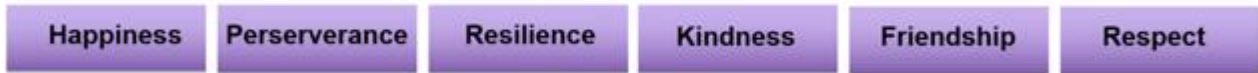




INSPIRE NURTURE BELIEVE ACHIEVE
Working **together** to be the **best** that we can be.



Ecclesiastes 4:9:

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.



12 January 2024 – weekly bulletin

Dear families,

It has been a busy first week back and the children have had a brilliant week. Thank you for your ongoing feedback and support – we are always trying to make things better and as a result we are continuing with our weekly bulletin to share non-urgent messages all in one place.

Ofsted

Sicklinghall recently had their full Section 5 Ofsted inspection (2 days) and although this is a Sicklinghall Community Primary School Report, it also reflects positively upon staff at Goldsborough who work closely with Sicklinghall staff as they share the planning for lessons equally across both sites.

Our excellent Senior Leaders from both schools and the SENCo all lead across the Federation with the same guiding principles.

Leaders have developed bespoke subject curriculums which are comprehensive, well planned and well sequenced. These curriculums underpin the school's ambition of allowing pupils of all abilities, including those with SEND, to succeed...the implementation of the school's curriculum is of a high quality.

School leaders, and those responsible for governance, have high ambition and expectations for all staff and pupils. Staff state that leaders are considerate of their workload. The school has a comprehensive, effective programme.

The comments about EYFS and Maths as part of the core curriculum reflect Mrs Askew and Mrs Thompson's hard work. The Personal Development (which is the very core of all that we do) and the work led by Mrs Richards and myself is driven by all members of staff in the federation consistently meaning that children at Goldsborough also receive Outstanding Personal Development too.

We have attached a copy of the report for you to see so you can understand the positive progress that has occurred at **both schools**.

The best course of action that everyone can be involved in to support our small schools is to 'sing from the roof' about the wonderful things that we offer. With the support of the community sharing positive celebrations widely about our schools, we look forward to seeing them continue to prosper long into the future.

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Healthy Schools

In early November, Mrs Richards was able to submit the plethora of evidence we had gathered for the sections: '**Emotional Health and Wellbeing**' and '**Staff Wellbeing**' to the Local Authority (LA) resulting in the Silver Healthy Schools Accreditation being awarded to school. This follows on from the first submission for the PSHE section which allowed us to gain the Bronze award from the LA's Healthy School's Team last time.

We are so proud of achieving the accreditation for these sections as they reflect what staff and children regularly say to the Senior Education Advisors and what they said to Ofsted very recently for Sickinghall and in July 2022 at Goldsborough.



Healthy Schools
North Yorkshire

As a Federation we have been collating evidence towards Food in Schools and Active Lives sections of the Healthy Schools Award too and these will be submitted in due course / when the submission re-opens.

PE kit and uniform

Mr Colley has noticed that children are not always in appropriate P.E kit and also that they are wearing jewellery / wish bracelets / necklaces and other non-uniform items during P.E. **P.E kit should be brought on a Monday and taken home on a Friday.**

National guidance on personal effects is given in 'safe practice in physical education and school sport', published by the association for physical education (afPE). Website: www.afpe.org.uk.

Personal effects (e.g. jewellery, religious adornments, watches, hair slides, belts, spectacles, hearing aids) constitute a hazard if worn while participating in physical activity and should be removed beforehand. Taping over ear studs is not recommended as a solution.

Earrings cannot be made safe if the child doesn't remove them so they cannot take part in the activity e.g. P.E or go swimming with them in.

It is preferable for earrings not to be worn in school (ideally, they should be worn outside of school e.g. weekends) but where they are worn they must only be **small, flat studs**.

Children with long hair **must** have it tied back on P.E days.

Please ensure that children **do not wear additional jewellery to school at all**. School cannot take responsibility for items that are lost or broken. **Nail varnish and make-up are not part of school uniform.**

Appropriate school-shoes are part of the expected uniform.

Headlice

Sadly, despite the two-week break from school we are still seeing nits on some children. Headlice are nothing to do with dirty hair or environments and we are keen to ensure that there is no stigma around this. There's nothing we at school or families at home can do to prevent head lice, however, **we can help to stop them spreading by wet or dry combing regularly with a very fine tooth comb to catch them early.**

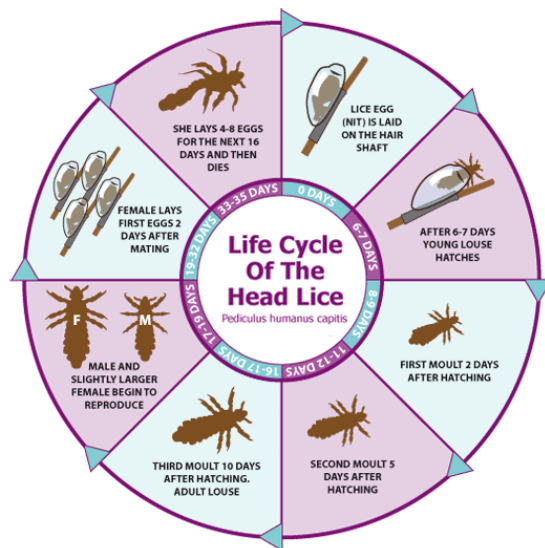
Nits are lice eggs laid by the adult female head louse at the base of the hair shaft nearest the scalp. Nits are firmly attached to the hair shaft and are oval-shaped and very small (about the size of a knot in thread) and hard to see. **They may just look like flakes of dry skin from the scalp which is very common during these colder months.**

An adult louse climbs onto the hair and lays about 6 to 10 nits a day, which take about 9 days to hatch. So if you look on the scalp and see no visible adult lice and several small nits, it's likely that you've caught lice in the earlier stages and had them for less than 2 weeks. **At this stage, relentless combing several times per day is vital (alongside treatment) to remove all nits before they become active lice which are then more likely to jump between heads in close proximity.**

An adult head louse can **live about 30 days on a person's head** but will die within one or two days if it falls off a person. This means if just one tiny louse is not found, it will continue to follow the process above – laying about 6 to 10 nits a day, which take about 9 days to hatch, thus creating a cycle that is hard to break.

Typical Life Cycle of Head Lice

1. Lice egg (Nit) is laid on the hair shaft
2. Lice egg (Nit) hatches in 6-7 days
3. Baby louse (Nymph) has First moult 2 days after hatching
4. Second moult 5 days after hatching.
5. Third moult 10 days after hatching, now a full-grown adult louse.
6. Male and slightly larger female begin to reproduce
7. Female lays first eggs 2 days after mating
8. Female lays 4-8 eggs a day for the next 16 days and then dies



The only way to help prevent the spread is for everyone to stop the life-cycle occurring.

Please check your child's head and hair this weekend by combing with a nit comb (conditioner helps to slide the comb teeth through hair) and checking the hair thoroughly each day initially. Even if you do not think they have nits, this process is vital (as they are very hard to see with the naked eye) several times during the life cycle.

Continuing to do this next week too will help control the situation.

If you see lice and or nits please start treatment immediately. This requires daily (minimum) combing with a fine toothcomb over several days. Combing more than once a day is advisable. Special shampoos alone will not get rid of headlice.

There is no reason for children to stay off school. However, if this problem persists, it may be advisable to take your child home during the school day to begin the combing and treatment process before the transfer is made to lots of other children. Please ensure that children have their hair tied back as much as possible moving forwards.

We appreciate your support with this matter.

Sycamore go Swimming!

A reminder to Sycamore parents that swimming starts on Monday. Please remember to pack a **towel** and **swimsuit** in a bag for your child.

Children must wear trunks or swimming shorts (not long board shorts) or a full bathing suit. Bikinis are not suitable for swimming lessons. The children **do not** need shampoo or other toiletries.

You may wish to pack an extra snack in your child's bag to eat after swimming.

Thank you for swimming payments received from some parents. If you have not paid please consider paying weekly to spread the cost – thank you.

KS1 Dance with Mr Colley Jan/Feb 2024

Mr Colley is running a short course of three dance lessons for KS1 children. Thursday nights, 3.15pm to 4.15pm on 18th, 25th January and 1st February only. Sessions are £4.50 each so £13.50 total. Limited to 12 children on a first come first served basis. Please give your permission on ParentPay. If you require childcare after 4.15pm please book After School Club with Mrs Clayton.

Planners and Reading Books must be in school **every day** – they are taken home and brought to school daily.

Please listen to your child read aloud – even up to Year 6, log their reading and sign their planners weekly.

Dolce Diner Day

Dolce are offering a special Diner Day menu on Thursday 18 January. Please order the usual way via School Grid.

2024/2025 School Term Dates

There has been a revision to the 2024/2025 school calendar. The training day that was scheduled for Tuesday 3 September has been removed, meaning that children will now be expected in school on this date. The revised training day is Friday 29 November 2024. Children will not attend school on this day.

We have been asked to forward this message from St Mary's Church to all parents:

Our beautiful village church of St Mary's is at a crossroads!

You may know that the heating system is no longer fit for purpose and needs replacing.

We believe this could be an opportunity to consider making the church more of a community space, whilst still maintaining its spiritual life. For example, should we remove the pews to allow for more comfortable flexible seating for wider community use?

To this end, we would like to invite you to an open forum discussion in the church at 10am on Sunday 28th January 2024.

Please come and have your say – we value your opinions, ideas and suggestions. Thank you.

Have a great weekend!



Mrs Zoe Ellis
Executive Headteacher