



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



Autumn 1 2026 Newsletter

Message from the Class Teachers

Hello! Everybody has settled in beautifully this week and we have been straight into our routines and reminding ourselves of our Federation expectations.

Weekly homework will again be given on Thursdays (due by the following Tuesday) and spelling tests will continue on Tuesdays. Year 2 Common Exception Words will soon be sent home; the more children read, the better their vocabulary becomes and the greater the chance of recognising and spelling their Common Exception Words.

We look forward to a great Year 2, Miss Bowen and Mrs Hall

~History~

Following on from our investigation last year into Grace Darling and the beginnings of the Life Boat service, we will be looking at more significant individuals, in various fields, such as Ada Lovelace and Copernicus; asking how they have changed the world.

~Literacy~

Each morning we practise handwriting, initially revising our number and lowercase and uppercase letter formation, before we set off on our journey learning to join.

We will continue our Read Write Inc phonics and writing lessons across the Autumn Term, to embed our sounds and the appropriate spelling.

We have 64 Common Exception Words to learn this year (both to read and write), so we will focus on two a week to give us a chance to spell them by the end of the year.

~P.E~

On Tuesdays, in school, we will be learning how to dodge and change direction. Our key question is: How does dodging help me avoid others in a game? Children will also need to wear their PE kit on a Thursday please, ready for further sports at Morpeth Leisure Centre.

~PSHE~

Our first topic of the year is Emotions ~ what helps us to be happy? We will explore a range of emotions and how they make us feel and how we can respond appropriately to them.

~CoJo~

Personal development linked to our RESPECT values, designed around Queen Elizabeth II life and duties.

~Mathematics~

The initial topic is place value and we are working hard on identifying 2-digit numbers, by the number of tens and ones. We then move on to addition and subtraction.

~Art & Design~

Our art and sculpture topic is based on African masks. We will look at both traditional and contemporary masks, looking at the patterns used to decorate them and developing our own.

~Science~

We start with Animals, including Humans, focussing on three core areas of Offspring and Growth, Survival Needs and Health and Hygiene. The children will explore basic life cycles and look at how humans change from babies to old age. They will identify the three basic needs of animals and humans for survival (water, food, and air) and describe the importance for humans of regular exercise, eating a balanced diet, and keeping clean.

~Music~

In Year 2, we will be focusing on listening to the pulse (beat). We will also learn to distinguish between long and short, and low and high notes.

~Computing~

We start the year learning about information technology, thinking about how IT devices work together. We will talk about different rules for using IT, along with explaining how it is used in different ways.

~R.E~

We will be celebrating different religions within our local area. The children will learn about major world religions represented in their local area and explore how people celebrate their faiths through festivals, stories, places of worship, and customs.