



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

Message from Class Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to year 1! I hope you've all had a lovely summer. 😊

I am absolutely over the moon with how beautifully all of the children have settled back into school. They have made such a wonderful start, and I'm really looking forward to a busy and exciting term ahead!

I have now completed the children's baseline assessments, and I was so pleased to see that they have all remembered how to form their letters correctly — **thank you!** I have been **blown away by their mathematical skills!** They have retained so much of their mathematical knowledge over the summer, which is fantastic to see. It really does make such a difference when we work together on these skills at home and at school.

Please don't worry if your child has moved back a colour group in Read, Write Inc. The summer holidays are a long time, and it is completely normal for children to need a little time to get back into the routine of reading and writing regularly. I will work with them to build their confidence and get their literacy skills back up to the level that reflects their overall ability. We will be well prepared for the year one phonics screening check 2027 in June- especially decoding nonsense words!

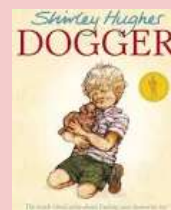
My priority initially is to identify and address any gaps in learning, ensuring that the children have those strong foundations in place before building on them. We will work hard together, and I have every confidence that **we will excel!**

Homework and spellings will be sent home every Monday and will be due back the following Tuesday, giving the children **8 days to practise**. We will have our spelling test on Tuesday afternoons, and I will record the results for you in the spelling overview in their homework books so that you can keep track of their progress.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to let me know. I'm really looking forward to working with you all and having a fantastic term!

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Mattison



~English and Read Write Inc~

This term, we will be using some wonderful **Pie Corbett texts** to develop the children's vocabulary, writing skills and comprehension. **Read Write Inc. will be taught in groups**, while the children access the provision, where they will have opportunities to apply their phonics and writing skills independently. We will begin with *Dave and the Tooth Fairy* by Verna Wilkins and *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon, focusing on descriptive writing and describing characters, settings and emotions.

We will then explore *Dogger* by Shirley Hughes and *Billy and the Dragon* by Nadia Shireen, developing sequencing, retelling and dialogue. These texts will inspire the children's own writing, ideas and learning across the provision. I'm really looking forward to seeing their creativity, confidence and growing independence shine through!

~Forest School~

Mrs Brannen has been very busy over the holidays and has created our very own **separate Forest School area**, complete with a beautiful, enchanting gate! Miss Holmes will be joining Miss Mattison every Friday afternoon, where the children will explore the outdoors, investigate **seasonal changes**, using **tools** and develop their understanding of the natural world. We will also be making use of our **fire pit when the weather allows**, which the children are sure to love!

Every Friday please provide your child with named **wellies**, a **waterproof suit (that you don't mind smelling of smoke!)** and **waterproof gloves** so that they can enjoy Forest School whatever the weather.



~PSHE~

In PSHE, we will be focusing on **our emotions** and exploring the question, "How do I feel today?" The children will learn to recognise and describe basic emotions and begin to understand how different feelings can make their bodies feel. We will talk about how we can identify and name our emotions, as well as thinking about **why we might feel a certain way**. We will also explore positive ways to manage our feelings and respond when we experience different emotions.

Zones of Regulation			
BLUE	GREEN	YELLOW	RED
Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Good to Go Ready to Learn	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Anxious Excited	Mad/Angry Mean Yelling/Hitting Out of Control I Need Time and Space

~Our provision~



We have child-initiated play time each day to play and complete specific tasks in our Plan, Do and Review booklets.

~Mathematics~

This term in Maths, we will begin by developing our understanding of **Place Value within 10**, before moving on to **Addition and Subtraction within 10**. The children will use part-whole models and number lines to help them understand and record their calculations. We will also bring our maths into our **Hairdressers role-play**, where the children will explore using **1p and 2p coins** to pay for their pretend haircuts! Our main aim is for the children to become **fluent with their number bonds to 10**, so that when asked, "What do I need to add to 7 to make 10?", they can confidently respond, "3!"

~Art and design ~

In Art, our theme will be **Weather and Seasons**, giving the children lots of opportunities to explore colour, texture, drawing and painting. We will take inspiration from artists including **Claude Monet, David Hockney, Vincent van Gogh and Eric Ravilious**, looking at how they represent landscapes, weather, light and the changing seasons. The children will develop their observational drawing and experiment with different painting techniques and natural materials. They will then use these skills to create their own seasonal weather artwork, with lots of opportunities to explore and apply their ideas through our provision and Forest School.

~Science~

This term in Science, we will be learning about **British wild plants**, developing our ability to name and identify a range of plants we might find in our local environment. We will investigate **how plants grow and what they need to survive**, as well as exploring the important role that trees and plants play in our own lives and why humans need them to survive.

~Music~

Our Music learning this term will be based around the 'Hands, Feet and Heart' unit from **Charanga**. The children will develop their singing, listening and rhythm skills, exploring different musical patterns through movement and instruments. We'll have lots of opportunities to make music together, build confidence and, most importantly, have fun! 🎵

~R.E~

This term in RE, Year 1 will be learning about "Who is a Muslim and how do they live?" We will explore some of the key beliefs and practices of Muslims, including the Shahadah, the beautiful names of Allah, stories about Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the importance of the Qur'an and Muslim prayer. We will also think about how these beliefs can influence the way Muslims live, including showing kindness, respect, caring for creation and developing self-control. Throughout the unit, children will have opportunities to ask questions, share their own ideas and make connections with their own lives.

~Computing~

Computing is a vital part of the world we live in, and this term we will be developing the children's understanding of the technology around us. We will learn how to use a mouse confidently, log in independently and explore Paint, developing our digital skills through fun and creative activities.



~History~

This term in History, we will be learning about **explorers and seafaring**, focusing particularly on **John Cabot and Isambard Kingdom Brunel**. The children will explore how ships and travel have changed over time, from early sailing boats to Brunel's steam-powered ships, and discover how these developments changed exploration, travel and trade. We will also explore what life was like for people travelling at sea and develop our understanding of **change over time** through exciting stories, artefacts and historical sources.



~Geography~

In Geography, we will be learning to **name the four countries of the UK and their capital cities**. The children will develop their map skills by using **maps, atlases and globes** to explore the world around them. We will also bring our learning into our **Construction Area**, where the children will explore and name some famous landmarks from around the world.

~P.E~

PE will be on **Wednesdays**, so please send your child in wearing their PE kit. Sessions will be delivered by **Mrs Hall**, with a focus this half term on **Locomotion: Agility & Direction** – changing direction and stopping/starting with control. Our key question is: "How does changing direction help me move effectively?"

~Commando Joes~

In Commando Joe's this term, we will take on exciting missions to **help Simba through Pride Rock!** 🦁 Along the way, we will develop our understanding of **RESPECT** through resilience, empathy, self-awareness, positivity, excellence, communication and teamwork. The children will work together to overcome challenges, support one another and build confidence in themselves and their team.

I can move forwards, backwards, sideways and diagonally.	I can change direction while keeping my balance.	I can change direction when I see or hear a signal.	can move around obstacles and change direction with control.	I can use changing direction to avoid others and find space.	I can choose when and how to change direction to move effectively.
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