

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

Final week reminders

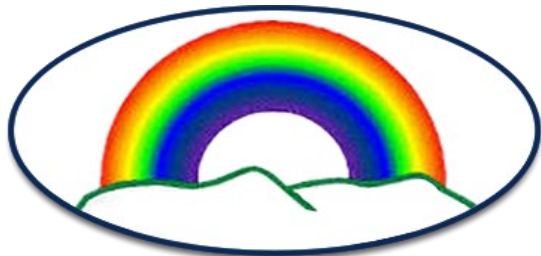
<u>Day</u>	<u>Reminder</u>
All week	No clubs this week with the exception of Wisdom of the Woods which will run as normal. Wraparound care available as usual with the exception of Friday after school
Monday 15th December	Christmas Craft Afternoon—parents welcome to attend, please arrive at the back gate at Carlton for 1.10pm
Tuesday 16th December	Bilsdale Christmas Service for Bilsdale families—9.30am start Children's books on display in their classrooms after school for parents to view
Wednesday 17th December	Bilsdale at Carlton all day Pantomime trip Reception and Little Owls 'Sing-Along' - 2.30pm at Carlton, parents welcome
Thursday 18th December	Bilsdale at Carlton all day Christmas dinner and jumper day PTFA chocolate raffle
Friday 19th December	Bilsdale at Carlton all day Carol service at St Botolph's, Carlton—2pm start, families welcome No after school care today

Sickness

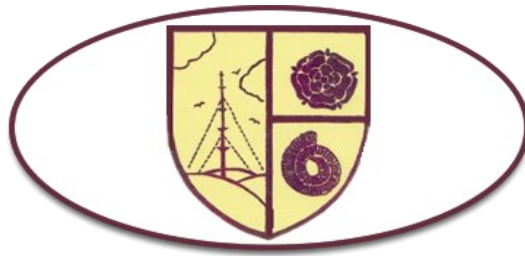
Please can we remind all parents and carers of the federation's policy on children returning to school after an episode of sickness. If your child has been sick they should not return to school until 48 hours after their final episode of vomiting. This is because the infection can spread between individuals during this period.

Please help us to support the attendance and wellbeing of all children by following this rule. Starting on Monday, if children are in school within this time frame we will be calling listed contacts to request immediate collection. Thank you for your support.





K
I
N
D



The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale CE Federation Newsletter

Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a very busy week with lots of activities to get us all well and truly into the Christmas spirit! Monday saw the return of Urban Kaos dance group who worked with all classes on a Christmas themed dance workshop. The children had a great time and we had some lovely feedback from the staff.

Wednesday saw our rehearsal for the nativity performance, with Thursday being the 'big day'! We are so proud of all of the performers for living out our vision by 'never giving up' and being 'determined to be our personal best' - there were lots of shining stars on the stage and I don't just mean Reception children!

Next week is just as busy as we lead up to the end of term so please check the diary dates as well as the letter sent and emailed earlier in the term—just ask at the office if you need a new copy.

With best wishes for a peaceful weekend,

Mr. M. Scott Executive Headteacher

Attendance—our whole school target is 96%.

Bilsdale— **91%**

Carlton—**94.5%**

National Average—95%



Awards

Star of the Week—Darcy, Bea, Lavinia, Isabel

Kindness Award— Ellie, Scarlett K, Lyla, Bonnie

Handwriting Award—Isaac D, George

Vision Award— Reception, Bilsdale, Class 2, Class 3, Class 4

Headteacher Hot Chocolate— Ted, Scarlett K, Henry, Arthur



Awards

TTRS Y3/4 — 1st Toby, 2nd Charlie, 3rd Aoife

TTRS Y5/6 — 1st Lydia, 2nd Zara, 3rd Buddy



Music of the Week

Next week's music of the week is 'The Bare Necessities' by Bruce Reitherman and Phil Harris.



Notes

Bilsdale Service

At the request of Rev. Anne, the service on Tuesday (Bilsdale families only) has been moved from church to Bilsdale School and will start at 9.30am. Parents and families are warmly invited to attend—refreshments will be available for any families who would like to wait for the service to begin at 9.30am

Collective Worship

In No Outsiders this week, we considered looking at disability in a positive way. Read more about the story here: <https://ks1no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2025/12/glitter-girl.html>



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

Carlton and Bilsdale EYFS

What a magical week we have had in EYFS! We started our festive celebrations with the Urban Kaos Christmas Spectacular where the children enjoyed dancing, singing and moving together, there were lots of smiles and sparkle all round!

The fun continued outdoors with a Festive Forest School session (Understanding the World / Seasonal Changes). The children explored the winter environment and enjoyed creating beautiful Christmas trees using natural materials. Meanwhile, our Little Owls had a wonderfully creative afternoon of Christmas activities including making Nativity stick puppets and taking part in fine motor pencil-control work linked to the Nativity theme.

In RE, this week we continued to focus our understanding why the story of Jesus' birth is so important to Christians. We read the Nativity story together and listened out for each visitor to Baby Jesus and played a joyful game of "Knock, knock!" Through discussion and exploration, children learned about the Wise Men and their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, thinking carefully about what each gift symbolises.

On Wednesday, Reception joined the whole school for a full day rehearsing our Nativity performance at Chop Gate, while Little Owls continued their festive learning adventures back in class. They enjoyed sharing 'The Gruffalo's Child' by Julia Donaldson. The children joined in with repeated phrases, explored the idea of being "brave" and acted out parts of the story using puppets and soft toys.

It has been a wonderfully busy, exciting and festive week full of learning, creativity and Christmas joy. We look forward to even more magical moments next week!

Carlton & Bilsdale KS1

This has been a week of fun and excitement as the lead up to Christmas continues.

We began the week with a fun and festive Christmas dance session with Urban Kaos. The children created some amazing moves to some favourite festive tunes, sang, did a catwalk of their best moves and then put everything they had learnt together to form a simple but very effective street dance routine. As they completed their dance, they were surprised by a shower of snow - very exciting!

Forest School continued the festive feel, as children completed their Christmas trees using knots and lashings and a variety of coloured wools.

Of course, we have still continued with our learning - working through our phonics, writing some super sentences in English, exploring 2D and 3D shapes and concluding our work on animal parts in science. We still have much to do, but the children are not losing their focus and determination to do and be the best they can be. Next week we will conclude our work on Victorian school days, deciding if school was better then or now and learning about a significant figure from the past.

The highlight of our week has definitely been performing for our grown ups in the nativity, 'Are We Nearly There Yet?' I am so very proud of how all the children have learnt their words, acted, sung and performed in front of an audience, a very huge task for anyone, especially in KS1. A huge well done to all of you - you were all absolutely brilliant!

Carlton & Bilsdale KS2

The performing arts have been centre stage of our week: dancing, acting and singing. On Monday, the children really enjoyed their dance session with Urban Kaos. Many commented on being able to choreograph a section of the routine and enjoying the final performance with its special ending. The other highlight of the week was, of course, the nativity. We children loved having an audience and, as always, performed with enthusiasm and gusto.

The children have also completed this half term's art unit, Taotie. These gluttonous creatures from Chinese mythology appear on ancient Chinese bronze artefacts, such as masks and ritual vessels called dings. The children made designs on a card base which they then pressed into clay. Plaster of Paris was poured on top. After waiting patiently for this to harden, the children peeled off the mould to reveal their cast and were both surprised and delighted with the results.

Diary Dates

Monday 15th December	Christmas Craft Afternoon Families welcome	Rec-Y6	Letter sent
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas service at Bilsdale Midcable Chop Gate School. Families welcome. <u>Please note: changed from the church to school for logistics</u>	Bilsdale	Letter sent
Tuesday 16th December	Children's work on display in classrooms after school	Rec-Y6	n/a
Wednesday 17th December	Pantomime at Yarm School	Rec-Y6	Letter sent
Wednesday 17th December	Little Owls and Reception Sing Along, 2.30pm	Little Owls and Reception	Letter sent
Thursday 18th December	Christmas dinner and jumper day— <u>Bilsdale at Carlton all day</u>	All	Letter sent
Thursday 18th December	PTFA chocolate raffle draw	All	Info. on newsletter
Friday 19th December	Carol service, 2pm. St Botolph's, Carlton Families welcome	All	Letter sent
Friday 19th December	School closes for Christmas No after school care today	All	n/a
Monday 5th January 2026	Staff training day—school closed for children	All	n/a
Tuesday 6th January	School re-opens for all children	All	n/a
Friday 9th January	Library in	All	n/a
WC Monday 12th January	Swimming and clubs re-start	All	Info. to follow

