



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 Whalton

Class 1 - Early Years - Newsletter - Autumn 1 - 2026

Literacy

We start with fostering a love of reading and focusing our class activities on a key text. The children by the end of this half term will have completed a variety of activities and will be able to almost recite these texts word for word!

In our first half term we will focus on The Colour Monster, Owl Babies and The Little Red Hen.



Expressive Arts and Design

The children will use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design and textures.

The children will learn some well-known nursery rhymes and songs and they will perform a song in the Harvest Service.



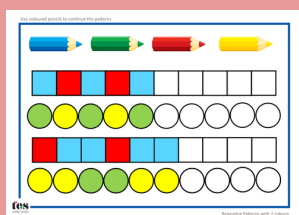
Understanding the World

This half term, the children will be asked to bring in some of their own photos which will be displayed in the classroom. We will be asking them to consider - *How have I changed since I was a baby?*



Mathematics

The children will be focusing this term on matching, sorting and comparing objects. We will then explore measuring and creating patterns, before beginning to learn about numbers 1, 2 and 3, including recognising, counting and representing these numbers. You can support at home by spotting numbers, making simple patterns and sorting everyday objects together.



Home/School information

Children will be bringing home Read, Write Inc phonics cards. We follow a specific order and when children confidently know their pure sounds we will add more and more sounds. When these are embedded we will start with our sound blending books.

Google Classroom

We will update Google Classroom weekly to let you know what your children have been doing. If you are happy to have your child posted doing activities please accept the invitation. It will be shared with Reception parents only.

<https://classroom.google.com/c/O DY5MjE2MDc5MDkx?cjc=kcifnon>

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Physical Development

This half term in PE, the children will be developing their movement skills through running, jumping, hopping and skipping. Across our mixed Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes, we will be building agility, balance and coordination while learning how to move safely and confidently in shared spaces. Each week we will explore a different way of travelling, practise controlled landings, working on rhythm and skipping patterns, and combined movements through simple agility courses.

Tuesday and Thursdays - Please come to school dressed in a PE Kit.

	It should be working by the end of week 2, children have to have a username and password for school360 first. WATCH THIS SPACE!	We will also do lots of morning jobs that require fine motor skills, to develop our pencil grip and strength. 
<u>People, Culture and Communities</u> <i>We will explore a variety of religions but the question this term is ...</i> <i>Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?</i>	<u>Forest School</u> Mrs Brannen has sent out a timetable for Forest School, which will be fortnightly with Anna.	<u>CoJo</u> In Commando Joe's, children will join Steve Backshall on exciting wildlife missions, developing teamwork, courage, empathy and problem-solving as they successfully rescue endangered animals, survive challenging expeditions, build shelters and learn the importance of keeping themselves, others and wildlife safe.