



Year 2 - Spring 2

Sustainability – What can you do to help our planet?



This newsletter is intended to give you an overview of important dates and key information about the learning opportunities your children will be involved in over the coming weeks. We hope you find it useful.

Dates to remember this half term:

- **Friday 27th February** – Year 2 Coffee Morning
- **Thursday 5th March**- World Book Day
- **Friday 6th March - Friday 13th March** - British Science Week
- **Tuesday 24th March & Wednesday 25th March**- Parents' Evenings
- **Thursday 2nd April** – Year 2 visit to Hester Pit Memorial Garden
- **Thursday 2nd April** – Last day of Spring Term
- **Friday 3rd April** – Bank Holiday (Good Friday)

Notices:

PE Days – Monday and Tuesday. Please come to school in PE kit of house coloured t-shirt (no football shirts), plain black or blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and trainers.

All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons. Retainers can be worn in place of earrings. No plaster covers.

Reading Books/Book Bags – To be in school every day.

Homework/Library books – Homework will be set every Friday, to be handed in the following Friday. Homework will be reviewed and kept in pupils' homework folders in the classroom. Library books will be changed on a Friday.

Water Bottles – Water bottles are provided by school. They are kept in the classroom and filled with fresh water every morning.

English: **Phonics & Reading**

Children are grouped according to their next steps. They will continue to learn new Speed Sounds, as well as revising known Speed Sounds and how to apply these to reading and spelling. We will continue to build sight vocabulary of tricky 'red' words too. We will also develop reading skills, including comprehension and fluency, through our RWI reading sessions. Every

English: **Writing**

This half term, we will continue to develop stamina for writing and excitement around writing by reading texts linked to different topics, which we will use as inspiration when writing for different purposes and genres. We will continue to place emphasis on the importance of high quality and accurate writing.

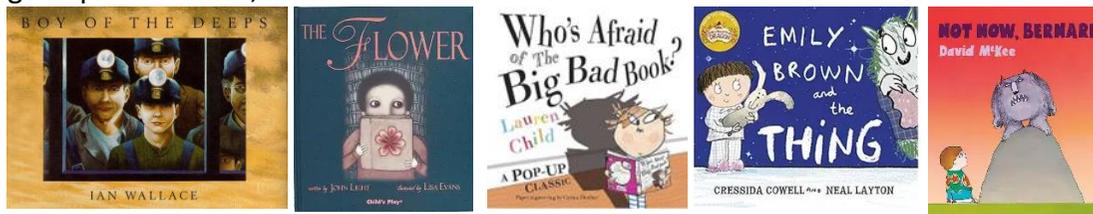
We will be using our work about the Hester Pit Disaster in history to inspire our creative writing, alongside reading the book 'Boy of the Deeps' by Ian Wallace. We will write letters and newspaper reports, ordering and describing events in detail. We will also write poems inspired by the life of a coal miner, using our senses and ambitious vocabulary.

Making links to our Spring 2 science unit about plants, as well as the wonderful picture book, 'The Flower', by John Light, we will write instructions for planting a seed.

We will continue our daily handwriting practice, focusing on forming letters of the correct size and spacing relative to one another, and starting to use the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters.

afternoon, we will enjoy sharing a book as a whole class.

We read stories every day from a range of picture books, often linked to our theme. Some of the stories we will focus on this half term include:



Maths:

Multiplication and Division - We will continue to use our knowledge of equal groups, and odd and even numbers, to group, share, double and half numbers. We will learn about the symbols and vocabulary for multiplication and division. We will also learn the 2x table, 5x table and 10x table.

Length and Height - We will measure height and length in both cm and m. We will also compare height and lengths. We will use the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) as we answer problem solving questions.

Mass, capacity and temperature - Using some real-life examples, we will compare mass as we measure in grams and kilograms as well as adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. We will understand and compare volume and capacity as we measure millimetres and litres. We will also look at using the unit degrees Celsius as we recognise and compare temperature.

Science: Plants

In science, we will build on our prior learning of animals including humans to observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. We will find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. We will work scientifically by setting up a comparative test to investigate the impact different amounts of light, water and soil have on a plant's growth.

Computing: Pictograms

In computing, we will begin to understand what the term data means and how data can be collected in the form of a tally chart. We will learn the term 'attribute' and use this to organise data. We will then progress onto presenting data in the form of pictograms and finally block diagrams, using the data presented to answer questions.

DT: Structures – Baby Bear's Chair

In this unit, we will describe how chairs are made for different users and purposes. We will make links to previous learning in maths about 3D shapes to name some shapes that are stronger than others. We will also make links to previous learning in science, about materials and their properties, to explore strong, weak and flexible materials and describe how making a material thicker makes it stronger. We will bring this learning together to select suitable materials and join them securely to make a stable

Music: Charanga- Zoo time

Focused on the song 'Zoo time' we will look at the genre of reggae music. We will listen to and appraise a range of reggae songs as we listen to the musical instruments and vocals. We will feel the rhythm and pulse of the song as we learn to move to the music and learn to sing along to the lyrics. We will

History: The Hester Pit Disaster

The Hester Pit Disaster is an important event in the history of our local area. We will learn about what life in New Hartley village was like at the time, what caused the disaster and how it affected the people of New Hartley and the surrounding areas. We will learn about the changes that took place following this tragedy, and why the

chair for Baby Bear. Finally, we will evaluate and improve our designs.	also use the glockenspiels to play along to music, as well as improvise.	Hester Pit Memorial Garden is an important place to help us to remember what happened.
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<p>PE: Attack and defending invasion games Our PE days will be Monday and Tuesday. We will understand how to work together as a competitive team, think about how to adapt and change games, perform fundamental movements during a team game and bounce and strike a ball during a game. Children will also think tactically about how to work as a team to find space when attacking or how to cover space when defending.</p>	<p>PSHCE: Virtues – Patience, Respect & Reflection</p>  <p>Patience – Games that encourage</p> <p>Respect - Classroom and playground rules</p> <p>Reflection – Virtue shields</p>	<p>RE: Who is Jewish and how do they live? In this unit, we will learn about some of the beliefs and customs of Jewish people. We will learn about the Torah, synagogue and some Jewish celebrations including Shabbat and Chanukah. We will make links to our learning in Year 1 about special symbols and places of worship for Jewish people.</p>
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Our school character virtues

				
Dotty Dragonfly	Eddie Elephant	Hugo Hedgehog	Polly Puffin	Rosie Rabbit
Determination	Empathy	Honesty	Positivity	Respect

Daily a child in our class is identified as showing one of the above virtues through their actions and behaviours. That child will bring home a small certificate to share and celebrate with you and their name will be put on a golden ticket. The golden tickets get put on display in the class jar. At the end of the week one of the golden tickets is selected at random and that child has the opportunity to play games and have a chat with Mrs Dowdney, whilst enjoying juice and biscuits!

Communication
I will share information such as specific updates and half termly overviews (like this one) via email. These will also be uploaded to our school website <https://www.newhartley.northumberland.sch.uk/>. You will find useful links to our class Facebook posts and calendar on the website too. You are able to contact school via telephone on 0191 237 1218 and can report an absence via email hello@nhfs.uk. For all other enquiries, please email admin@nhfs.uk. Please note all emails, regardless of who they are for, must be sent via the admin email address. They will then be directed accordingly.

**Many thanks for your continued support,
Mrs Winter**

Each week children will learn a new spelling pattern and words that follow that pattern. Below are the patterns and words for this half term.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
The sound 'u' spelt with o	The sound /ee/ spelt with -ey	The /o/ sound spelt with 'a' after w and qu	The stressed /er/ sound spelt with 'or' after w and the sound /or/ spelt 'ar' after w	The sound /zh/ spelt 's'	Common exception words
other mother brother nothing Monday money cover honey discover wonder	key donkey monkey chimney valley trolley turkey hockey parsley journey	want watch wander quantity squash quality squabble squad quad quarrel	word work worm world worth worst war warm towards ward	television treasure usual division vision pleasure measure occasion usually leisure	even break steak grate move prove improve sure sugar eye

