



The Federation of Longhorsley and
Whalton C of E Schools

Class 1 Summer 1 Newsletter



We hope that you have had a lovely Easter!

As we begin our final term of the year, there's lots to look forward to in the weeks ahead. With this being a shorter half term, this newsletter outlines what we'll be covering over the next four weeks. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Reception's weekly homework will be set on Wednesdays and is due the following Monday.

Thank you, Mrs Robinson, Miss Mattison & Mrs Moodie

~Communication & Language~

During this term, we will continue to utilize language to enhance our conversational abilities among one another. We will engage in learning the Gruffalo song using Makaton. Additionally, we will maintain the practice of 'talking partners' to facilitate the exploration and discussion of various questions and ideas across the entire EYFS Curriculum. Reception will be focusing on using past tense vocabulary through play.

~Physical Development~

All Early Years children should come to school in their PE kit on a Wednesday and Thursday. On Wednesday morning, Nursery will take part in a music and movement session, then Reception will go Swimming in the afternoon. On Thursday afternoon Reception and Nursery will have a Skip4fit. The children will also take part in their fine motor challenges; for example threading and cutting as well as using tools such as pipettes, mini pegs and tweezers.

~Expressive Arts & Design~

The children will be working creatively using different joining techniques such as sellotape, masking tape, string, ribbon, stapler and split pins. These skills will be crucial for our collaborative 'Gruffalo' small world area. We will also be expressing our thoughts and ideas through drawing, and we will be supported to add detail and draw with great complexity. As always the children will be learning many songs/rhymes, however they will also be covering our Charanga music unit 'Big Bear Funk', which includes the dimensions of music, playing instruments and improvising.

~Literacy~

In Literacy, we will embark on an adventure by retelling and acting out 'The Gruffalo,' by Julia Donaldson. Our outdoor explorations will feature exciting scavenger hunts to discover various animals and identify their unique footprints. Sadly, the Gruffalo will go missing, prompting us to design vibrant posters to help locate him! Inside, the Gruffalo café will delight us with tasty meals, while outside, we can indulge in Gruffalo mud cakes! There will be plenty of writing opportunities and imaginative role play as we dive into this magical experience.

~Phonics~

All of the children will continue their journey on our RWI phonics programme. They will continue to build their phonological awareness and learn/review the appropriate sounds.



~Understanding the World~

During this half term, the children will dive into an adventure to explore what makes cities and villages unique, as well as what they have in common. We'll also start to pinpoint England's place on the globe. Our discussions will focus on how we can care for our planet, along with hands-on experiments about pollution and preserving marine life. In RE, we'll check out various special places, including different places of worship. We will continue to respect other's beliefs that may be different to our own beliefs.

~PSHE~

The children will continue to identify their emotions using our zones of regulation, as well as simple strategies which can be used to help support both ourselves and our peers. A large focus this half term will be on growing and changing.

~Commando Joe's~

The Reception children will embark on Commando Joe's adventures inspired by Burglar Bill. Engaging in team-building activities, we'll foster self-awareness, enhance communication, and cultivate a spirit of positivity.



~Mathematics~

This half term, the children will develop their awareness of numbers beyond 10, including how these numbers are represented in different ways, comparing numbers and exploring the composition. We will also be building our understanding as we explore the change structure of addition and subtraction. In doing so, we will be using real objects to see that the quantity of a group can be changed by adding more or taking away.



~Learning Journey~

