



Long Preston EVA Primary School Newsletter

December

December



A member of The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools – fostering a love of learning through collaboration and fun



Welcome to our **December Newsletter**. As we approach the end of another year we are pleased that our lovely reception pupils have almost made it through their first term, on the start of their school journey with us. These children have settled into school life very well and are enjoying their day-to-day activities.

As you can see from our Diary Dates, we have a busy two weeks ahead before the end of this term. We really hope that all of the children will enjoy their trip to see the 'Jack and the Beanstalk' pantomime at Blackburn Empire Theatre tomorrow and that they'll be in good voice to get involved with the performance! This is our first visit to a panto as a school, so we would love to hear any feedback you have on it.

As usual, we are looking forward to our Christmas dinner this year as our school cook always does such an amazing job. If anyone chooses to have a packed lunch but would like to be included and have a Christmas dinner with us, you are very welcome (**please contact the school office to let us know so that we know how many pupils to cater for**). We'll also be having our Christmas Party on the last day of term, following lunch. A very special guest will also be attending! Pupils are welcome to come to school wearing appropriate party wear and suitable footwear (no football kits please) on this day.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a very happy 2025 from Mrs Maddocks and The Federation Team. We will close for the Christmas holidays on the 20th with school reopening for the Spring Term on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

A message from the Chair of Governors

On behalf of the Governing Board, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new members of staff to Hellifield and Long Preston schools. I hope they have enjoyed their first term at the Ribblesdale Federation of Schools. It is good to have settled and stable teams in all our schools, with positive results being seen already.

A special mention must go to the children at Hellifield and the whole staff across the Federation for the recent successful OFSTED inspection. It is a credit to them all.

Some of you may wonder what governors do. The Governing Board is responsible for ensuring the following three core functions. The core functions of the governing body are as set out in (regulation 6) and include, but are not limited to ensuring:

- that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined
- that the headteacher performs their responsibilities for the educational performance of the school
- that the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources.

In practical terms, that means we are involved in a wide variety of things ranging from setting the price of school dinners, approving and monitoring the School Improvement Plan to the appointment of the Executive Headteacher.

This Autumn term has seen the link governors for SEND, Safeguarding and Health and Safety visit our schools, which involved speaking to the relevant staff about their work, enabling them to gain an insight into what is happening in school. Visits such as these gives the Board confidence that everything is being done as it should be in each of our schools. As Chair of Governors I will meet the Headteacher every 2 to 3 weeks, or more frequently if needed, to catch up and be updated on matters relating to the schools/federation.

Finally, how did I become a school governor? Prior to Federation, when my son started school at Long Preston Primary, I was approached by a parent governor who wondered if I would volunteer to be the other parent governor on the school's Board. So I agreed! The commitment involves 6 full governors' meetings a year and 2 or 3 visits to the schools. The highlights of which are speaking to the children and of course eating a fantastic school dinner with a sponge and custard pudding if I'm lucky!

The rewards are many, including the satisfaction of knowing I am supporting three local schools, the stakeholders and putting a little something back into my community.

On that note I would like to wish all of you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Andrew Bradley, Chair of Governors Ribblesdale Federation of Schools

Dates for Diaries 2024/25

(Please note diary dates may change due and dates will also be added throughout the academic year)

Wednesday 11th December	Blackburn Panto - Jack and the Beanstalk
Thursday 12th December	Miss Walmsley's Musical Theatre group showcase - 4pm in the school hall. Families welcome.
Friday 13th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day.
Monday 16th December	School Nativity - 2pm. All families welcome.
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas lunch for pupils.
Wednesday 18th December	Last swimming session for Oak Class
Thursday 19th December	Carol Service at St Mary's Church - 10.30am. All families welcome.
Friday 20th December	School Party (pm) School closes at 3.30pm for the Christmas holiday
Monday 6th January	Teacher INSET day
Tuesday 7th January	Start of term for pupils
Wednesday 8th January	Swimming for Starlings Class begins
W/c Monday 3rd February	Mental Health Week
Friday 14th February	School closes at 3.30pm for half-term
Monday 24th February	Start of term for pupils
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Thursday 20th March	Parent consultations



**November 2024
Whole School
Attendance**

**Long Preston EVA Primary
School: 96.95%**



School Nativity Invitation to Families: This year our school Nativity - 'It's a Miracle' - takes place on **Monday 16th December**, in the school hall. We hope as many parents/carers and family members as possible are able to come along and enjoy the performance. Our Nativity will start at 2pm promptly. Please arrive and be seated by 1.55pm. It is going to be really enjoyable afternoon, with Robins and Starlings leading the performance and Owls supporting with singing. **We kindly ask you NOT to take photographs please during our Nativity; there will be an opportunity at the end of this event to do this.**

Sporting Events Round-Up: We had a busy few weeks on the sporting front at the end of last month. Our Years 3, 4 and 6 pupils took part in the Cross Country event at Giggleswick Junior School, along with our other two schools and primary schools in the local area. It was lovely to see our children running with so much heart and determination - they showed the Federation at it's very best and we should be so proud of them.



Yr 2 had a fantastic morning at Bentham Primary School on 21st November, testing and developing their sporting skills in a fun environment, along with other children from the Craven Primary Cluster.

Finally, the Football Tournament for Years 3, 4 and 6 took place at the end of the month, after being postponed from before the half term break due to bad weather. Once again our pupils did us proud and thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon at Ingleton Primary School.



These events are a great opportunity to meet up with and get to know children from our other Federation schools as well as those from local primary schools.

Thank you to Mrs Mercer and Mrs T Jones for organising these events and to all of the staff who supported them.



Weather: Please make sure that pupils come to school with a waterproof coat and warm accessories. It is extremely rare for us to close because of the weather and this will be only be in the interests of health and safety for staff and pupils. If we need to do so, you will be informed via a text message and we aim to let parents and carers know as early as we can. If weather conditions deteriorate during the school day and there is a need for early closure, we will again send parents a text message notification. Please can you ensure that we have up-to-date contact numbers for you. Thank you.

The Ribblesdale Federation Governing Board

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Maddocks:

Chair of the Governing Board: Mr Andrew Bradley

Vice Chair: Rev Sue McWhinney

Foundation Governors: Mrs Emmy Hodgson and Mrs Christine Padley

Parent Governors: Mrs Laura Boyd

Staff Governor: Mrs Paula Clay

Co-opted Governor: Mr Carl Shuttleworth

Safeguarding and Attendance Link Governor: Rev Sue McWhinney

Health and Safety Link Governor: Mr Andrew Bradley



The next meeting of the Federation Governing Board will be held on 3rd February 2025

Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator: Mrs Erin Jones

If you have any worries or concerns regarding your child having SEN or mental health issues and well being problems, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Jones, via the school office. All correspondence will be treated confidentially.



Safeguarding information: Long Preston EVA Primary School

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Catherine Maddocks, Executive Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr Andrew Scott, Miss Rachel Mounsey and Miss Rachel Houghton.

The Ribblesdale Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of the children who attend our three schools.

Staffing 24/25 The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools : Long Preston

SLT

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Maddocks

Assistant Head Teachers: Miss Mounsey & Miss Houghton

Federation Business Manager: Mrs Middleton

Robins Class Teacher: Miss Westwell & Mrs T. Jones (Tues pm) (Supported by Mrs Dakin and Mrs Chapman)

Starlings Class Teacher: Miss Walmsley & Mrs Mercer (Thurs am) (Supported by Mrs Coultherd)

Owls Class Teacher: Mr Scott & Mrs Mercer (Thurs pm) (Supported by Mrs Hopkins)

Midday Supervisor (MSA): Mrs Hopkins and Mrs Coultherd

School Administrator: Mrs Middleton / Mrs Wearden

School I.C.T Technician: Mr Freytag

School Cook: Mrs. Vickery

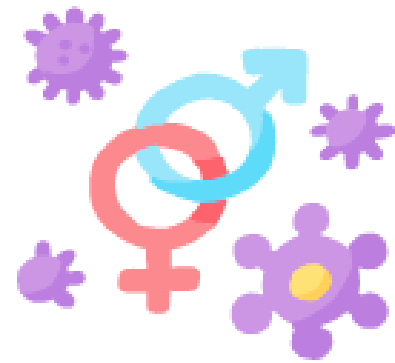
Kitchen Assistant: Mrs Chadwick

School Caretaker: Mrs. Franco

To follow 'The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools' via X (formerly known as Twitter) - please go to '@FedRibblesdale' This is a protected account and only confirmed followers will have access to the posts and our complete profile. We also have our school Facebook page and lots of information available vis our website: <https://ribblesdalefed.n-yorks.sch.uk/>

Please help our followers to grow! Thank you for your continuing support from all the team at Long Preston EVA Primary School, part of The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools.





Take part in our

North Yorkshire *Women's Health Survey*

Help us address the **health needs**
of **women and girls** in our
communities.

Fill in the survey before **Sunday 15 December 2024** online at
www.northyorks.gov.uk/WomensHealthNY
or scan the QR code.

Paper copies are available in our
libraries (please ask at the help desk).





Wild Explorers

Where nature, fun and adventure collide!

A child-led, fun and nurturing holiday club set in beautiful woodland on the Broughton Estate.

We are an OFSTED registered outdoor holiday club where children can play, enjoy a campfire, woodland crafts, tools and much more!



Price

£35 per child per day
Childcare vouchers accepted

Age

Reception - Age 13

Christmas Holiday Club

23rd, 27th, 30th & 31st December
and 2nd & 3rd January

*Birthday parties also available year round
email us for more info*



Time

9.30am - 3.30pm

Location

Broughton Hall Estate



hello@wildexplorers.org.uk



www.wildexplorers.org.uk



MUSIC @ SKIPTONMUSICCENTRE

Musical Opportunities for all...

Join a thriving musical community with activities for all ages and abilities.

Membership is **FREE** for the first half term

For more information, please contact:

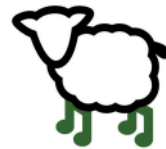
isobel.mortimer@northyorks.gov.uk

facebook.com/SkiptonMusicCentre

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SKIPTONMUSICCENTRE



Saturday mornings at The Skipton Academy

SUNDAY MORNING SPORTATHON

FREE MULTISPORTS FOR 3-5 YEAR OLDS WITH ADULT PARTICIPATION

FUN Play Tennis and Multi-Skill Activities as a family to encourage healthy, active lifestyles

LEARN New skills and games. Build PE confidence. Improve school readiness with physical literacy and fundamental movements

WHO? Any families living in Craven with children 3-5 years old with an adult participating

WHEN? 9.30am Sundays, 6 weeks blocks, term time

WHERE? Indoors in Sandylands Sports Hall, Skipton. Free parking available.

OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES ACROSS CRAVEN

"A great way to get the family together and do some exercise"



Call, Text or WhatsApp Andrea at HomeStart Craven
07903 892108 to book a place



"Fantastic child centered sessions that we have all enjoyed"

**Try
Learn
Play
Enjoy**

"Enjoyable sessions, my son has learnt new skills and worked as a family team"

Funded by

**HOME
START**



NEW YEAR CAMPS 2025

Awarded LTA UK Club of the Year | Reception to Age 12



TENNIS | FOOTBALL | MULTISPORTS

Dates : Thurs 2 & Fri 3 Jan 2025

Drop off : FREE from 8:30am

9:00am - 3:30pm : £25 / day

3:30pm - 5:00pm : £5 / day



UNRIVALLED FACILITIES :

5 Tennis Courts | Padel Courts | Club House
4G All-Weather Pitch | Sports Hall



SCAN TO BOOK

BOOK YOUR PLACE ONLINE AT skiptontennis.com

**SKIPTON
TENNIS CENTRE**

07875 643780

info@skiptontennis.com

www.skiptontennis.com

