

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

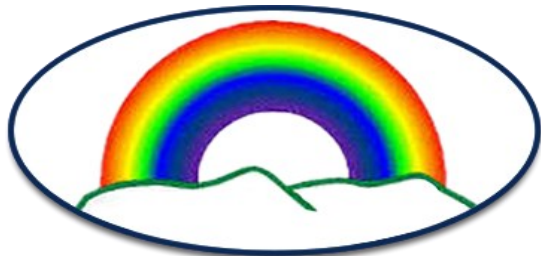
‘The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works’

Luke 2:40

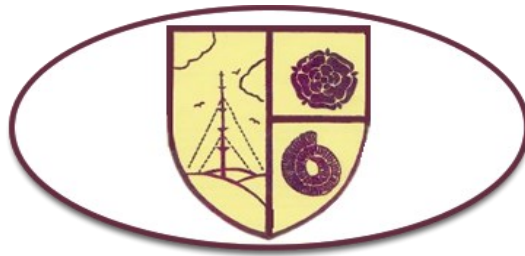
‘And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom...’

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 12th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been our first full week back in school and there has been lots of fantastic learning packed in! I visited every classroom this week as part of our ongoing monitoring schedule to examine learning environments and was very pleased to not only see well organised classrooms but also lots of hard-working, resilient children living out our vision to 'never give up' and be 'determined to be our personal best'.

Don't forget that for those children who received swimming letters, lessons resume on Monday and children should be collected from the pool at 3.30pm.

We have 2 staff vacancies at the moment, more info is contained in the newsletter. Please feel free to share them with anyone who might be interested.

With best wishes for a relaxing weekend,

Mr. M. Scott

Executive Headteacher

Attendance—our whole school target is 96%.

Bilsdale—96.4%

Carlton **92.3%**

National Average—94.5%



Awards



Star of the Week—Bea, Ellie, Lydia, Noah, Isaac L, Annie, Bonnie, Hugo

Kindness Award— Jasper, Arthur, Olivia, Anna

Handwriting Award—Ted, Ellie, George,

Corridor King/Queen— Zeff and Penelope

Vision Award— Louis, Zara, Cruz, Eboni

Headteacher Hot Chocolate— Frank, Olive, Zeff, Oscar, Anna

Maths Awards

Y3/4— 1st Beth, 2nd Zeff, 3rd Toby

Y5/6— 1st Sammy, 2nd Hugo, 3rd Bonnie



Music of the Week



Next week's music of the week is 'Linstead Market' - Jamaican folk song.

Notes

Fashion Club

Please note that fashion club will be on Thursday next week (18th) due to staff availability.

Church

Children from Rec-Y6 at Carlton will visit St Botolph's Church on Thursday morning for collective worship led by Father David. No permission is necessary, if you have any queries please just call the office.

Collective Worship

This week's No Outsiders fitted perfectly with our KIND vision—why not take a look at the info on [this link](#) and talk with your children about it at home.



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 Reception

It was a great start to the week with our very first Forest School session, an introduction to seasonal changes. The children were curious and enthusiastic about spotting early signs of autumn, showing playing and exploring by engaging with the natural world and trying new experiences.

In phonics, we continued the story of 'Nip and Nap Explore Earth' and practised blending and segmenting the sounds Aa, Tt and Ii. The children demonstrated active learning as they concentrated, listened carefully and showed persistence in recalling and using their new sounds.

During our mastering number sessions, we joined in with counting songs and rhymes that used the counting numbers going forwards, such as "1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive." This encouraged creating and thinking critically as children began to recognise patterns & sequences and applied this knowledge in playful contexts.

Both Reception and Little Owls enjoyed sharing the story 'My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes' by Eve Sutton. We all identified the rhyming words and had a wonderful discussion about the different boxes in which the cat likes to hide. Inspired by the story, the children created their own cat boxes using a range of materials. This was an excellent opportunity for playing and exploring, as the children developed their own ideas and used what they knew in imaginative ways.

In PSHE, we met 'Jigsaw Jenie' and 'Jerrie Cat'. The children shared their feelings and talked about how it feels to belong, as well as recognising how we are similar and different. This supported active learning, as they listened, reflected and developed confidence in expressing themselves within the group.

It has been a fantastic week filled with discovery, creativity and collaboration. Well done, everyone! Have a well-earned rest this weekend!

What you can do at home to help:

- *Share your child's reading book together every day. Encourage them to talk about the story and notice any sounds we have been learning so far (Ss Aa, Tt, Ii).*
- *Counting practice - sing number songs, count steps as you walk, or count toys as you tidy up.*
- *Autumn spotting walk - look for signs of seasonal change, such as leaves changing colour, conkers or acorns and talk about what you see.*



News from the Classes

Carlton & Bilsdale KS1

Class 2 have enjoyed another busy week of super learning. Our Year 1 children are now confident in their new routines and classroom organisation and the Year 2 children have all risen to the challenge of putting our K.I.N.D. values into action; helping the new children, being independent learners and being determined to do and be their best.

In Year 1 this week our phonics sounds have been igh, which we can write as i (for child), i-e (for time) and ie (for pie). In Year 2 we have focussed on refreshing our knowledge of ai, which we can write as ai (for snail), ay (for tray), eigh (for eight),

a (for acorn), ea (for break), ei (for reindeer), ey (for prey) and a-e (for lake). What a complicated language we have! Why not see if you can spot any of our sounds when you are sharing a story over the weekend. Who will find the most?

In maths we have focussed on careful counting and how to represent numbers of objects using cubes and counters. Counting in 1s, 5s and 10s forwards and backwards helps with number confidence and the children are practising correct number formation as they complete their workbooks.

Starting next week, some children will bring home one of our new book packs. There will be a non-fiction bag, a story bag and a poetry bag. Each comes with a card to explain how to use it and a book to record their thoughts, favourite parts or a picture. These will stay at home for a week and then be passed on to someone else. What a lovely record we will have of our reading adventures as the year progresses. We look forward to seeing what the children will contribute.

Forest School learning this week linked with our work on seasonal change, finding natural objects which are already beginning to change as the weather slowly changes. We were very lucky to have sunshine for our first session, but please remember to send a complete change of clothing and suitable footwear for Monday afternoon. Thank you.

Carlton and Bilsdale KS2

It's been a productive week in KS2 with the launch of new topics in different subjects. Our first maths unit is place value. The children have been developing their understanding of the number system reading and writing numbers of increasing value: Y3 working up to 1000, Y4 to 10,000, Y5/6 to 1,000,000. We've looked at the value of each digit using place value grids to represent numbers, show the position of each digit and emphasised the importance of place holding zeros. Next week we will be positioning numbers on a number line a skill which helps with ordering and rounding numbers.

In science, we have introduced forces identifying them as pushes and pulls. Forces are invisible but we can see the effects of forces as they may change the speed, direction or shape of an object. We briefly discussed how forces are helpful as friction stops us falling over and if there was no gravity, objects would be flying around. Over the next few weeks, we will explore friction and gravity in more detail with the children engaging in practical investigations. There's lots to look forward to in the weeks ahead.



Diary Dates

Monday 15th September	KS2 swimming starts today	KS2 swimming group	Letter sent
Thursday 18th September	Carlton children visiting church for collective worship	Carlton Rec-Y6	Info. on newsletter
Monday 29th September	Skip 2B Fit Day—all children in PE kit today please. <u>Bilsdale at Carlton all day</u>	All	n/a
Friday 3rd October	Harvest service, 2pm, St Botolph's, Carlton Families welcome	All	Letter sent
WC Monday 6th October	NSPCC Kindness Challenge	All	More info. to follow
Friday 10th October	No Outsiders book viewing, Carlton Village Hall—3pm onwards	All	Info. sent
Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th October	Parent Teacher Consultations	Rec-Y6	More info. to follow
Thursday 16th October	Flu immunisations	Rec-Y6	Email sent
Friday 24th October	School closes for half term	All	n/a
Friday 31st October	Deadline for secondary school applications via North Yorkshire LA	Y6	Letter sent
Monday 3rd November	Staff training day—school closed for children	All	n/a
Tuesday 4th November	School re-opens for children	All	n/a
Monday 10th November	Odd Socks Day	All	More info. to follow
Tuesday 11th November	Bilsdale children attending Chop Gate Remembrance Service	Bilsdale	More info. to follow
Friday 14th November	Children in Need	All	More info. to follow
Wednesday 10th December	Full day rehearsal at Chop Gate Village Hall	Rec-Y6	More info. to follow
Thursday 11th December	Nativity at Chop Gate Village Hall, 2pm	Rec-Y6	More info. to follow
Monday 15th December	Christmas Craft Afternoon	Rec-Y6	More info. to follow
Wednesday 17th December	Pantomime at Yarm School	Rec-Y6	More info. to follow
Thursday 18th December	Christmas dinner and jumper day— <u>Bilsdale at Carlton all day</u>	All	More info. to follow
Friday 19th December	Carol service, 2pm. St Botolph's, Carlton Families welcome	All	More info. to follow
Friday 19th December	School closes for Christmas No after school care today	All	n/a

We're hiring!

We're looking for a Midday Supervisor and a General Teaching Assistant (SEND) to join our team—further details via these links:



- Midday Supervisor - <https://nycjobs.engageats.co.uk/Vacancies/W/5374/0/456828/20078/midday-supervisory-assistant>
- General Teaching Assistant (SEND) - <https://nycjobs.engageats.co.uk/Vacancies/W/5349/0/456957/20078/general-teaching-assistant-send>

Apples

The children at Bilsdale had a brilliant time picking apples from the tree on the field this week—there is a bumper crop this year! They then used their place value knowledge to count the harvest before taking some home to enjoy.



Flu immunisations

Dear Parent/Guardian,
Vaccination UK is attending your child's school to provide flu vaccinations. For your child to receive their nasal flu vaccination in school, please complete a YES consent form using the link below. The nasal spray is quick, painless and is the most effective option for under 18's.
If your child cannot have the nasal spray, the injectable flu vaccine is available, and you will be able to choose that method on the consent form.
If you DO NOT wish for your child to have a flu vaccination, please complete a NO consent via the same link.

[Vaccination UK Immunisation](#)



The Carlton & Faceby and Bilsdale CE Federation

Executive Headteacher - Mr. M. Scott



OPEN OCTOBER

Is your child starting school in September 2026? Come and see our nurturing learning environments where children thrive.
Call us to make an appointment to visit our wonderful schools.

"This is a truly inclusive school. Leaders have high aspirations for all pupils and the curriculum reflects this."

Bilsdale Midcable Chop Gate CE School OFSTED, May 2023

"Pupils enjoy being part of their school community. Staff and pupils describe the school as like being part of one big family."

Carlton & Faceby CE School OFSTED, January 2023



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about VIRTUAL REALITY

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PREMATURE EXPOSURE

13+

While VR has already found its way into schools worldwide – allowing teachers to take their class on digital field trips – most manufacturers advise an age restriction of 13. This safeguard is based on the idea that children's brains, eyes and bodies are still developing. With the technology still in its infancy, not enough research has been conducted as to how VR affects children in the longer term.

EYE STRAIN

One of the main worries about VR is that essentially having TV screens so close to your eyes could harm them with prolonged use. Lenses inside each headset have been specifically designed to trick the human eye into focusing to infinity (just as they would in the real world) to mitigate possible eye strain. Even so, longer VR sessions should be limited to adults only.

PHYSICAL ACCIDENTS

When used correctly, VR isn't dangerous as there are safety features built in. A common concern is that a child wearing a headset could bump into real-world objects while playing – so creating a clear, tidy gaming space is essential. Headsets also come with 'Guardian' or digital barrier systems that can be set up beforehand, indicating where walls and furniture are located so nobody trips over and hurts themselves.

Virtual reality (VR for short) has existed for decades, but it's only in the last 10 years that the technology has really become publicly available. With VR's rapid rise as a gaming and educational medium, there are plenty of unknowns regarding its use – for adults and children alike. Is it safe? How long should someone use VR for? How expensive is it? What's clear is that VR is becoming ever more ubiquitous in everyday life: from companies using it for training to at-home fitness. Knowing what the technology is capable of is more useful than ever.

SOCIAL VR

VR is more immersive than normal gaming and makes players feel very present in the moment. There are additional online safety fears, therefore, relating to trolling and abusive comments as players engage with each other in social VR spaces. Personal information shouldn't be given out and privacy and safety controls (who can see your real name, for example) need to be activated where possible.

MOTION SICKNESS

Children who are prone to travel sickness might encounter what's known as 'simulator sickness'. This is nausea caused by the eyes seeing images which tell the brain that the person is moving, while the rest of the body knows it is stationary. Most apps have features to reduce this discomfort, while some games simply don't feature locomotion to make for a more comfortable experience.

VIOLENT CONTENT

Among the growing range of VR games and apps, not all of them are appropriate for young players. Violent content can be far more visceral and disturbing in VR, so it's important to consider the age and maturity of your child before giving them access to this type of gameplay. As the majority of VR content is digital, online store access is easy – so careful curation is advised.

Advice for Parents & Carers

START OFF SLOWLY

Just like regular video games, if your child wants to try VR the best way to reduce risks is moderation. Keep their VR sessions to short stints – and for young adults new to the technology, build up their usage time gradually to let them get acquainted with it. If they feel any discomfort, remove the headset and try again at a later point.

NO SURPRISES

It's easy to get lost in the moment in VR – and possibly forget where you might be standing in the real world. A minimum 2m x 2m play area is recommended, with no plant pots or other delicate objects within reach of flailing arms. Take pets into account, too: don't let the cat or dog walk into the room, for example, because a VR player won't see them and could certainly trip. A child is far more likely to get over-enthusiastic in VR, posing a risk to themselves and anything in their path.

KEEP A WATCHING BRIEF

It may seem that a VR player is in their own world, but all VR headsets allow external viewing via a linked monitor or mobile phone. This is the best way to ensure whatever a child is playing is appropriate. More VR supervision tools are on the way, such as securing specific apps behind unlock patterns or sending an approval notification to the parent if their child wants to purchase a game.

ANTI-NAUSEA OPTIONS

It's wise to get used to VR while comfortably seated and progress to standing or 'room-scale' VR (where players physically walk around an area) later. Look at the in-app options first: switching between seated and standing adjusts the player's height, while a vignette or 'tunnel' darkens the peripheral vision to reduce nausea. Teleportation Mode and Snap Turning are also important options for enhancing comfort.

RESEARCH CONTENT

There will be information online about most games and apps, explaining what type of experience they provide. They'll list age ratings indicating how violent the gameplay might be; comfort, so you'll know the intensity of the experience; and how much access the game requires to personal information or features like the built-in microphone.

Meet Our Expert

Peter Graham is the editor at XR (extended reality) and Web3 specialist site gmw3.com and has been writing about VR, augmented reality and the immersive tech industry for more than seven years. He's served as a panel speaker and a judge at awards events and game hackathons.



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Join us for a presentation discussing
the flu vaccine in children and young people.

Topics covered:

- ✓ Why does my child need the vaccine
- 💡 Side-effects and safety
- 👤 Nasal vs injection (pork gelatine content)
- 📊 Flu data from previous years
- 💬 Q&A session



Wednesday 17th Sept



8:00 - 9:00pm



Click here to join



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Thursday 18th Sept



6:00 - 7:00pm



Click here to join



310 543 675 2095



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Wednesday 17th September link—<https://bit.ly/44dyYLw>

Thursday 18th September link—<https://bit.ly/45wT99P>