

Officers and Members of the Parish Council 2020/2021

Chairman **Councillor Jon Crossley** Tel:01132863476
1 Churchville Drive

Vice-chair **Councillor Neil Duff** Tel:01132869309
1 Cliffe Bungalows

Treasurer **Councillor Michael Czwarno** Tel:07910840118
47 St Andrews Road, Ferry Fryston

Councillor Dorothy Backhouse Tel:01132863487
33 The Crescent

Councillor Geoff Rycroft Tel:07771307209
64 Garden Village

Councillor Joan Auty Tel:01132870665
10 Sunnybank

Councillor Dylan Brown Tel:07710314159
Prospect House, Great North Road

Vacancy
Vacancy

Clerk **Miss Joanne Hebden** Tel:01132875829
6 Churchville Avenue,
Micklefield, Leeds, LS25 4AS

Councillors' e-mail addresses available on Parish Council web site
www.micklefield-pc.gov.uk

Other Elected Representatives:

Leeds City Council –

Cllr James Lewis Tel: 01133789003

james.lewis@leeds.gov.uk

Tel: 01132869647

Cllr Mary Harland Tel:01133788814

mary.harland@leeds.gov.uk

Tel: 07866962287

Cllr Mirelle Midgley Tel:07796158228

Mirelle.midgley@leeds.gov.uk

Member of Parliament: **Alec Shelbrooke, MP**

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA Office 01937 589 002

Email alec.shelbrooke.mp@parliament.uk

Website www.alecshelbrooke.co.uk

Micklefield Parish Council

MICKLEFIELDER



(COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY)

WINTER 2020

A quarterly newsletter, delivered free to all households in the Parish of Micklefield



MICKLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Micklefield Parish Council usually meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 7.15pm, via Zoom.us (a temporary change of venue due to the Government restrictions on gatherings and in accordance with public health advice). Every meeting begins with a public forum, at which members of the public can speak (members of the public may not speak during the meeting unless invited to by the Parish Council). The Parish Council also has a Finance and Corporate Management Committee, which meets on the third Monday of February, June and October, at 7.30pm, also via Zoom.us. All meetings are open to the public and notices of meetings, with an agenda, are posted on the community noticeboards at least three days before a meeting. Notices of meetings and copies of agendas and minutes are also available on the Parish Council's website.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

There are currently two vacancies on Micklefield Parish Council due to insufficient nominations at the election in May 2019. The council can fill the vacancies by co-option, which is a process whereby the council considers applications from interested persons and then selects someone to fill the seat. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor, please write to the Parish Council and include a few details of why you would like to become a councillor. If you need any information about qualifications for being a councillor or just want more information about the role, please contact the Clerk to the Council.

FINANCIAL AUDIT

The annual financial audit of the Parish Council's accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2020 is complete. Yorkshire Internal Audit Services undertook the internal audit with no issues arising and PKF Littlejohn undertook the external audit, also with no issues arising. All notices and documents associated with both parts of the audit have been posted on the Parish council's noticeboards and website. The documents associated with the external audit (the Annual Governance and Accountability Return) can be found on the Parish Council's website.

IN THE COMMUNITY

The Parish Council approved a grant of £50 to Micklefield Tenants and Residents Association (MTRA) to allow MTRA to increase its Christmas tree lights provision for 2020. At the beginning of the year, the Parish Council was working in Partnership with MTRA to provide Christmas light motifs on street lights throughout the village. It was agreed that each body would apply for grant funding to cover the costs of the electrical works and hire of motif lights.

THE VILLAGE CHIPPY (Mobile)

*"You shall have a fishy
when the boat comes in"*



Serving traditional Yorkshire Fish & Chips to the people of Micklefield and surrounding areas. Every Tuesday teatime, listen for our chimes... (and yes we do sound like an ice cream van).



Payment by card is now available.

4.30pm - 6.00pm Best One Off Licence
6.00pm - 6.15pm Garden Village (Old Chippy Site)
6.15pm - 6.50pm Sunnybank, (Station Car Park)
www.thevillagechippy.net

Refreshment Unit



Would you be interested in running a franchise in a refreshment unit in the Micklefield Recreation Ground? If anyone in the village feels that this is something you would like to discuss in more detail, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council. Tel; 0113285829 or E-mail clerk@micklefield-pc.gov.uk

Editorial Team

Cllrs Joan Auty (joanauty@hotmail.co.uk), Jon Crossley and Michael Czwarno. Items/articles you wish to have published in the next issue please give to any member of the team or Parish Councillor. Articles for next newsletter to be in by week beginning **8th March**

Micklefield BT Cyberstation at The Youth and Adult Centre

CLOSED

Craft club, Drop-in, Youth Club

All activities are cancelled till further notice

Beavers and Cubs are having on line meetings

1st Micklefield Scout Group are offering free zoom sessions until the New Year when we hope to be back face to face.

This is for:

Beavers boys and girls aged 6-8 years

Cubs boys and girls 8-10 1/2 years

Scouts boys and girls aged 10 1/2-14 years

New members welcome.

Please check Facebook page 1st Micklefield Scout Group or email gsl.micklefieldscouts@gmail.com for further information

Churchville House Social Centre **CLOSED**

Ward Councillors Surgery; see contact details on back page.

Lunch club, Bingo sessions, Art Group, Activity Retirement Group, Saturday Social, Historical Group, Tenants and Residents Association.

All activities are cancelled till further notice.

ANSWER

CODEWORD

M	U	S	C	L	E		G	A	U	C	H	E
E												
T		O	B	S	T	E	T	R	I	C		Z
R	O	B	E		A		E		T	H	E	Y
I		N		A	T	L	A	S		T	E	M
C	H	O	I	C	E		U	N	I	Q	U	E
		X		H				A		U		
S	N	I	V	E	L		F	R	I	E	Z	E
U		O		D	O	W	E	L		R		X
F	E	U	D		G		N		P	E	E	P
F		S		S		J	E	C	T	E		E
E			K		A		E		R			C
R	E	D	E	E	M		D	I	M	W	I	T

B	I	D	P	M	H	N	T	R	S	O	Q	V
G	E	X	Y	C	L	W	F	K	A	Z	U	J

Unfortunately, the work had to be postponed until next year due to other priorities triggered by the coronavirus pandemic. The Parish Council also began taking the first steps towards creating a Neighbourhood Plan Steering group. It held a meeting with planning officers to learn more about the process and Leeds City Council approved the designation of the Parish as a Neighbourhood Plan Area. A Neighbourhood Plan Steering group is not a committee of the Parish Council or made up entirely of Parish Council members but of a broad range of local people. It involves public consultation and if approved by a local referendum, will be considered by Leeds City Council when it makes planning decisions that affect the Parish.

In liaison with other community groups (Micklefield Regeneration Partnership and Micklefield Tenants and Residents Association), the Parish Council arranged a public consultation event to identify suitable projects that can be funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy. This is money given by housing developers to Leeds City Council, a small portion of which is given to Councils in whose Parish the development is taking place. The money must be used on infrastructure, which can include a wide range of things. Unfortunately, the public consultation event had to be cancelled due to Government restrictions on public gatherings but the Parish Council hopes to continue with its consultations as soon as it is safely able to do so. The Parish Council also gave a grant of £157.50 to Micklefield Tenants and Residents Association for the renewal of the TV licence for the television in Churchville House.

The Parish Council has representatives to other bodies and committees. Its representatives to the Peckfield Landfill Site Liaison Committee are Cllr J L Auty, Cllr D Backhouse and Cllr R M Czwaro, with Cllr D Brown as deputy. They attend meetings to raise complaints and problems with the operator, Leeds City Council and the Environment Agency. Its representatives to the Hook Moor Wind Farm Liaison Committee are Cllr J A Crossley and Cllr R M Czwaro.

AMENITIES

The Parish Council renewed its litter pick and waste removal contract for Micklefield Recreation Ground and Vandicourt Infants' Playground. The number of visitors to the Recreation Ground this year increased beyond any past figures; coupled with long periods of good weather, it became a challenge to keep the recreation areas clear of litter.

The views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council or any of its members. The editorial team reserves the right to shorten, modify or not print any letter or article submitted.

It has already arranged for the neighbouring overhanging tree to be crown lifted and crown reduced and for the weeds growing in the perimeter boundary to be removed. Further maintenance, including the removal of moss and algae from the wetpour surface, is also planned. Play and recreational equipment is checked weekly by a qualified routine play inspector.

Micklefield in Bloom managed to arrange its summer programme of works in a COVID-19 secure way and is currently working on its autumn and winter display. The group is supported financially and administratively by the Parish Council, which thanks all its volunteers for their hard work.

LIGHTING, ROADS, FOOTPATHS AND TRANSPORT

The Parish Council is assisting the Public Rights of Way Section at Leeds City Council to identify and document historical rights of way in the Parish, so that they can be made definitive rights of way. The Parish Council's Public Rights of Way group is also helping interested residents with the process of making a footpath, Rangers' Walk, a definitive right of way. The Parish Council has also agreed to pursue a project with the potential to lead to a cycle path between Micklefield and Garforth. The project is in its very early stages and requires permissions and agreements from various different organisations before it can be realised. If you want to help prevent dog fouling, details of specific locations and times of fouling and persons responsible for leaving dog foul on the footpath would greatly help the Dog Warden Service to reduce the problem, so anyone with information should contact Leeds City Council via the online report form at www.leeds.gov.uk or on [0113 222 4406](tel:01132224406). Street lighting, roads and footpaths are all the responsibility of Leeds City Council. Problems with highways, including pot-holes, holes in, or damage to, footpaths and obstructions on roads and footpaths, from advertising signs to overgrown hedgerows, shrubbery or grass verges, should be reported to Leeds City Council on [0113 222 4407](tel:01132224407), or via its website www.leeds.gov.uk. If you have any problems with streetlights in your area not working correctly, they can be reported directly to the lighting company at leedspfi@sec.eu, or via the Leeds City Council website. Dumped rubbish can be reported to Leeds City Council on [0113 222 4406](tel:01132224406), or via the Leeds City Council website. Leeds City Council has 'Do it online' report forms on its website for all the above problems.

PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND POWERS

Whenever it makes a decision to do something, the Parish Council must be sure that there is a law that supports this. If there isn't, then the Parish Council hasn't acted legally. If the Parish Council is not undertaking work that you think it should be, it might be because it does not have the legal power to do so.

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Society collecting 'candles' will be distributed as usual – please be generous if you can, as this charity receives most of its income at Christmastime and this year they expect this to be substantially



The Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist start at 11.15pm

and we will go outside to sing the first and the final carols, as somehow it does not seem right to celebrate at midnight without singing *Once in Royal David's City* or *O Come all ye faithful!* Please do join us for the celebration!

Many people have found new opportunities for spiritual reflection during lockdown. This year we are distributing a small booklet: *Comfort and Joy*, a series of short readings, carols, reflections and prayers (each lasting around 5 minutes) for use from Christmas Day until January 2nd. I hope these will be useful in our confused times. Please help yourself to a copy from the back of church, and perhaps share it (safely) with someone else?

Finally! Friday April 30th 2021 will be the 125th anniversary of the Peckfield Mining Disaster when 63 men lost their lives and many women became widows with father. Many events are planned in the village, including an Act of Memorial which will coincide with the time of the two explosions; these will be publicised next year. There is little official record of the men who died (including 43 from Micklefield) and their families.

However, painstaking research by Steve Hudson means that we now have information about every victim: where they lived, age, parents, wife, children etc, and we are sure that within families even more is known about some who died. In the New Year a file of the information that has already been gathered will be placed in church for all to look at. If you have additional material, please could you add it to the file? The more we know about each individual, the more we can pass on to others who are interested in the history of our village.

My best wishes to everyone this Christmas, and every Blessing in 2021.

(Rev) Wendy Plant

CONTACT US

How can our church best serve our community? Please let us know your views!

Email us at stmarys_micklefield@outlook.com
or contact us via our Facebook page...or call in and see us!
For baptisms, weddings and funerals, please contact
Rev. Wendy Plant: 07803 125389, or contact
Churchwardens: Sharon Beanland: 07980 485043



ST. MARY'S CHURCH



A very warm welcome awaits you at your local church, which aims to serve the whole community of Micklefield. We are a small and friendly congregation, meeting every week for Christian worship. **EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US.**

SERVICES

In response to **Coronavirus COVID-19**, temporary changes have been made to our services. www.churchofengland.org/coronavirus

- ✦ Sunday at 9:30am: Parish Eucharist
- ✦ Wednesday at 9:30: Eucharist

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ADVENT

- ✦ 20th December at 9:30am: Christingle Eucharist
- ✦ Christmas Eve at 11:15pm: Midnight Eucharist



Firstly, a really big 'thank you' to the many people who have helped to keep the churchyard looking good over both lockdowns, including power-washing the path to make it less slippery. Normally the Community Payback Team would do a lot of this, but COVID-19 has put a temporary halt to their work.

St Mary's, as part of the Micklefield Christmas Window Trail, has set out a **Nativity Trail** in the windows inside the church, telling the Christmas story. The Church is open 10am-4pm Wednesday to Sunday and hopefully Parents, Carers and Grandparents will bring their children to see it. Do look carefully, because somewhere in church there are at

A PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour. And to care for those in need as if we were caring for you.

In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake.

Amen.



least 19 sheep! The church is also acting as a collection point for local food banks non-perishables and toiletries, please.

In addition all Year 1 and Year 2 children I school have been given a sticker **Advent calendar** and an accompanying book telling the Christmas and Epiphany story to read at home between December 1st and January 7th.

We cannot have the school Christingle service in church because we are restricted to around 30 people, socially distanced, so instead I will be leading special Christingle Class Assemblies in school. We are also planning a **Christingle Eucharist** at 9.30am on December 20th. The Children's

....AND FINALLY

Notices of all Parish Council meetings (ordinary and extraordinary), Committee meetings and meetings of the Trustee of Micklefield Recreation Ground Charity are posted in each village notice board and on the Parish Council website, at least three clear days before the meeting, as required by law. Though not a legal requirement, the Parish Council also posts an agenda of the business to be transacted at the meeting. Any other business of the Council, including legally required documents such as vacancy notices and audit notices, is posted in the Council's notice boards and on its website, so checking regularly can help you keep up with Parish Council activities.

Joanne Hebden Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Micklefield Parish Council

CODEWORD

5	25	10	18	19	15		14	23	25	18	6	15
15			25		10		23		7			7
8		11	1	10	8	15	8	9	2	18		24
9	11	1	15		23		15		8	6	15	17
2		7		23	8	19	23	10		15		5
18	6	11	2	18	15		25	7	2	12	25	15
		16		6			23		25			
10	7	2	13	15	19		21	9	2	15	24	15
25		11		3	11	20	15	19		9		16
21	15	25	3		14		7		4	15	15	4
21		10	25	1	26	15	18	8	15	3		15
15			22		23		15		9			18
9	15	3	15	15	5		3	2	5	20	2	8

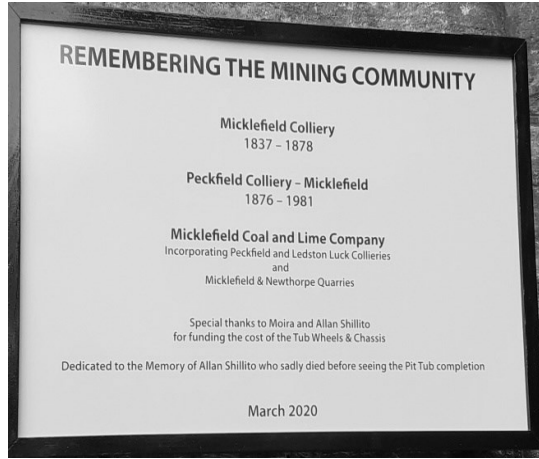
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

This puzzle has no clues in the conventional sense. Instead, every different number printed in the main grid represents a different letter (with the same number representing the same letter, of course).

For example, if 8 turns out to be a 'v', you can write V wherever a square contains 8. There is a small part of the puzzle to give you a start, the rest is up to you.

Answer page 14



On Saturday the 7th March we sited a pit coal tub based on the ones we worked with at Peckfield Colliery [Micky pit] by the railway bridge and the bottom of Pit Lane. This was unveiled along with its plaque by Cllr. Mirelle Midgley and Cllr. James Lewis and was supported by the Wakefield miners heritage lads. The tub and plaque were dedicated to the Micklefield Coal and Lime Company and the original Micklefield Colliery and the creation of a mining community. The event was also used to kick start a mining awareness in the village for the lead up to next years 125 year anniversary of the Peckfield Pit Disaster. After the unveiling ceremony, a miners snap time and miners heritage event was staged in the Blands Arms and the whole event was well attended. The whole event was paid for out of our own Owd Micky Memories page with donations from our members. The whole event was put together and brought about at short notice and a great deal of work was involved to put the unplanned event together for that day. Dennis Best.

WANTED



As a result of last year's election, the Parish Council has two vacancies which have remained unfilled since May 2019. This is constraining what the Parish Council can do and achieve, so we need enthusiastic community minded people to fill those seats. If you think you might have the time and drive to help shape the village of Micklefield over the next few years, then please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.
 Tel; 0113 2875829 or
 E-mail clerk@micklefield-pc.gov.uk

all leagues have been disrupted. Similarly, the free, weekly, bootcamp style fitness sessions delivered by a local instructor have also been interrupted throughout the year. For more information see MickyFIT@MUGA on Facebook.


Dog walking is a recreational activity and is therefore not banned from the Recreation Ground. However, dog fouling is not permitted, due to the health risk caused by animal faeces and the Parish Council would urge all dog walkers to clear up after their dogs and thanks those who are already doing so. Please keep dogs out of the play areas, including the skate park and the football pitch; they are used extensively by children, who are at particular risk from the slightest amount of dog waste that will be left behind even if you do clear up after your dog. Dogs can also damage the surface of the football pitch, which causes a risk of injuries to players and increases maintenance costs

.....AND FINALLY

The Recreation Ground is for the benefit of the public and for the improvement of life through recreation, so please enjoy it.


Joanne Hebden
 Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
 Micklefield Parish Council
 (Sole Trustee of Micklefield Recreation Ground Charity)

Micklefield Community First Responders.



The Micklefield team has been active for 18 years responding to medical emergencies in your local community, providing vital support and reassurance before the ambulance arrives. Dedicated volunteers are urgently required to enable this team to continue to support the community, working alongside the ambulance services who provide training in patient care, life support skills and using equipment such as oxygen and Automated External Defibrillators. You will be supported by a designated co-ordinator.

For further information contact our YAS Co-coordinator
 Laura Williams, Community Defibrillation Trainer
 Community Resilience Team
 Yorkshire Ambulance Service
 Mobile; 07464 493852



MICKLEFIELD RECREATION GROUND CHARITY

Micklefield Recreation Ground is a registered Charity (registered with The Charity Commission) that is managed by Micklefield Parish Council as the Sole Trustee of the Charity. The Trustee of Micklefield Recreation Ground Charity meets on the third Monday of January, March, July, September and November, at 7.30pm, via Zoom.us (due to the Government restrictions on gatherings and in accordance with public health advice). Meetings are open to the public and notices and agendas of meetings are posted on the community notice boards at least three days before a meeting.

FACILITIES

Before Government regulations banned public gatherings in March, including organised sport, the Trustee appointed a pest control service to rid the ground of moles after an increase of mole hills on the football pitch led to safety problems for players. The pitch underwent its usual annual maintenance and improvement works to make it ready for the recommencement of organised sport in September and for informal sport (when regulations allowed). The 'street-style' graffiti art project to refurbish the football stand was completed in June. The project was undertaken by a local volunteer and is intended to discourage the spraying of offensive graffiti. A similar initiative was used successfully on the skate park several years ago.

The skate park, Diamond Jubilee Pay Area and MUGA have all undergone an annual inspection. In accordance with the annual inspector's previous recommendations, one of the swing seats was replaced, new safety matting was installed at the bottom of the slide, the wildflowers on the slide embankment were cut back by two feet, and two of the wooden steps on the zip-wire ramp were replaced. The cracks and chips in the skate park surface will be repaired as soon as a suitable contractor is appointed. Unfortunately, vandalism to, or misuse of the zip-wire led to the seat being ripped from the cable trolley, resulting in the need for expensive repair works.

Network Rail agreed to fund and undertake a project to create a wildflower meadow on the unused north bowling green, which was completed in September. The new wildflower meadow includes seats and pathways, and has been sown with native flower and grass seeds to attract wildlife. The project is a first for Network Rail and was beset by a number of bureaucratic delays and by restrictions brought about by the Coronavirus pandemic but was eventually completed in a COVID-19 secure way with the help of volunteers. The Parish Council would like to thank all those who took part. The number of football lettings has increased to include temporary pitches for 5-a-side and 7-a-side junior football on the training pitch (behind the football stand) and the cricket outfield. Unfortunately, Government regulations have restricted grassroots group sports throughout the year and

Micklefield Tenants and Residents Association

Meetings are usually held every 2nd Tuesday in the Month held at 7.30 pm in Churchville House. Attended by personnel from Leeds Housing and Ward Councillors. Due to COVID-19 regulations the meetings have been cancelled until further notice.

This Association is there to support and bring together ALL who live in our lovely village, both Council tenants, private tenants and residents. All those who live within our boundaries are welcome. Attending these meetings gives you a chance to air your concerns BUT also to let us know what you like about the village.

Bob Reeves Chair

MTRA also support activities and events in the village, all events are advertised in the notice boards at Churchville House, School and Youth and Adult Centre. as well on Facebook Micklefield Community page.

Forth coming planned events;

Easter Party



Village Gala



Halloween Event

Festive Fayre



CairdPeckfield

Caird Peckfield, at the last liaison meeting in November said that there were no health and safety issues to report. Tipping operations continues in cell 11B.

The restoration programme continues, weather permitted.

If you have any concerns about odours, litter or general concerns about the site, as always you can contact our offices on 0113 286 5784 with any questions or issues, or contact the Environment Agency on 0800807060.

A WINDOW 'CIL' OF OPPORTUNITY FOR MICKY

The Community Infrastructure Levy (commonly called 'CIL') is a charge paid to Leeds City Council by developers who are creating new buildings in the Leeds district. As Micklefield is a parished area in Leeds, the Parish Council receives up to 15% of any CIL paid to the City Council from developments in Micklefield. If and when Micklefield has a Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council's proportion of the CIL will be 25%.

CIL is charged on any relevant developments in Leeds where planning permission was granted after 6th April 2015, and for residential developments in Micklefield, developers are charged £45 per m² of net additional floorspace. There are three housing developments currently being built out in Micklefield: the Barratt Homes and Persimmon Homes site around Manor Farm and Garden Village; the Strata Homes site around Grange Farm Court; and the CC Homes site at Church Close.

Micklefield Parish Council is going to receive a considerable amount of CIL from just those three developments: at least £150,000 and possibly quite a bit more. There will be even more CIL to come from whatever ultimately gets approved on the other sites already allocated for housing at Pit Lane and around St Mary's Walk and Hallfield Avenue.

The Parish Council's CIL "must be used to support the development of the local area by funding (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area." This includes physical, social, green and blue infrastructure and means that the Parish Council could spend our CIL monies by funding or part-funding a broad range of projects such as transport initiatives, highways, play areas, parks and green spaces, footpaths, cycle ways, sports facilities and community halls, flood risk alleviation, ultra-fast broadband or the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

What the CIL monies cannot be used for is to pay for the Parish Council's everyday expenditure, general maintenance contracts, staff costs, annual supplies, insurance or administration. In other words, please don't go down the route of thinking that the CIL can be used as a means of reducing the Parish Council Precept – that's not what it's for.

Cllr Jon A Crossley (Chairman), Micklefield Parish Council



We are very pleased to be contributing to this edition of the Micklefielder with an update on what's happening in our lovely village school.

Autumn Term

After returning to school in September, the children have been working very hard on getting back into the swing of things, concentrating on the new procedures in their class bubbles. We are very proud on how everyone has adapted to this new way of learning and we are pleased that we have kept every one safe and not had to collapse any of our bubbles .

Website

We have recently re vamped our website www.micklefieldceprimary.co.uk, developing lots of new pages to keep everyone updated on school news and our Friends of Micklefield parent group have a page to update on the fundraising and fun they are doing for the school There are lots of fabulous photographs of our children too.

Community

We feel really excited to be participating in the Micklefield Advent Window Trail, the children have been really enthusiastic constructing their own individual part of our stained glass window which will be lit up in the hall window for all the village to see. To celebrate Advent we had a themed week where everyone learned more about Advent, researching how other countries celebrate and creating some beautiful posters to be displayed around school and church. We are really pleased that school will be participating in the 125 year Peckfield Pit Disaster Anniversary next year and would love some of the community to come into school to talk to the children about their family experiences. In April ,we are looking to re fresh our school environment painting , brightening up the outside equipment and garden, school are hoping to have our own community challenge over one weekend, COVID-19 permitting, if you would like to help in any way please let us know .

Reading

We really want to develop a love for books and reading with all our children and are introducing ways to make reading interesting, so on Friday 4th December we had an owl visit our Class 1 children as their class book at the moment is The Owl Who is Afraid of the Dark.

Christmas

Unfortunately this year will we will not be able to celebrate Christmas in our usual way in school. However, we will be holding separate bubble Christingle services, celebrating in our class collective worship ,making videos of our class performances, holding a Christmas jumper day with stalls outside in the playground selling festive gifts and having fun at Christmas parties.

We hope you and your families have a very Merry Christmas and 2021 brings health and happiness to us all

Stay safe

Erica Swales Chair of Governors

Karen Wood Head Teacher