

At Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale Schools we are **KIND**:

Kind and accepting
Independent learners
Never giving up
Determined to be our personal best

Under God's guidance, we teach children the importance of *kindness* towards others, tolerance and mutual *respect*. This empowers children to have the *courage* to achieve their personal best.

Psalm 145:17

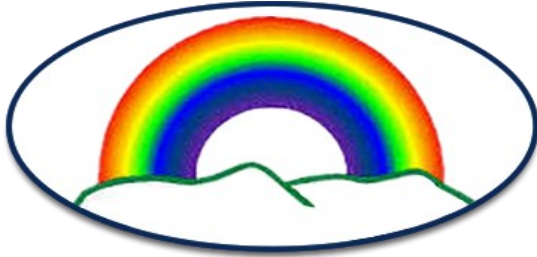
'The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works'

Luke 2:40

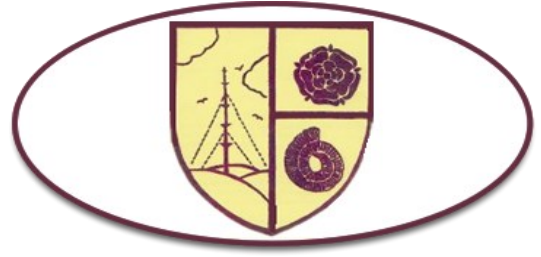
'And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom...'

We uphold these values through our golden rules:

- Be ready
- Be respectful
- Be safe



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The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale CE Federation Newsletter

Friday 20th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's Christmas! Thank you so much to all families and friends who joined us for our Christingle service this afternoon at St Botolph's Church, the children did a great job and I hope everyone left with a surge in their Christmas spirit! It was also lovely to see so many people at both the Christmas Craft session on Monday and the book viewing on Tuesday—we love having parents and carers join us in school to celebrate the children's successes.

I hope that everyone has a brilliant Christmas break—we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 7th January.

With best wishes for a wonderful Christmas,

Mr. M. Scott

Executive Headteacher

Attendance—our whole school target is 96%.

Bilsdale—97.2%

Carlton—94.5%



Awards



Star of the Week—Scarlett K, Isaac, Penelope, Bea, Eliza, Zara

Kindness Award—Annie, Eve, Rory, Fonzie, Hugo, Thomas, Willow

Handwriting Award—All Reception, Charlie

Awards

Vision Award—Gene, George, Miles, Tadhg, Alice, Jack, Zeff

Headteacher Hot Chocolate—Returns in 2025!

Mathematics Awards

Y3/4—1st Hugo, 2nd Lucia, 3rd Sam

Y5/6—1st Harry, 2nd Jake, 3rd Sammy

Notes

Collection Candles

Children brought home collection candles earlier this week. If you'd like to, you can fill them with change over the festive period and return to school in the new year and we will donate the proceeds to the Children's Society. This charity provides the resources needed to run a Christingle service.



Collective Worship

Our two final advent workshops focussed on the shepherds and Mary. Why not have a go at the attached Advent game in the lead up to Christmas to remind the whole family of its significance?



Safeguarding

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for the federation is Matthew Scott. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for Bilsdale is Rachel Grundmann and for Carlton is Diane Jeffries. The Safeguarding Lead Governor is John Ford.

If you have concerns about the safety of a child please speak to one of the staff named above. If you have concerns outside of school hours, please follow [this link](#) to the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership website.

News from the Classes

Little Owls and Class 1

Little Owls have enjoyed lots of sensory time outside with our water tray - complete with festive glitter and snow! We have continued to sing songs and rhymes during carpet time and the children have been doing so well. A big thank you to all the parents and grandparents who attended the Christmas sing along. The children really enjoyed you coming to join in with them and a big thank you for the positive feedback you gave us!

It has been another fabulous week in Reception! This week we have been super busy completing our end of term phonics assessments and the children have all worked incredibly hard. During our shared reading sessions, the children have been learning about 'Top Dogs'. In maths, we have enjoyed lots of Christmas fun with the Number Blocks!

A big well done to everyone for all your hard work and determination this half term.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Carlton and Bilsdale KS1

We've made it to the end of a long first term and what a fun and busy one it has been. The transition from Reception to Year 1 and from Year 1 to Year 2 is challenging, but all the children have shown determination, perseverance and tried their hardest all term long. This week the hard work has continued, and children have completed a super piece of writing, putting their phonics knowledge into play with 'brave' writing, attempting to spell words independently. To end our term, we have been thinking about the highlights so far in Class 2. Here are just a few of the children's thoughts:

Aoife - I have enjoyed our phonics and learning my joins and in science I loved learning about our senses, especially our taste testing.

Penelope - I have enjoyed doing my independent writes.

Rocco - Learning about the 1950s has been great. I think life is better now.

Dolly - I've got better at maths and really enjoy it now!

Noah - I've enjoyed maths and learnt loads of new things.

Lavinia - Writing about 'The Building Boy' was good and I liked turning positives into negatives.

Alice - I have enjoyed everything!

Carlton and Bilsdale KS2

What a term! The sunny first days in September seem such a long time ago. We have had a packed and busy term and can already see progress in confidence as well as skills and knowledge. The children are increasing in independence and, with continued determination next year, we are sure everyone will continue to grow and shine. Here are a few of the children's highlights from this term.

Ada - This term I enjoyed Invasion. My best part was when we went to Jorvik.

Sam - I like the digestion especially when I saw what food was like when it was in the stomach.

Arthur - A favourite part of this term was the disclosing tablet because I got to see how good I was at brushing my teeth.

Scarlett - I like PSHE because I liked playing the games.

Zeff - My highlight was the Dig because I liked it when we looked for artefacts.

Eva - I liked the times tables and my favourite maths lessons were area.

Eliza - I found the sound poem fun and it was my first time typing an independent write on the newsletter.

Lluna - I have enjoyed maths because I have improved my fractions.

Fonzie - I like when the Sikh came to school. He answered all our questions.

Devon - I liked the football tournament and I got to score the first goal for our team.

Diary Dates

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----|-------------|
| Monday 6th January | Staff training day—school closed to children | All | n/a |
| Tuesday 7th January | School re-opens for children | All | n/a |
| Friday 31st January | Road safety competition entries back to school by today | All | Letter sent |
| Friday 14th February | School closes for half term | All | n/a |

Carlton Sports & Social Committee

Christmas Carols

With Guisborough Citadel Salvation Army Band and The Reverend Andrew Robinson introducing the carols.

Friday 20th December 2024 outside
The Blackwell Ox, Carlton, 7pm

To follow, come all ye faithful and join us for a mulled wine and mince pie in The Blackwell Ox.



Leaver

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Cooper who is leaving us after the Christmas break after 6 years—we're incredibly grateful to her for all of her hard work over the years and know she will be missed. Happily, we will still see her from time-to-time on a supply basis. Miss Jeffries and I successfully appointed a replacement for Mrs Cooper earlier this week, further information to follow once the usual checks are complete.



Christmas Craft Afternoon

Thank you to all who made it to our Christmas craft afternoon on Monday, it was lovely to see so many friends and family members in school.



Christmas Lunch

Thank you to Mrs Myers and Mrs Read who cooked up a fantastic Christmas lunch yesterday—everyone agreed it was delicious!



PTFA

A huge thank you to our brilliant PTFA who have organised several Christmas events over the past couple of weeks, including the Christmas party, chocolate raffle and choir performance. We really appreciate the efforts of all involved as it not only provides wonderful opportunities for the children but also raises funds to be used in school. The pantomime tickets, children's gifts and books for classrooms were all paid for this month from PTFA funds—thank you!



Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets for our Christmas raffle, and congratulations to the winners. We raised over £170 for school funds. Thank you also to everyone who donated prizes, especially Lordstones, Fletcher's Farm and Redcar Bears Speedway for the vouchers.



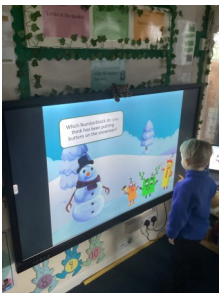
Christmas Dinner

A big thank you to Mrs Myers and Mrs Read for the fantastic Christmas lunch yesterday—it was delicious!



EYFS

Everyone in Class 1 had a brilliant time on Thursday with their Santa read along.



Amazon Wish Lists

Thank you to everyone for their generous donations so far, they've really made a difference to our class libraries.

Class 1 wish list—https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/38P02L2MODMMF?ref_=wl_share

Class 2 wish list— https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3J2NFXCAPY3X0?ref_=wl_share

Class 3 wish list— https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1D1LRFQKJAL0V?ref_=wl_share

Class 4 wish list— https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/27YYASPC0H143?ref_=wl_share

Bilsdale wish list— https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/LP095CM3BW3V?ref_=wl_share



IMPORTANT HOLIDAY INFORMATION

The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale CE Federation is now closed for the Christmas break. We hope you have a wonderful holiday! Staff may check their emails periodically but please do not expect a response before Monday 6th January.

If you are concerned about the safety of a child during this time please use the following contacts:

- North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership telephone - 0300 131 2 131
- More information about making a referral - <https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/aboutus/worried-about-a-child/>
- If you have serious, immediate concerns about a child call the Police on 999.

If you're a child who needs help, here are the details for Childline:

- Phone - 0800 1111
- Website - <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

If you're struggling with food, here are some links:

- Hambleton Food Share - <https://dev1.hambletonfoodshare.org.uk/>
- Middlesbrough Food Bank - <https://middlesbrough.foodbank.org.uk/>

Worried about your child's time online? Here is some advice from the NSPCC - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Struggling with domestic abuse? Here is some information on how to get help - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help>

Need help with your mental health? Advice can be found here – <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/mental-health-services/>



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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**Fun & athletics
for all Primary
School children***

*aged 4-11, ideally not for kids currently
in a running club

Athletics Course



**Starts Sat 11th Jan
for 8 weeks**

**Knayton Sports Hall
11am-12 noon**

Only £50 per child

**Glen Hilton, athletics
coach and former England
international athlete, will
teach our youngsters the
fundamentals of athletics
and endurance running.**

For more details contact Glen Hilton:
hiltonglen444@gmail.com



Location address: Hillside Rural Activities Park, Knayton, Thirsk YO7 4AX