



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – 14TH OCT 2022

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our October newsletter! We would like to thank our school communities for supporting the efforts of teachers across the federation despite the continued uncertainty around academy conversion. We are focused on our primary objective which is to make our schools a place of happiness, enrichment and fulfilment. Thanks to our new staff for quickly getting to grips with the high expectations that we have for learning, and also to our existing staff for strengthening the team effort that we all share for school improvement. Our staff are always happy to meet with parents should you have any concerns about your child – through a strong partnership we can support our young learners to be confident and accomplished.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all those who work, learn and visit our federation of schools. I have very much appreciated being a part of your journey as my time comes to an end. I am confident that the schools will continue to progress and improve as they have done in recent months – Miss Victoria Kirkman will remain in her position and continues to provide executive leadership.

Chris Whitehead,
Interim Executive Headteacher

DATES FOR THE DIARY

DATE	EVENT
18.10.2022	Parents Consultations.
31.10.2022	Flu Immunisations + Friends Non-Uniform Day
04.11.2022	Friends Disco—Village Hall 3.45-5.45pm
08/11.11.2022	Individual School Photographs
18.11.2022	Children in Need
23.11.2022	Aladdin Panto at Harrogate Theatre
07.12.2022	Nativity in the Village Hall 2pm
13.12.2022	Christmas Lunch/Party
16.12.2022	School Closes for Christmas Break



Goodbye and Good Luck!

We shall be saying goodbye to Miss Roome next, week as she moves on to a larger North Yorkshire primary school. Miss Roome has been a great addition to our team and shall be missed by staff and pupils alike. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her all the very best for the future.



UPDATES AND REMINDERS

In light of recent concerns raised relating to the federation, I wanted to update you on recent actions taken.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for these communications. We welcome parent and carer comments in order to take positive, effective action in the best interest of the children and families.

Please note that any concerns raised are taken seriously and, if not already resolved, are planned to be resolved moving forward.

We are delighted that the pantomime has been rescheduled and are currently working with staff to organise Christmas events and other curriculum enrichment experiences for your children. We are looking at further options for clubs moving forward including inter-sports events with not only the federation schools but my other two, local settings.

The Leadership of the school moving forward is a priority for the IEB and the Local Authority and I am working with them to look strategically at a model for the federation.

Much has been 'on-hold' due to academisation however now we are in a different position, rest assured we are working tirelessly to put plans in place for a consistent, secure future of each school. I am hugely grateful for your offer of support and will absolutely be in touch.

Miss Victoria Kirkman

HARVEST FESTIVAL

We hope you enjoyed our Harvest performance this week. It was lovely to see so many of you there and we would like to thank you for your very kind donations for The Harrogate Food-bank. They were overwhelmed with the generosity of our families, and explained what a difference these donations will make to the lives of so many local people. Thank you also to Friends who provided the refreshments as part of our Harvest celebrations



House Point Tally

Fire—342

Earth - 293

Water - 320

Air - 330



IEB UPDATE

Update from Governors – w/e 14th October 2022

We will aim to update you regularly on the work that has been done by our IEB. This month we have:

- . Renewed discussions with the Regional Schools Commissioner and LA around Academisation
- . Renewed and updated our training around Safeguarding, Child Protection, Prevent and Safer Recruitment
- . Discussed feedback from Federation monitoring visits carried out by our school improvement advisor
- . Reviewed our interim leadership arrangements until conversion: more will be sent on this before half – term
- . Supported our Federation Open days

We are aware that the news around Elevate' s decision has been unsettling for our staff, parents and wider communities and assure you all that we are working hard to maintain stability: we have been delighted with the way this term has begun and with which the staff, new and longer standing have embraced change.



Safeguarding

Halloween and Bonfire Night

Halloween

- **Clothing** – while it's great for children to dress up, most Halloween costumes are highly flammable so focus on using LED light candles. When trick or treating, children should be supervised at all times and parents aware of the dangers of naked flames in Halloween decor (pumpkins/lanterns) and bonfires.
- **Pumpkin Lanterns** – don't use real candles in them, get the led t-lights – they are brighter than a real candle.
- **Door knocking** – go with parents to people you know. Only knock on doors where there is a clear sign they want you to, e.g. a lantern on the doorstep. Many people are vulnerable and don't really want lots of people knocking.
- **Treats** - always ask a grown up before eating any of the sweet treats you collect. Never accept or eat any homemade treats from people you don't know. Only eat treats that are securely sealed in individual shop brought wrappers.
- **Parents** – think, where are your children? Try to encourage children to have sensible approach rather to the evening so it is enjoyable for all.



Fireworks & Bonfire



- **Attend-** organised displays where possible.
- **Sparklers-** wear gloves and put each sparkler into a carrot. these make it much easier for little hands to hold safely. Have a bucket of water to put sparkler sticks in as they are very hot even when out. When at a display, stick them in the ground to cool them and make sure children are in a good space when using sparklers so they don't accidentally burn someone else.

If an accident does happen and clothes catch on fire the advice is to STOP, DROP & ROLL

ALWAYS

- Always buy fireworks from a reputable seller, every firework should have a CE mark on them to state they have passed the required safety standards.
- Always keep fireworks in a closed box and use them one at a time.
- Always read and follow the instructions on each firework using a torch if necessary.
- Always light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back.
- Always keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks.
- Always direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators or flammable objects such as bushes and trees.

NEVER

- Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket and never throw them.
- Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.
- Never let children play with fireworks.



Safeguarding

**WORRIED
ABOUT A
YOUNG
PERSON'S
MENTAL HEALTH?**

**WORKSHOPS FOR ANYONE
WHO LIVES WITH YOUNG
PEOPLE AND WANTS TO HELP
THEM IMPROVE THEIR
MENTAL WELLBEING.**

Empowering parents, guardians and carers in North Yorkshire to feel more confident and skilled in supporting mental health concerns. Six workshops will include:

- Suicide prevention awareness.
- Strategies for supporting individual needs.
- Information on accessing and navigating mental health systems.

All workshops will be tailored around needs of parents, guardians or carers. **Turn over for referral details.**

Delivered in partnership by:



Face to face workshops will be held;

- **In Harrogate and Thirsk**

Online workshops will be held via Zoom.

Accessing the workshops:

Parents, guardians and carers can refer themselves. via Just 'B'.

T: (01423) 856 790

E: justbCYP@justb.org.uk

Referrals can also be made via CAMHS, Crisis CAMHS, Early Help Workers and other relevant professional bodies.

Young people's wellbeing support group:

During the Harrogate and Thirsk workshops, we will also be providing a wellbeing support group for the young people of those attending.

This will provide an informal environment with a range of activities, based at a nearby location.

Further information will be given on referral.

Funded by the  **Humber and North Yorkshire**
Health and Care Partnership

North Yorkshire Hospice Care is a registered charity in England and Wales (518905) with a family of services operating as Herriot Hospice Homecare, Just 'B', Saint Michael's Hospice and Talking Spaces. North Yorkshire Hospice Care is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (2121179). Registered address Crimple House, Hornbeam Park Avenue, Harrogate, HG2 8NA.

A copy of the JUST B/ STARFISH Parent Support Workshops Referral form is attached to this weeks Newsletter

If you are concerned about a child's welfare please contact: Miss Victoria Kirkman - Designated Safeguarding Lead Mr Chris Whitehead - Deputy Safeguarding Lead Rebecca Foy - Deputy Safeguarding Lead Kettlesing 01423 770576 Beckwithshaw 01423 504642 Ripley 01423 770160