



**Upper
Wharfedale
Primary
Federation**

Burnsall Newsletter 9th January

Happy New Year and Welcome to the first newsletter of 2026!

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school and hear all about their exciting Christmas holidays.

With the start of a New Year, we would have hoped for a more normal return; however, the weather and electrical issues have not been on our side this week. We would like to thank Grassington parents for their patience with some of our ongoing challenges. We appreciate the inconvenience this has caused and are very grateful for your continued support and understanding.

We would also like to thank Kettlewell parents for their understanding and patience following the delayed start to the school day due to difficult road conditions. We appreciate the flexibility shown by families to help ensure everyone arrived safely.

On a more positive note, the children have lots of exciting things to look forward to over the coming term. KS2 pupils will be taking part in trips to support their History learning on the Romans, while KS1 children have already been sharing some lovely writing inspired by *Samson's (A mouse) Journey on the Titanic*, which links closely with their History topic on the Titanic.

We are really proud of the enthusiasm the children are showing for their learning. Please take a look at the curriculum overviews to find out more about what your child will be learning this half term.

Winter Weather

As we move through the next few months, we expect to experience occasional winter weather. Where possible, we will aim to make early decisions to ensure everyone's safety, as we did with Federation Friday this week. If bad weather occurs overnight, we will inform families as soon as possible.

Our staff and families travel far and wide across our four schools. When making decisions about delayed openings or school closures, we seek advice from school transport providers and local gritters to gain up-to-date information about road conditions around our schools. As soon as we have this information, and once we are confident staff can travel safely, we will contact parents promptly.

However, we are unable to know what conditions are like in every local area or on every individual route. We therefore ask that families only travel to school if they deem it safe to do so. Your judgement and local knowledge are always valued, and children's safety remains our priority.

We will always try to open schools where it is safe to do so. Where this is not possible, we may make alternative arrangements such as delayed starts or offering provision at one of the federation schools for the day.

Please continue to check emails and social media regularly for updates, as weather conditions can vary greatly across each of our school areas.

Year 6 London parent meeting



We will be holding a information evening for Year 6 parents on Wednesday 14th January at Grassington school at 5pm. We hope to see you there .

Forest Schools and Sports Clubs

A reminder, that this term Reception and Year 1 will have Forest Schools on Friday's - please make sure they are wrapped up warm.

Year 4 will continue with Forest schools throughout January - again please make sure they wrap up warm.

Launch Pad Football continues for Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 this half term.


Launch Pad Gymnastics will begin Friday 16th January 3pm - 4pm at Grassington School. This has been a very popular and there is currently a waiting list.

A reminder that running club is on a winter break and will resume after Easter.

Grassington Trail Race Meeting

We're holding a PTA/Trail Race meeting on Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Devonshire Pub - all welcome!

Dangers around Frozen Water



THE DANGERS OF FROZEN WATER

Every year children are at risk when they are tempted to play on the ice formed on open waters and adults find themselves at risk as they attempt to save them. Over 50 % of ice related drowning involved an attempted rescue of another person or a dog.

Areas with frozen waters can be beautiful to look at but they are also extremely dangerous. Here are some useful tips to help you enjoy these areas safely.

TOP TIPS TO STAY SAFE

NEVER GO ON THE ICE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

This includes attempting to rescue another person or animal who may have fallen through the ice.

ONLY USE WELL LIT AREAS

Try to take walks in the daylight but if you must walk in the evening, only use well lit areas and avoid anywhere with water.

KEEP AWAY FROM THE EDGE OF THE WATER

Never go close to the edge or lean over to touch the ice. You may overbalance or trip and fall in.

ALWAYS WALK WITH AN ADULT OR A GROUP OF FRIENDS

Look out for each other and if someone does fall through the ice there will be others around to raise the alarm and get help.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Keep calm and shout 'help'

Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you

Try to kick your legs and pull yourself out of the water and on to the ice

Lie flat, spreading your weight across the surface and pull yourself to the bank. You may find it easier to roll.

If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Keep your head above the water, press your arms by your side and keep your legs together

Once you are safe, it is important that you go to hospital immediately for a check up

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE SOMEONE FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Shout for **'HELP'** and dial **999** or **112** if you can

DO NOT walk on to the ice to attempt a rescue

Shout to the person to **'KEEP STILL'** and offer reassurance.

If they are close enough, **LIE DOWN TO AVOID OVERBALANCING** and falling onto the ice, and try to reach them with a tree branch clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach.

If you cannot reach them, **SLIDE SOMETHING** which floats across the ice, such as a plastic bottle or a football, so that they can hold on to it to stay afloat whilst help is on the way.

If they are too far away, **WAIT FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES** and reassure the casualty from the safety of the bank.

Warning Thin Ice

StyWise

Mental Health and Wellbeing week

Week beginning 9th February is **Children's Mental Health Awareness Week**.

The theme is **'This is My Place'** and is about feeling that you belong.

Here is a link for families to join in at home [families-and-communities-pack-childrens-mental-health-week-2026.pdf](#)

Medical Safety Information on Mobile Phones



During our recent staff training day, staff updated their first aid training. We were shown how emergency services and first aiders can access important medical information on mobile phones.

This information can be vital in an emergency, especially if someone is unconscious or unable to speak and thought that it was worth sharing.

Why this matters

Emergency services are trained to check phones for medical information. This can help them act quickly and safely.

Medical information can include:

- Medical conditions (e.g. asthma, diabetes)
- Allergies
- Medication
- Emergency contact details

This information can be viewed even when the phone is locked.

Setting this up on a parent's phone

iPhone

- Use the Health app → Medical ID
- Turn on "Show When Locked"

Android

- Go to Settings → Safety & Emergency
- Add Medical Information and Emergency Contacts

Setting this up on a child's phone

If your child has a mobile phone, smartwatch, or device used for independence or travel, this can also be set up for them setting this up for them too.

For children's phones, you could include:

- The child's name
- Any medical conditions or allergies
- Important medication
- At least one parent or carer emergency contact

This allows first aiders to quickly identify the child and contact you if needed.

Please remember

- Keep information up to date
- Review details regularly
- Even basic information can make a big difference

Burnsall News



Dinner Money



Chiltern
Wove

100

Dinner Money Envelopes

100 GUMMED ENVELOPES

NAME _____

CLASS _____

AMOUNT _____

KS2 only - Dinner money for this half term is £101.50 - please can this be paid on parentpay. Thank you

Shine Awards



Clara - for amazing fluency in your reading. We are so proud of your progress.

Evelyn - for always doing her best. Evelyn you set a lovely example for others to follow.

Oscar Snee - for excellent dedication to work today and a great attitude. Well done Oscar!

Bertie - for focus and achieving all your work targets this week. Well done Bertie.

Emelia - lunch time super star award.

Key Diary Dates for Spring Term

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 14th January - Year 6 residential meeting at Grassington 5pm

Thursday 15th January - deadline for primary school places

Friday 13th February - break up for half term

Monday 23rd February - return to school

Wednesday 25th February - planetarium day for Class 1

Thursday 26th February - KS2 trip to Murton Park

W/c Monday 23rd March - parents evening - day to follow

Thursday 26th March - Easter fun day

Friday 27th March - break up for Easter

Monday 13th April - return to school

Wishing you a wonderful weekend

Claire Greenwood and Wendy Thompson

Co-Executive Headteachers