

Autumn 1 2025 Newsletter -Reception (Class 1)

A very warm welcome to our school. We are really excited about the year ahead. We have a home/school diary that goes to and fro between home and school. If possible, we expect children to practise their reading skills at least 3 times per week. The children begin with learning the pure sounds and we will send their focus ones home, when these are conquered we send small reading books home to make a start at blending cvc words e.g. m.a.t = mat. Please record any comments in this diary and if you are unsure about anything, please ask or email whaltonadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk

~Expressive Arts and Design~

Linked to the key texts, the children will be using a variety of mixed media to create their own story characters, make their own settings and use a variety of instruments to make their own sound effects too both indoors and outdoors! The children will also make their own edible designs to match 'The Gingerbread Man!'

~Literacy~ and ~Communication and Language Development~

Our focus texts for this half term are: The Gingerbread Man and We're Going on a Bear Hunt.

The children will be learning how to sit, listen and respond to the stories that they hear, share their opinions and retell stories.

They will also begin to explore sounds and write simple labels (with support) to match these two key texts, draw story maps and create a sequence to show the order of a story. If the children are brave - they might even change some of the characters or settings to their own in their own play!

The children will strengthen their finger muscles and coordination by activities such as playdough, finger painting, and threading beads. These tasks help them to identify their dominant hand and build dexterity, paving the way for writing their names independently.

~Physical Development~

We will focus on balance and coordination through several multi-skills based activities, using both indoors and outdoors. Children will also learn how to control a football with their feet and learn a basic pass too!

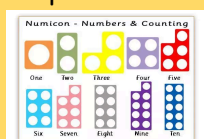
The use of the trim trail and playtime equipment too will develop their individual skills too.

~Personal, Social and Emotional Development ~ and ~Understanding the World~

"Me in my small world"
Children will be learning about themselves, their families, and their immediate environment. This helps with personal, social, and emotional development as well as communication skills. Activities will include drawing self-portraits, talking about their family, role play about home life, and exploring feelings.

~Mathematics~

The children will be sorting, matching and creating and extending patterns. They will then also compare size, weight and capacity. Maths will take place indoors and outdoors too. They will also be learning about the way we begin to form our numbers through rhymes (which we will share with home too) and be introduced to equipment that we have in school to help them solve a variety of problems.



"What's in the basket?"

We will be exploring everyday objects and "treasures" in a discovery box! Children will investigate textures, shapes, and uses of different items, encouraging curiosity, early science skills, and vocabulary building.

"Senses"

The children will be learning about the five senses — sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. Activities will include taste-testing different foods, listening walks, feely bags, looking at things with magnifying glasses.

Outdoor Learning

Please make sure your child has wellingtons and waterproofs that can be left in school, as children will be able to access the outdoor space whatever the weather!



~Religious Education ~

Our key question is:

Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?

The children will be listening to the thoughts and ideas of each other and we will also invite Reverend Elaine into our classroom, to talk to us about

Why does she feel God is important to her?

