



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 2025 Newsletter - Welcome Back!

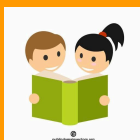
I hope you all had a lovely summer. This is your first year in Key Stage 1, and we are going to have a fantastic time together—building new skills and strengthening the ones you already have.

Homework:

- Reading at home at least three times a week is expected in Year 2. Please ensure an adult signs the reading diary and adds a short comment.
- Weekly spellings should be practised at home. These will continue to be tested every Tuesday.
- Occasionally, there may also be extra home learning tasks linked to what we are covering in class.

~Literacy~

We will continue to read and make progress with our writing by following the Read, Write Inc, scheme. The children will continue to learn new sounds and work their way through the levels, so in addition to their home/school reading book there will be sound flashcards to practise too. The children will also continue to experience texts through our Pie Corbett class reader books and our Literacy Tree ones. This term our focus books are: Lizzie and the Cloud, Gorilla and Amazing Grace. Spellings will be in line with the National Curriculum expectations and will be taught in school, for rehearsal at home. We will continue to learn additional high frequency words too.



~P.E~



We will be learning new speed, agility and coordination skills within the theme of Football with the help of the staff from 1st for Footy on a Thursday! Swimming will continue at the Leisure Centre on a Tuesday. Exciting times ahead.

~Mathematics~

We will continue to follow the Whiterose Maths Scheme, as well as our 10 mins additional time using the Maths Mastery approach. This half term, we will be focusing on place value with numbers within 10, counting forward and back, grouping numbers and comparing numbers using vocabulary - greater than, less than and equal to. We will then move onto addition and subtraction and learn about the part whole model, being able to create totals from two parts and working out missing numbers too!



~History~

Grace Darling is our key person we will be researching this term. We will learn about why she is still remembered today. We will place her on our class timeline of people we have been learning about so far. If anyone has any spare weekends to enhance this topic, there is a Grace Darling Museum in Bamburgh and there is also a special Grave in the Churchyard at St Aidan's too.

~Art and Design or ~Design and Technology~

The children will be painting their annual self portrait which will be added to the gallery in the hall. For the rest of the half term, it will be a Design and Technology focus on slides and levers. The children will design, make and evaluate! Then they will be able to use these skills to create their very own products! Watch this space!

~PSHE~

'What is the same and different about us?' is the key question we will explore.

In Cojo's, we will learn more about Steve Backshall and who he is - learning about his thoughts on conservation and learning about some of his adventures and the skills he has developed along the way.



~Science~

'Animals, including humans' is the unit of study this half term. The key questions, we will explore are:

- What do animals eat?
- Do all animals eat the same food?
- Which of our senses is the most accurate at identifying food?
- Do all animals hunt?
- Why are animals different colours and patterns?

~R.E~

Our focus this half term is to celebrate religions in our local area. We have asked Reverend Elaine and any of our families to help us with this topic, so we can listen and compare respectfully different people's views about why their faith is important to them.



~Computing~

'Information Technology around us' is the topic title and in this unit of work, we will look at the equipment we have, how it is used at school, in the home, in workplaces and across the world. We will also learn the importance of using it safely too.



~Music~

We are going to combine songs, movement, and learn to play simple instruments in a fun, engaging way. Together, we will explore rhythm and pitch, through a variety of songs.



We will also explore different environmental sounds and use the outdoors to create our own music too.