



The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton C of E Schools

Love your Neighbour as yourself so we can all aspire, believe and achieve to be the very best that we can be...

Hope - Honesty - Forgiveness - Friendship - Trust - Love



Class 4 Spring 1 2026 Newsletter

Message from class teacher

Welcome back and happy new year! I hope you and your families had a restful and enjoyable break and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready for the term ahead. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back into school. This half term promises to be a busy and exciting one, full of new learning, challenges and opportunities. As always, if you have any questions - big or small - feel free to catch me at the door, call or email the office. I'm really looking forward to another busy, fun-filled half term with the class! Homework will be given out on Wednesday each week. It is due back in by the following Tuesday, which is when we will have a spelling test too. PE kit should be worn on Tuesdays and Thursdays this half term. Mr Morris

~History~

In History this half term, the children will be looking at change and continuity in healthcare over time through a topic that is familiar and meaningful to them. By examining key moments across nearly 700 years, pupils will develop their understanding of how and why things changed, as well as the barriers people faced in bringing about improvement. We begin with the Black Death and end on more recent events.

~English~

In English this half term, we will begin by studying the text, 'The Matchbox Diary'. We will turn this narrative into a biography. Our biographies will be written in chronological order. We will consider paragraphs when planning our structure. On a sentence level, we will use conjunctions to link ideas and adverbial phrases to describe when and where events are happening.

During our reading sessions, we will be studying, 'Poems from a Green and Blue Planet' by Sabrina Mahfouz. This is a beautiful collection of poems which will take us on a journey around our wonderful green and blue planet. The collection includes both classics and newer creations in a range of forms from proverbs and haikus and free-verse to sonnets.

~Commando Joes~

Our missions will have a new focus this term. Kira Salak is a writer, adventurer and journalist. She has spent her life conquering her fears and pushing herself to extremes in the name of journalism. At the age of 20, Salak entered Mozambique at the height of a Civil War and here she was kidnapped by soldiers. Luckily, she managed to escape. You'd think this would put her off continuing to travel through dangerous locations - but no.

~P.E~

The children will need their PE kit on a Tuesday and Thursday this half term. We begin the year by developing our hockey skills. The children will learn how to pass, receive and travel with the ball, as well as learning about tackling and penalty shuffles. They will develop their understanding of the principles of attacking and defending in invasion games.

~French~

In French this half term, we will be discussing places you may find in a town. The children will learn to develop their intercultural understanding by being introduced to the sights of some typical French cities. They will also learn to describe places in a town, count to 100 and give their address in French.

~PSHE~

This half term in PSHE, we will be exploring a unit called 'Media influence: What is fake news?' The children will learn what fake news is, why it is created and how it can spread, particularly online. They will develop important skills to help them think critically about what they see and hear, learn how to check whether information is reliable, and understand how media messages can influence our thoughts and feelings.

~Computing~

In Computing this half term, the children will be developing their editing skills by editing both audio and images.



We will also consider the reliability of information that we can find online with respect to editing.

~Mathematics~

We begin the new year continuing to work on multiplication and division. The children will need to use their times table knowledge to work on formal written methods for multiplication. We will then be calculating the length and perimeter of shapes before beginning work on fractions. The children will begin this unit by looking at mixed numbers and improper fractions.

~Art~

In Art this half term, the children will be working with clay to create their own sculptures inspired by Ancient Egyptian art. They will explore the distinctive features and styles of Ancient Egyptian sculptures before learning how to shape, join and add texture to clay. This hands-on project will encourage creativity while helping the children develop their practical skills.

~Science~

In Science this half term, the children will learn how living things can be grouped in different ways and will use classification keys to identify plants and animals in their local and wider environment. They will also explore how environments can change and discuss how these changes can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

~Music~

In Music this half term, we will be focusing on expression and improvisation. The children will listen to and respond to a range of music, learning how music can express different moods and ideas, before having opportunities to create and improvise their own musical patterns. They will continue to develop their playing skills on the glockenspiels.

~R.E~

This half term in RE, Year 4 pupils will explore Sikhism through the question "What does it mean to be a Sikh in Britain today?" Children will learn about Sikh beliefs in one God, equality and service, and how these shape everyday life for Sikhs in modern Britain. They will discover the importance of the gurdwara, langar, and Sikh symbols, and reflect on shared values.