

Welcome to EYFS Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Autumn term in Class One for our Nursery and Reception children. I hope you have all enjoyed a lovely summer break with friends and family. This is a very special term for the children and we are looking forward to sharing this learning journey with them as well as yourselves.

Teaching and learning in Nursery and Reception

Mrs Haslam continues to have overall responsibility for the teaching and learning in Class One and is supported by Miss Butler, Mrs Harwood and Mrs Court. Some of our sessions have children in both Nursery and Reception being taught together, in other sessions, Nursery may be taught separately where teaching will be led by Miss Butler.

Changes to Tapestry

From September, the way we use Tapestry will look slightly different to how it has previously been used. Expect some regular observations in the first couple of weeks as your child settles into school. After this time, we will be sharing one whole group observation for Nursery and Reception at the end of each week to help keep you informed about your child's learning. We will also share special 'wow' moments with you as they arise. We still encourage you to share any aspects of your child's learning outside school with us, by adding your own observations. The changes to how we are using Tapestry are in line with the new Early Years Foundation Stage Framework which comes into effect from September 2021.

Your child's Key Person

We adopt a key person approach for all children in EYFS at Levens. This approach helps your child to feel safe, confident and cared for whilst they are in school. It also means that there are named members of staff to act as the main points of contact for you and your child. If your child is joining us in Nursery for a second year their key person remains the same, with the exception of Mrs Harwood's key children who will also have Mrs Court as their secondary key person. Mrs Haslam is the key person for all Reception children. Children who are new to Nursery will be informed about their key person within the first few weeks of the Autumn term.

Lunches and snack

A reminder that Reception children can enjoy a free hot lunch in school each day; our lunches are super tasty and we encourage all children to take up this offer!

It is really helpful if you can discuss with your child the lunch menu for each day before they come into school so they understand the options available and are happy with their choice. **Please note that if your child is bringing a packed lunch, we are a strictly nut free school and have several pupils with severe nut allergies. Please ensure all packed lunch items are nut free.** All children in EYFS will receive fruit and milk every day and we kindly ask that children do not bring additional snacks to school. Children should bring a named water bottle to school which can now be sent home each day for washing and refilling.

Clothing

Children need to be suitably dressed for the weather each day which may include bringing a coat, sun hat and cream to school at the beginning of the term. During the warmer months, please apply sun cream to your child in the morning before they arrive in school and if they need more during the day then a bottle which is named can be brought into school and left (please note they cannot be sent home each day). All children require a pair of wellies and a puddlesuit/waterproofs which can be left in school. **Please can all items of clothing be clearly labelled with your child's name.**

PE

PE for children in Nursery and Reception this year will be on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please can your child come to school on these days dressed in their PE kits which they will remain in for the day. Please note that school PE kit is optional for children in Nursery, however children should come in trainers and tracksuit bottoms/leggings and a suitable top if they are not wearing a school PE kit. A reminder that PE kit for children in Reception is black shorts/jogging bottoms or leggings, trainers and a Levens PE t-shirt and hoodie.

Reading books

Children in Reception will begin to bring home reading books over the next few weeks. More information about how we teach reading and how to support your child at home will follow.

Letters

Any slips that need returning can be placed in the black box next to the water bottle tray. We have found that it can be helpful to send children in with anything to be

returned in their hands as they enter school rather than on book bags as we don't routinely check these. Please ensure no toys or games are brought into school.

Please see the information below for details about the learning opportunities children in Nursery and Reception will have in the Autumn Term. The children will learn through a combination of self-initiated independent learning and adult-led activities as well as opportunities through provision in the classroom.



We value highly the children's interests and what sparks their imaginations which is why we have chosen to use different books to base their learning around rather than structured topics. This provides the children with greater autonomy over their learning and may mean we spend a few days on something or even a few weeks. Stay tuned to the school blog and Tapestry to see where the children take us on their learning journey...

Please do get in contact with me via the class email address if you have any queries or concerns: class1@levens.cumbria.sch.uk

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Haslam and the Class One Team

Area of learning	Autumn Term 2021
<p>Focus texts</p>	<p>The Little Red Hen, The Jolly Postman, The Jolly Christmas Postman, We are family, Our class is a family, The girl with two Dads, Captain Tom Little People Big Dreams, Animals in Winter, Today is a no money day</p>
<p>Physical Development</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Squiggle while you wiggle! (Circles and lines) • Funky Fingers area with a weekly focus • Playdough area with changing enhancements • Dough disco • Large outdoor loose parts • Painting/creative/cutting/ threading activities within classroom provision • Bikes and trikes time (N) • Parachute games • Ball skills • Gaining independence in putting on/taking off coats, doing zips etc. • Yoga • Pencil grip (R only) • Negotiating spaces safely • Rules of games
<p>Communication and Language & Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phases 1/2 phonics • Circle & morning chat time • Snack time • Settling in, rules and routines/expectations • How are we similar? How are we different? • Building relationships with peers and adults • Voting station - which book should we read today? • Daily story time • Listening skills • Acquisition and use of vocabulary • Understanding two-part instructions/questions • Conversations with adults and peers • Singing songs • Retelling and enjoying nursery rhymes • Discussing familiar experiences • Speaking in full sentences, becoming longer • What makes us special? What are we good at? What would we like to do when we grow up? • Who is in our family? • Our feelings and the feelings of others • Family routines and special occasions • Self-care techniques • Finding solutions to conflicts • Healthy eating and toothbrushing
<p>Literacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and instrumental sounds discrimination (N only) • Daily story time • Body percussion (N only) • Parts of a book and page sequencing



- Discussions about stories
- Name writing
- Early mark making
- Spotting and suggesting rhymes
- National Nursery Rhyme week
- Segmenting and blending words orally (R only)
- Linking sounds to letters (R only)
- Beginning to read vc and cvc words (R only)
- Reading some 'tricky' words (R only)
- Developing an accurate pencil grip (R only)
- Engaging in writing activities - writing shopping lists, name writing, writing labels, captions and letters (R only)
- Drama through retelling stories
- Squiggle - drawing circles and lines
- 1:1 reading (Reception only)
- Responding to our focus texts through various activities

Expressive Arts and Design



- Creative area
- Playdough kitchen
- Painting area
- Construction and loose parts area
- Role-play area
- Focused adult-led tasks linked to topic
- Small world pretend play
- Exploring textures and joining materials
- Listening carefully to sounds created by different materials
- Creating closed shapes with continuous lines
- Self-portraits
- Exploring colour and colour mixing
- Playing different instruments to express emotions and feelings
- Singing Christmas songs
- Christmas cards and crafts
- Creating collaboratively
- Building models using construction equipment
- Junk modelling
- Exploring how sounds can be changed
- Acting out our emotions
- Drama conventions through literacy
- Using different textures and materials to create firework pictures
- Joining materials
- Retelling stories
- Role playing the Nativity story
- Autumn themed collages/crafts

Understanding the World & RE

- Learning about Buddhism and the local Buddhist Temple
- Bonfire Night
- Remembrance Day
- Christmas
- Firework safety
- Harvest Festival



- Exploring natural materials
- Our own life story and family history
- Respecting and caring for the natural environment
- Looking after birds in winter
- Hibernation and migration - where in the world? Different countries
- Changes of state - toasting marshmallows on our firepit
- Understanding the differences and beliefs between people
- How do people celebrate special times?
- Exploring the effect of the changing seasons on the natural world
- Making bread
- Celebrations
- Reflection Time
- Christian Value - Respect

Mathematics



Nursery

Number and place value:

- Re-cap of the counting principles
- Introduction to the language of more/less

Geometry:

- Patterned language
- Ordering events

Reception

Number

- Match and sort, compare amounts
- Representing - 1, 2 & 3
- Comparing - 1, 2, & 3
- Composition of - 1, 2 & 3

Measure, shape & spatial thinking

- Compare size, mass & capacity
- Exploring patterns

Measure, shape & spatial thinking

- Circles & triangles
- Positional language

Number

- Representing numbers to 5
- More and less

Measure, shape & spatial thinking

- Shapes with 4 sides
- Time