmas holiday and a wonderful New Year!  
We will see all children safely back in school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Mr Taylor