

Welcome to EYFS Spring Term 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term in Class One for our Nursery and Reception pupils. I hope you have all enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing Christmas break with friends and family. We would like to offer an especially warm welcome to our new families joining Nursery this term.

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 Mrs Lawless, 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 various members of the team who each play to their specific strengths. For the remainder of this term and with her health and safety of the greatest priority, Miss Butler is supporting pupils in another classroom until her maternity leave starts at the beginning of March.

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. Mrs Haslam is the key person for all children in Class One.

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 and that grapes and cherry tomatoes are cut in half length ways.** 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 will be sent home each day for washing and refilling. These should contain only water please.

Clothing

Children need to be suitably dressed for the weather each day which includes a warm coat. All children require a pair of wellies and a puddlesuit/waterproofs which can be left in school. All items of clothing need to be clearly labelled with your child's name. Please can we remind parents that all children in both Nursery and Reception need to have a bag of spare clothes which is kept on their peg. This does not need to be uniform but should be suitable for the weather at different times of the year. We only have a limited supply of spare clothing which we keep in school.

PE

PE for children in Nursery and Reception this term will be **Thursdays and Fridays**. Please can your child come to school on both 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.

Show and Tell

Show and Tell is wonderful for developing children's speaking, listening and questioning skills and boosts confidence and self-esteem which is why it is part of our *'Feel Good Friday'* sessions. This term 'show and tell' will continue to be on Fridays and will be extended to children in Nursery. Please only send in one item which is not highly valuable or fragile and which is able to fit into your child's tray. The more unusual the item the better! Memorabilia from families' homes and photographs are always more fascinating than toys. Items that have been bought or collected on walks and outings. Your child might like to bring in a piece of art or craft that has been made at home. **Show and tell will be every other Friday on the following dates: 13th, 27th January, 10th February, 3rd, 17th and 31st March.**

Reading (Reception only)

I am so proud of the amazing progress made by the children in the autumn term with their reading. From knowing only a few initial letter sounds, we now have lots of children who are building up some beautiful fluency! Thank you so much for all you do to support your child in learning to read, 5 minutes each night is the most effective way to help your child along their reading journey, so please keep up the good work! The more children practise their reading skills at home as well as in school, the more successful they will be. Please remember to write the date and make a short comment in your child's reading record each time they are listened to. If you feel as though you would like some extra advice or support with helping your child learn to read, please don't hesitate to come and see me, I always love to talk about everything reading in the early years!

Dropping off in the mornings

We understand that some children are still feeling a little anxious at dropping off times and we will do our best to be on the playground to greet your child if they require additional support in parting with their adult. We politely ask that if there isn't a member of the Class One team available to take your child into school that you wait for someone to become available to you by waiting on the playground and not coming through the children's gate into Class One's outdoor area. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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, games, comforters (including dummies) are brought into school.

Please see the information below for details about the learning opportunities children in Nursery and Reception will have in the Spring 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

Maths

Nursery:

- Understanding numbers 0-5;
- Consistent 1:1 correspondence when counting;
- Beginning to select quantities of objects up to 5;
- Awareness of simple shapes and their names;
- Recognition of shapes in the environment.

Reception:

- Introducing Zero;
- Comparing numbers to 5/composition of 4&5;
- 6, 7, and 8;
- Making pairs/combining two groups;
- Length and height/time;
- Building 9&10/comparing numbers to 10/bonds to 10;
- 3D Shapes/pattern.

Literacy

Nursery:

- World Book Day;
- Daily story voting;
- Phase 1 phonics;
- Discussing stories;
- Story telling;
- Early mark making activities.

Reception:

- World Book Day;
- Daily story voting;
- Phase 3 phonics;
- Linking all letter sounds to names of the alphabet;
- Writing instructions, captions, lists and labels;
- Writing simple sentences.

Physical Development

- Dough disco;
- Squiggle whilst you wiggle;
- Using scissors accurately and safely;
- Tripod pencil grip (R);
- Forming letters accurately (R);
- Yoga;
- Bikes, trikes and scooters;
- Negotiating spaces safely;
- Changing direction;
- Dance/gymnastics;
- Wheelchair Basketball
- Rugby

Communication and Language

- Developing listening and attention skills;
- Show and tell;
- Rhyme and song time;
- Talking time language groups;
- Exploring new vocabulary – our word wall;
- Stories and storytelling;
- Conversations with adults and friends;
- What/when/why/how/who?

Expressive arts and design

- Making windsocks/windmills/rain gauges;
- Observational drawings of fruit;
- Joining materials;
- Story telling;
- Body and voice sounds;
- Playing instruments with increasing control;
- Continuing to learn how to use our work bench;
- Listening and responding to different types of music.
- Opportunities within continuous provision.

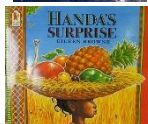
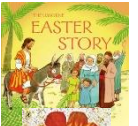
Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Rules and routines;
- Skills to manage the school day successfully;
- Personal hygiene;
- Building relationships and friendships;
- 'Wear your Scarf to School Day'/Children's Mental Health Week;
- Recognising difference positively;
- 'Feel Good Friday' Rugby with Barrow Raiders;
- SCARF – 'Valuing differences' & 'Being my Best'
- Show and Tell



Class One Spring Term 'Up above and all around'

Key texts this term (not limited to)



Understanding the World

- Our woodland through the seasons – are there signs of spring?
- Wheelchair Basketball/Disability awareness;
- Exploring prayer through different faiths (R only)/Eid/Lent/Easter;
- Growing fruit/Making fruit salads;
- Exploring the weather – rain, wind, clouds and rainbow/what clothing waterproof? (N only);
- How people did their washing in the past;
- People in the community – Mountain Rescue Team visit;
- Simple maps/where does fruit grow?

Our Christian
Value this term
is:

Koinonia

