



Year 1 - Autumn 1 2026

Aspirations – What would you like to achieve when you leave school?

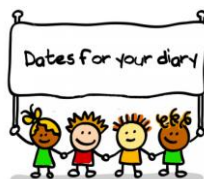


Welcome to Year 1 at New Hartley, we would like to start by saying a huge well done to all of the children who are settling well into their brand-new classroom and routines. Also, a huge thank you to all of you grown-ups who have managed punctual, smiley drop offs and for being patient with us at home time as we get used to new faces.

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:

- Parent expectations meeting - Mon 14th Sept
- School Photographs - Fri 2nd Oct
- Harvest Festival - Thurs 15th Oct
- Parents' Evening - Tues 20th Oct
- Parents' Evening - Wed 21st Oct
- Half Term - Fri 23rd Oct



Please do check the school calendar on our website www.newhartley.northumberland.sch.uk for new and updated events as the term progresses.

Notices:

PE Days – Monday and Wednesday

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.

Water Bottles – These are provided by school. Children will be issued with a named bottle and a house-coloured lid. They will be sent home to be washed at the end of the week. If you would prefer to take these home more frequently, just let me know. Please respect our water only policy. Thank you

English: Phonics & Reading

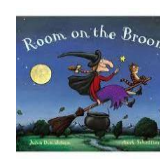
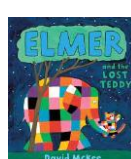
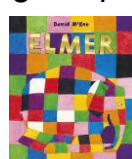
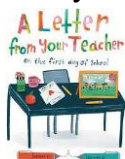
Children are grouped according to their next steps. They will continue to learn new Speed Sounds and how to apply these to reading and spelling. We will begin to build sight vocabulary of tricky 'red' words too.

English: Writing

Through a variety of activities across the curriculum, children will apply their developing phonic knowledge and taught spelling rules to compose labels, captions and simple sentences. They will learn how to 'hold a sentence' in their heads in order to write it; begin to use capital letters to start sentences and full stops to finish, as well as develop an awareness of proof reading by hunting for mistakes in given sentences.

Spelling lessons will introduce children to new spelling rules and patterns each week.

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



Maths: All lessons follow a mastery approach to the teaching of mathematics, providing opportunities for hands on exploration of number (concrete), as well as pictorial and abstract representations (numerals and symbols).

Place Value - including counting on and back, representing numbers, recognising numerals and words, more and less.

Addition and Subtraction - within 10, recognising patterns and relationships between numbers using the part-whole model

Multiplication and Division – counting in multiples of 2, recognising equal groups, adding equal groups and using arrays

Shape – recognising and naming common 2D and 3D shapes, sorting shapes and creating patterns

Art: Drawing – Exploring Line & Shape

Children will learn that some shapes are organic and how to connect lines to create a variety of irregular shapes. They will use and recognise different types of lines when drawing and identify basic shapes in everyday objects and artwork. They will use shapes to draw a face and learn how to use different pressures to make a colour lighter or darker. Through out the unit children will be encouraged to talk about what they like or dislike in a piece of artwork.



Science: Seasonal Change

Over the course of the year, we will learn about seasons in the UK and the associated weather. This term will focus on the changes we see in the environment and in temperature as the seasons move from Summer into Autumn. We will use simple weather symbols and learn which months are in each season, identifying some key events to help us remember the order of the seasons.



Music: Charanga – Hey You

Through this unit of work, children will learn to find the pulse of a piece of music by moving in time and dancing. They will begin to identify the instruments and voices they hear as well as copy and clap back rhythms. They will learn to rap and sing the song 'Hey You!' in groups and play the notes C and G in time on a glockenspiel before performing as a class.



Computing: Technology around us

Children will develop their understanding of what is meant by 'technology' and how it can help us in everyday life. They will start to become familiar with the different components of a computer and develop their keyboard and mouse skills.

Later in the half term, children will be given updated login details for School360 and lessons will provide opportunities for them to consider how to use online technology responsibly.



Geography: Our Village

Children will learn to name and locate the four countries in the United Kingdom and their capital cities. They will learn that New Hartley Village is in the Northeast of England.

Children will learn that there are 4 simple compass directions: North, South, East and West and begin to use simple maps of our school and village to find places. They will begin to understand that human features of a place are man-made such as villages, houses, shops and roads and that physical features are not, such as forests and fields.

PE: Invasion games

Our PE days will be Monday and Wednesday this half term and will focus on invasion games. Most lessons will be outdoors, weather permitting, and will help children learn and improve skills in agility, balance, throwing and catching in the context of games.

Our Wednesday session each week will be led by a visiting coach from Active Futures.



PSHCE: Zones of Regulation

An introduction to the 4 zones and recognising the emotions and behaviours associated with each.

Pol-Ed sessions will be driven by the following questions:

- Why are safe hands important?
- How can I be an ally?
- How can I make friends?



RE: Who is a Muslim and how do they live?

Through this unit of work, children will be introduced to the idea that Muslims believe in Allah as the one true God. Understanding that 'Allah' is the word for 'God' in Arabic, not a name. Children will learn how Muslims use stories about the Prophet to guide their beliefs and actions for example caring for creation and fasting in Ramadan.

Harvest - Children will learn about harvest celebrations and the idea of giving and sharing with those in need. We will talk about what it means to be grateful and what we are grateful for.

Our school character virtues

Dotty
Dragonfly



Determination

Eddie
Elephant



Empathy

Hugo
Hedgehog



Honesty

Polly
Puffin



Positivity

Rosie
Rabbit



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 named golden ticket will be 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, with the rest of the golden ticket winners across school!

Communication

I will share information such as specific updates and half termly overviews via email. These will also be uploaded to our school website 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 2371218 and can report an absence via email at 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 address. They will then be directed accordingly.

Spelling objectives planned for this half term with example words:

Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8
The sounds /f/ and /s/, spelt 'ff' and 'ss'	The sounds /l/ and /k/, /z/ spelt 'll', 'zz' and 'ck'	Adding the endings –ing, –ed and –er to verbs where no change is needed to the root word	The sound spelt 'ng' the sound spelt 'nk'	The sound /ch/ spelt 'ch' The sound /ch/ spelt –'tch'	The sound v The /v/ sound at the end of words spelt with 've'	The digraphs 'ai' and 'oi' are hardly ever used at the end of English words.
off puff sniff miss hiss less if us bus yes	well pull full wall buzz fizz back stick flick pal	hunting hunted hunter buzzing buzzed buzzer jumping jumped jumper cracker	bank think honk sunk wink bunk sing string hang long	chip chick catch fetch kitchen notch hutch rich much such	van vet visit have live give love glove above nerve	rain wait train paid afraid oil join coin point soil

Help your child to spot the focus sounds/spelling patterns in the words they read and write. Can they find and add other examples to each list? Feel free to share any you find with the class too!

***Many thanks for your continued support as your child progresses into KS1.
Mrs Banks***