



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

Welcome to our **December Newsletter**. As another year comes to a close, we have lots of things to be thankful for, especially our health as we continue this journey together through a global pandemic. Our wonderful reception pupils have almost made it through their first term and all the pupils across the Federation continue to make us smile every day, always full of enthusiasm and curiosity - with a positive attitude towards their own learning. Thank you to The Federation Team and to our Governors for everything that they have done for us throughout 2021. We still have lots to look forward to leading up to Christmas, including our Nativity and Christmas Party. We are very much looking forward to Christmas Dinner this year which every pupil will be having. A big thank you to Mrs Barrett who always does a wonderful job. Our Christmas Tree is looking beautiful, thank you to those who have brought beautiful baubles for our theme **Winter Stars**; the spirit of Christmas is now all around us! We finish on Friday the 17th of December and look forward to the new year with our pupils starting on Wednesday 5th of January 2021. Thank you for your continued support throughout 2021, we wish you all a very happy and healthy 2022 from all of us at The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools!



Dates for Diaries 2021/22

(Please note diary dates may change due to Covid-19 and dates will also be added)

Wednesday 1st December	Advent Service at St Mary's Church Advent Themed Lunch
Monday 6th December	School: Nativity @ 2.00pm
Friday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 16th December	Christmas Dinner for pupils
Friday 17th December	Christmas Party School closes at (3.30pm) for Christmas Hols
Tuesday 4th January 2022	Teacher INSET Day
Wednesday 5th January 2022	Children return to school (Start of term for pupils)

...On the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11 month, we remembered...

The Children made poppies on sticks and painted poppies on stones to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the British Legion. These were displayed on The Green. On the 11th hour we paid our respects and remembered those who have served our Queen and country and to those whose lives have been lost through War. Thank you to all the pupils who generously contributed to our Poppy Appeal this year.



Our Wonderful Outdoor Space....

Since September, a very exciting development has been taking place in the school grounds. Governors approved the use of our Sports Fund to purchase a multi-purpose climbing frame to enhance the children's opportunities for physical development each break time. Working closely with designers from ESP (Education, Sport and Play Ltd) we were able to create a bespoke set of equipment that complied with National Park planning. This is why our play equipment is made of natural wood and green rope as this blends with our local environment.

The children in school have enjoyed taking it in turns to access the play equipment and the monkey bars are providing a particularly popular challenge! Here are some quotes about our climbing frame from the children:

I really enjoyed climbing on the spider's web – Alexander

The monkey bars are particularly challenging. My favourite part is the climbing frame. I really enjoy having an amazing climbing set in our school – Noah



I loved the monkey bars, but one set of monkey bars, nobody could reach so nobody had a go. My favourite part was the small set of monkey bars which were so fun!!! - Elouisa

Please can we all work together to make sure this space is looked after as it can only be accessed by our pupils during school hours. If you notice anyone on our school grounds (out of hours) please can you let us know as this is classed as trespassing - thank you.

Decorating the Christmas Tree

On Monday 29th the children decorated the Christmas tree using decorations from home as we thought about the season of Advent.



Open Day

A big thank you to those who attended our Federation Open Day for families of pupils who are starting in September 2022. It was lovely to meet you all and celebrate our wonderful school with those who attended.



School Photographs

Thank you to those who supported our School Photo venture this year. Julia thoroughly enjoyed spending time with our team and pupils. We hope you like the photos! <https://www.juliakennedy.com>



Toy Donations

Thank you to those who have asked about toy donations, we do accept toys in good condition for our younger pupils. Please can you let us know what you would like to donate in advance as we have limited storage space. Thank you



Children in Need & Odd Socks Day



Thank you to all the pupils who supported Children in Need this year! Our theme was: Come As Yourself! Our pupils had a fun-filled afternoon completing a variety of educational tasks linking to Pudsey Bear. Our School Council are planning on counting what was raised at their next meeting, we will update you as soon as we know more!

It was lovely to see staff and pupils supporting our Odd Socks Day last month to start our anti-bullying week across our Federation. This showed how we are all different and unique!



Absences & Safeguarding (Illness)

If your child is absent from school, please contact us as soon as possible giving a reason why. If your child is showing symptoms connected to Covid-19, please do a Covid-19 L F test as a precaution to keep everyone as safe as possible as there are still a high number of Covid-19 cases within our local community. Please also refer to our October Newsletter with reference to attendance guidance. If your child has sickness or a poorly tummy, they need to stay at home and be clear from the last tummy upset for 48 hours. Please note we are monitoring individual attendance. We ask that all family holidays are planned during the scheduled holiday period, as other absences have to be recorded as unauthorised (following the DFE code of conduct). Ten unauthorised absences can trigger a fine of £60 (per child). Please note that absences are recorded as AM and PM sessions (two sessions per day); a full week away from school is ten valuable educational sessions missed. We have a legal obligation to report a high number of unauthorised absences to the LEA.



Starlings

Well done to Starlings Class for raising money for Children in Need, and taking part in Joe Wick's workout!

As part of Anti-Bullying Week in the same week, some brave Year 4 pupils planned a child-led Collective Worship, where they talked about our school values of friendship, love, kindness and respect. The following week, Year 2 and 3 pupils did a Road Safety Awareness child-led assembly - sharing road safety rules and advice. All children were given reflective stars to help us stay safe on the roads.



Weather

Due to the cold weather approaching, please make sure that pupils come to school with a waterproof coat and warm accessories. We have experienced icy conditions this week so please be careful when walking to school especially along School Lane and ensure your children are safe and visible.

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 if possible, this will be announced on our school website. 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 and notification will be on the website if possible. Please can you ensure that we have up to date contact numbers for you - Thank you.



We need you!

We are in need of volunteers to join the Friends of Long Preston School Team (FOLPS). This is a very worthy group of volunteers and a much needed resource which we do not want to disappear due to lack of support/volunteers. Every pupil in school benefits in some way from the efforts of this group! If you would like to help in the new year, please do get in touch.



Swimming

(Years 5 & 6 09.11.21 - 07.12.21 5 sessions / Next term:11.01.22 - 15.02.22 6 sessions)

Owls Class have thoroughly enjoyed being back at swimming. We will continue after the Christmas Holiday period. Please can pupils be pool ready on the day of swimming and have swimming costumes on (with underwear to change into after the session), including a towel and goggles. Thank you.

To follow 'The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools' via Twitter - please go to '@FedRibblesdale'

This is a protected account and only confirmed followers will have access to the Tweets and our complete profile.

Please help our followers to grow!

Thank you for your continuing support from all the team at Long Preston EVA School

(Part of The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools)

