UWPF Bulletin Friday 23rd October CRACOE

Welcome

We have somehow already reached the end of the first half term of this academic year, and we have been so impressed with how well the children have settled back into school. They have worked incredibly hard and made a fantastic start to the year.

Key Dates

- **Friday 23rd October:** School closes for half term
- **Saturday 31st October:** Deadline for Secondary school applications
- **Monday 2nd November:** School closed for INSET Day
- **Monday 2nd November:** Cracoe Friends Meet up 7.45pm (see more details below)
- **Tuesday 3rd November:** School reopens for Autumn Term 2

We wish all our families a happy, restful half term break. As we approach Halloween and Bonfire Night, we would also like to remind everyone to stay safe while enjoying the celebrations.

For some excellent child-friendly advice on Halloween, fireworks and bonfire safety, we recommend the **Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT)** website, which provides practical guidance for families.

How to keep children safe this Halloween | 12 top tips

Firework and bonfire safety tips from Fireman Sam

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the second half of the autumn term.

Monday 2nd November - Cracoe Friends Meet up



Cracoe Friends meet up Mon 2 Nov 7.45pm – Cracoe Village Hall...

Fancy getting involved with fundraising and social events to raise money to add value to your child's time at Cracoe. We contribute towards trips, extra equipment and things that just couldn't happen otherwise. In the past we've funded Pantos, Zoo visits, in-school entertainment, play equipment, digital devices, and so much more. Small schools need additional funds and if we can help by having a party, bake sale or an enjoyable child (or parent) social event then win. win.

All jobs are up for grabs so come along and get involved in whatever way works for you. Contribute ideas, help with events, bake up some cakes, be an elf, plan an activity with mates, help run a stall – no one has to do everything, the more the merrier, so we can share the jobs, get fresh ideas and create a whole load of memories for the kids to treasure!

If you want to chat or message someone first to find out more, grab Nic, Jen or Indi x

Open Days



1 - Please join us and tell others about our open mornings!

We are on the look out for 2 or 3 parent volunteers, particularly from Class 1, to serve refreshments and answer parent to parent questions during our open day. If you are available to help between 9-11.30am please get in touch with Mrs Briggs in the office. We are very grateful for your support.

Half term round up

A Busy Start to the School Year!

As we reach the end of our first half term across the federation, it is wonderful to look back and celebrate all that has been achieved in such a short time. It has certainly been a busy and exciting few weeks for children, staff and families alike.

Our Year 6 pupils have been developing their cycling skills through Bikeability, while Years 1 and 2 enjoyed a fantastic Red Riding Hood themed event. Our Reception children have begun their Forest School adventures, embracing the outdoors and learning through exploration.

Across the federation, we have come together for five wonderful Harvest Festivals, celebrating community, gratitude and the changing season as well as supporting local food banks. Pupils have also benefited from inspiring architect workshops, alongside a range of extra-curricular opportunities including craft clubs, run clubs and our first cross-country event of the year.

We have enjoyed welcoming families into school for Parents' Evenings, providing an opportunity to celebrate the excellent progress children have already made.

And, of course, all of this has taken place alongside the most important part of school life: the fantastic classroom learning, friendships, creativity, curiosity and play that happen every single day.

Here are just a few pictures showcasing some of the wonderful experiences from across our four schools this half term. We are incredibly proud of everything our pupils have achieved and look forward to an equally exciting second half of the autumn term.










































BE A LIGHT
SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND
OUR ECO SCHOOL






Class 2 Rainforest
reduction printing.
Inspired by Henri
Rousseau.









A letter from our MP regarding his Christmas Card competition. (We had winners last year!)

Dear School Team

I am writing to invite your pupils to take part in my annual Christmas Card Competition.

The winning design will be featured on my official Christmas card which is sent to hundreds of people and organisations across the constituency and beyond.

The competition is open to all primary school pupils. Entries should be colourful, festive and created on A4 paper with no glitter/tinsel. Please include the pupil's name, age and school on the back of each design.

The closing date for entries is Monday 16 November 2026.

A number of runners-up will also be recognised for their excellent designs.

Entries can be posted to:

Rt Hon Sir Julian Smith KCB CBE MP

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA

I look forward to receiving this year's entries and seeing the fantastic creativity of pupils across the constituency.

With best wishes,

Julian

The Rt Hon Sir Julian Smith KCB CBE MP

Member of Parliament for Skipton and Ripon

E: julian.smith.mp@parliament.uk

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Federation News

Federation Working

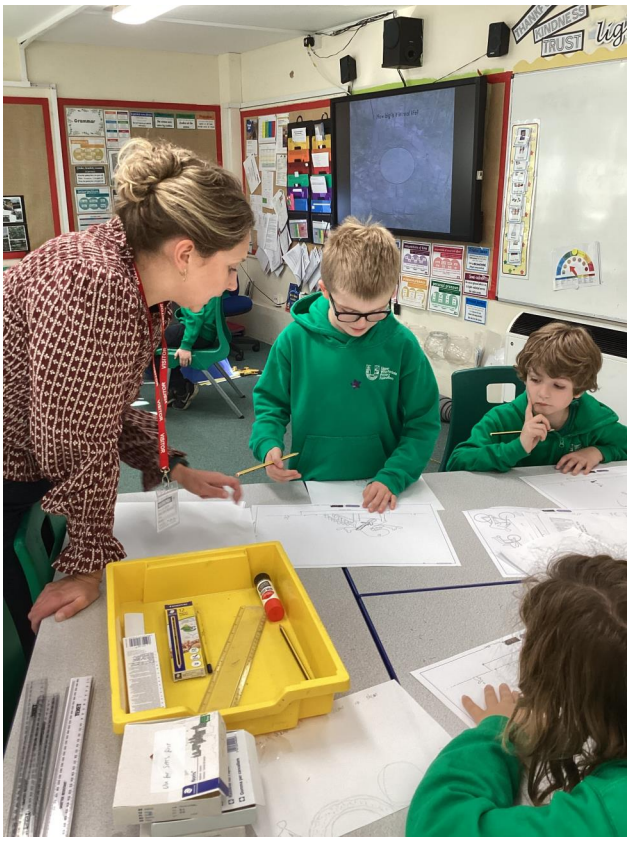
Our Federation Friday working showcases the many benefits of learning together across our schools.

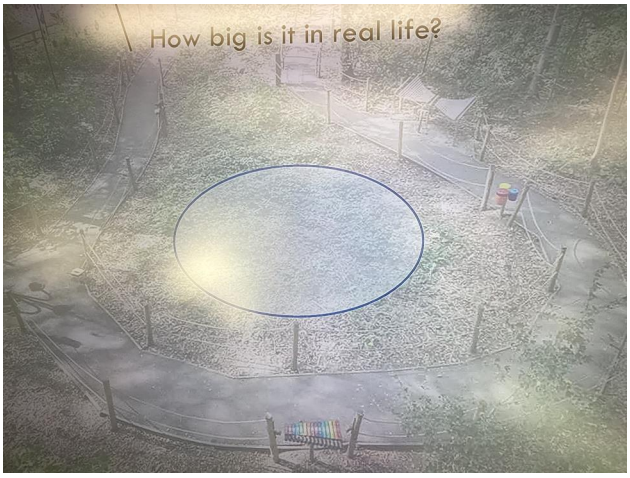
Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed an inspiring workshop led by Groves Architects, Gargrave. Children were challenged to design a full-scale interactive music box for Stockeld Park, with the winning design set to be developed and built on site. Drawing on their design technology and mathematical skills, pupils demonstrated fantastic imagination, creativity and problem-solving. Laura from Groves Architects was incredibly impressed by the children's enthusiasm, engagement and innovative ideas. Special thanks to Mrs Whittaker for organising this exciting opportunity.

Meanwhile, our Year 2 children were busy developing their practical cooking skills, carefully chopping and peeling ingredients to create a delicious seasonal butternut squash soup. The activity provided a wonderful opportunity to build independence and confidence in the kitchen, and we hope the finished product was a warming treat for families as the autumn weather begins to set in.

A fantastic example of collaboration, creativity and real-life learning across the federation.

Charlotte Allen



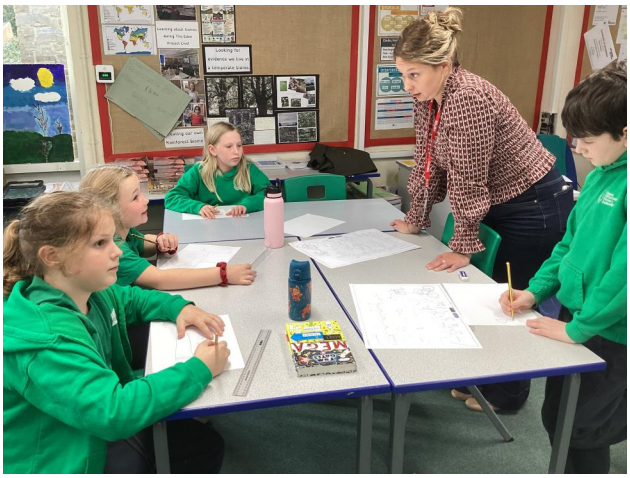

How big is it in real life?














WPF


Funky
Fingers





Skipton Food Bank- Thank you and their Christmas appeal





Cross Country

A huge well done to the **19 runners from across our federation** who took part in the first **Keighley Cross Country League** event. We are incredibly proud of every child who represented their school with determination, resilience and a fantastic attitude.

After the first event, our teams are currently placed:

- **5th place** - Year 3/4 Boys
- **5th place** - Year 3/4 Girls
- **15th place** - Year 5/6 Boys

We were represented by just one runner in the Year 5/6 Girls category, meaning we do not currently have a team score. We'd love to change that! If you have a Year 5 or 6 daughter who would be interested in joining our cross-country team, please let us know.

A special thank you from Mrs Greenwood to all the parents who stepped in to help at the event. After being caught in traffic and struggling to find a parking space, she arrived somewhat later

than planned with the all-important bag of running vests and numbers! Thanks to a wonderful team effort, children were quickly kitted out and ready to race. Your support, flexibility and good humour were hugely appreciated as she sprinted from the car park carrying equipment and trying not to become an unofficial competitor herself!

Next Cross Country Event

Our next event takes place on **Tuesday 10th November at Highfield**.

Please meet Mrs Greenwood at the start area, where she will issue race numbers and running vests. Parking at Highfield is even more limited than at the previous event, so please allow plenty of time for parking and walking to the start.

In fact, Mrs Greenwood is considering leaving on Monday and camping overnight to avoid being caught out again! While she is only *partly* serious, please do allow yourselves plenty of time so that neither children nor parents are the ones racing and sweating before the event has even begun.

As always, please ensure all running vests are returned to Mrs Greenwood before leaving.

Good luck to all our runners - we're looking forward to another fantastic federation turnout!
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Local news and events




Cracoe Village Hall
£45 pp
WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP
All materials
Drinks & Nibbles
provided
The Meadow Bothy
Tel: 07812538883
themeadowbothy@gmail.com
Friday 4th December From 6.45 /7pm
Saturday 5th December From 10.30am

Speech, Language and Communication Advice

Harrogate, Ripon, Knaresborough, Craven

Would you like to discuss your child's speech, language, or communication development?

Bring your child along to our drop-in session to meet with our Speech and Language Therapists, discuss any concerns, and receive advice and information about local support and services. **Booking is essential.**

Where & When

- **Thursday 5th November 2026 9.30 – 11.30 at Brougham Street Nursery School, Skipton**

Who will be there?

Emma Pollock – North Yorkshire Council Speech & Language Therapist

Carol Moxon -North Yorkshire Council Speech & Language Therapy Assistant

PLEASE EMAIL TO BOOK A 15 MINUTE SLOT

carol.moxon@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you.



OPEN EVERY DAY THIS HALF TERM

Halloween Half Term at The Hidden Castle

The Curse of The Hidden Castle

This October half term, families can enjoy our immersive medieval role-play centre in a whole new way. Alongside the usual imaginative play, dressing up and exploring the castle, children and grown-ups can take on The Curse of The Hidden Castle — a brand-new escape-room-inspired quest filled with riddles, puzzles and spooky surprises. Included with standard admission, our 90-minute sessions are perfect for families and especially suited to children aged around 5–10.



A magical Halloween adventure in Skipton for families looking for something a little different.

Book now at www.thehiddencastle.co.uk

The Hidden Castle • Skipton