



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



Welcome to Class One with Mrs Robinson, Miss Mattison, Mr Gunn and Mrs Birnie!

Summer 2 2026 Newsletter

Welcome back to our Nursery and Reception children! This newsletter outlines our topics, including the learning and some of the objectives, for the Summer 2 half term. We will also keep you up to date through our School 360 online learning journey. Thank you for sharing your child's story/reading books at home. We hope to change these books on a **Wednesday** each week. Please continue to record any comments in their yellow diary and if you are unsure about anything, please ask or email longhorsleyadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk. We encourage reception children to read their reading book at least 3 times (recorded by an adult in their yellow diary) before we change it, in order to gain both understanding of what they have read and reading aloud fluency. On **Friday**, Reception books will be changed if needed as well.

~Communication and Language~

Nursery:

Listens in small groups, follows simple directions, answers simple problem solving questions and recounts simple past events.

Reception:

We will act in the roles of a News Reporter, Baby Bear, Rocket, Jamal and astronauts as we explore stories about space, discussing what Rocket sees in the sky and asking questions about stars, planets and meteor showers.

~Literacy~

Nursery will:

- actively listen to stories and look at books independently
- continue a rhyming string
- hear and say the initial sounds in words
- recognise some of the Read Write Inc (RWI) Set 1 graphemes
- copy most letters from my name

Reception will:

- retell stories using my own narrative
- read words containing RWI Set 1 and Set 2 sounds
- read books consistent with my phonics knowledge
- form my lower case letters correctly and practise writing numerals and capital letters
- spell words by identifying sounds and representing these with the correct letters
- write simple phrases and sentences

Our Core texts this term are:

'Goodnight Moon' by Margaret Wise Brown, 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy and 'Look Up!' by Nathan Bryon.



~Mathematics~

Nursery will:

- talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes
- select shapes appropriately within my play
- recite numbers past 5
- continue to gain accuracy counting using 1:1 correspondence when objects are placed in a line

-link numerals and amounts

- solve real mathematical problems (up to 5)
- talk about and identify the patterns
- copy and create simple patterns



Reception will:

- talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes, using simple mathematical language to name and describe these shapes
- develop an understanding of sharing and grouping (different methods of division)
- identify even and odd numbers
- recognise and recall double facts
- identify units of repeating patterns and create/explore our own pattern rules



~Physical Development~

On **Tuesdays**, the children will take part in a skipping session for the first four weeks. Some of the children will meet our external skipping coach. We will then have the opportunity to develop our throwing, catching and striking skills in our cricket lessons.



On Thursday afternoons, **Reception** will visit the sports hall in Morpeth for a swimming session.

Outdoor Learning

Our outdoor physical activities will encourage children to develop their coordination, balance and teamwork through a variety of space-themed games and challenges. Children will take part in active missions, obstacle courses and role-play adventures inspired by astronauts, rockets and space exploration, helping them to build confidence, strength and resilience while having fun outdoors.

~Expressive Art & Design~

We will be planning and making our 'Disney' themed scarecrow for the Longhorsley Fete Competition. In doing so, we will study different Disney characters and vote for which one we would like to create. We will also explore how to make a scarecrow, including our focused task; stuffing socks/bags with straw! We hope to use lots of recycled materials and allow the children to guide our creations.

We will also be making lots of rocket themed crafts, embedding both our junk modelling and painting skills. Alongside our space crafts, we will be singing and accompanying space themed songs with instruments. The children will have the opportunity to use our Boomwhackers which help us to develop rhythm and hand-eye coordination.



~Personal, Social and Emotional Development~

In PSED this term, we will be learning about how to care for the world around us by exploring recycling, reducing waste, biodiversity, conservation and habitats. The children will discuss everyday actions that help the environment, sort recyclable and non-recyclable items, and create posters showing how to protect local wildlife and their habitats. We will also learn about money and jobs, recognising coins and notes, discussing why people work, exploring future careers and understanding the importance of saving money for things we would like to buy.

Commando Joe's

In COJOS, we will be exploring **Parveen Positivity** through the story of Zog, focusing on gratitude, motivation, a positive attitude, willpower and a passion for learning.

~Understanding the World~

This term, we will explore what we can see in the sky, learn about astronauts and rockets, compare old and modern space travel, and imagine what other planets might be like. We will also learn about different places around the world and identify natural features such as mountains, rivers, forests, oceans and deserts. We will reflect on the work of Neil Armstrong and Mae C. Jemison to create our own flying machines.

In RE, Reception will be exploring the question, 'which stories are special and why?' In doing so, we will consider which stories are special to us, and give reasons why. We will also encounter stories from different religious worldviews and find out about why these might be special to a believer. With support, we will consider the impact of these stories.