

<p><b>English</b> This half term we explore a range of high-quality texts which will promote imagination, discussion, drama and writing opportunities. The children will predict how different stories will end and then retell them in their own words. They will focus on characters and will ask questions about them. They will link the characters' experiences to their own using drama and role-play. They will then decide which story they liked most and give reasons for their choice. The children will also have access to multiple story baskets available in the classroom environment, which will be changed half-termly. This will allow children to be exposed to a range of texts and allowed to build rich vocabulary and imaginative skills.</p> <p>The main book we will read and implement into the afternoon subjects is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Robot and the Bluebird (Fiction)</li> </ul> <p>Additional Book: Rabbit and Bear</p> <p>Alongside this, the children will engage with daily phonics lessons to support sound recognition, blending and reading.</p>	<p><b>Science</b> <b>Animals including Humans</b> This half term in science, the children will continue their learning on Animals including humans. We will continue to learn the names and locations of main body parts, including their simple functions. We will continue to explore and understand all 5 of our senses and how they are vital to our bodies. As well as this, we will continue to look at different groups of animals and understand why/how they are grouped, their different body parts and will compare them to humans.</p> <p><b>Year 1 Newsletter</b> Spring 1 2026 Miss Tuart and Mrs Beacher <a href="mailto:lauren.tuart@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk">lauren.tuart@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:kirstie.beacher@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk">kirstie.beacher@cragside.northumberland.sch.uk</a></p> <p><b>PSHCE &amp; Relationships</b> <b>Can we think about our special people and how do they keep us safe?</b> This half-term we will share everything about the special people in our lives - in school, at home and in our community. We will discuss what groups we and other people belong to, thinking in more depth about our community. Additional Units: ★ Life on land and in water ★ PANTS ★ Children's Mental Health Week ★ Safer Internet Day</p>	<p><b>Maths</b> In Maths this half term we will focus on the following units: ★ Unit 5: 2D and 3D Shapes ★ Unit 6: Numbers to 20 ★ Unit 7: Addition and Subtraction within 20 ★ Unit 8: Numbers to 50</p> <p><b>Times table focus</b> Additionally, the children will begin to count in 5's up to 60 and solve one step multiplication/division problems with support.</p> <p>All children will be set 2's, 5's and 10's times tables via TimesTables Rockstars. This is for the children to practice more at home.</p>
<p><b>Music</b> <b>Machines- (Beat)</b> ★ Explore beat through movement, body percussion and instruments. Combine a steady beat with word rhythms and explore changes in tempo. (Cross curricular link- PSHE)</p> <p><b>Seasons- (Pitch)</b> ★ Develop further vocabulary and understanding of pitch movements. Explore pitch through singing, pitched percussion and listening games. (Cross curricular link- Science)</p>	<p><b>Religious Education</b> <b>1.7 Who is Jewish and how do they live?</b> (part 1) The children will engage with this unit over the whole of spring term. Throughout spring term 1, the children will look closely at special objects in the Jewish household and understand the significance around them. They will learn about the festive day of 'Shabbat' to understand why this is important to Jewish people and what might happen on this day. The children will explore the importance of family in Judaism and reflect on the special time they spend with their own families. The children will have the opportunity to learn and read a range of important Jewish stories and engage with them during role-play opportunities, freeze frames and story mapping. This Year, we also will be introducing 3 characters who will help us think like a Theologian, Philosopher and a Human and Social Scientist. These Characters are: Theo - Theologian Sophie - Philosopher Livy - Human and Social Scientist These 3 Characters will play an important role in our RE lessons this year and will help support us with our learning.</p>	<p><b>PE and Sport</b> <b>Dancing &amp; Football</b> The children will develop their ball skills through football including throwing, catching, rolling, kicking, tracking and stopping a ball. They will apply their skills individually, in pairs and in groups, most importantly, working as a team. In dance, the children will explore travelling actions, movement skills and balancing. They will understand why it is important to count to music and use this in their dancing. The children will copy and repeat actions linking them together to make short dances with the opportunity to perform and provide feedback. On PE days please send your child to school in their PE kit. PE kit reminder: White T-shirt, black joggers, black hoodie and plimsolls or trainers. PE days for Year 1: 1LT - Tuesday (indoor) and Thursday (outdoor). 1KB - Tuesday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor).</p> <p><b>Computing</b> <b>Creative Computing and Data Explorers (Purple Mash)</b> The children will develop mouse skills and ICT skills using the creative 2D DIY tools in Purple Mash. Making digital art, making and sharing jigsaws and making a drag and drop game. The children will also group and sort objects. Relating this to organising and interpreting data, using pictorial data on Purple Mash, sorting and grouping quizzes, understanding what data is and representing data electronically.</p>
<p><b>History</b> <b>How have toys changed?</b> We will ask questions and compare toys from the past to toys from the present. We will describe how they have changed over time and learn about local toy inventor William Harbut who invented Plasticine!</p>	<p><b>ART</b> <b>Exploring Chinese Patterns</b> In this unit, children will be exploring Chinese New Year and understanding what it is and its importance. By the end of the Unit, the children will have created their own Chinese Patterns on silk. The children will have opportunities to explore and create their own Chinese symbols, as well as creating prints and willow printing. The children will look at a range of different artists, will have opportunities to explore their knowledge of colour further and use a range of high-quality resources. The children will be able to use these ART pieces to celebrate Chinese New Year.</p>	<p><b>Information and reminders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Please could children bring a clear water bottle and their reading record daily, as well as wellies and spare socks.</li> <li>★ The Reading Challenge rewards children for frequent reading at home. Please sign your child's reading record every time you read with them to help them to gain their tallies. Even 5 minutes a night makes a huge difference!</li> <li>★ Children will be sent home with the last book they have read during their RWI sessions, as well as a stage book that is at their correct level. Books will be changed on a Friday.</li> <li>★ Children will be given weekly spellings to practise in their planners, which will be part of their RWI lessons.</li> <li>★ Children will also have access to Times-Table Rockstars and Emile where they will be able to practice their spellings and 2, 5 and 10 times tables at home and in school.</li> <li>★ All passwords will be found in the front of their planner.</li> <li>★ All children should have access to School 360, Emile and TimesTables Rockstars. If you have not yet received a login or if you are having issues logging in, please get in contact.</li> <li>★ The children will start having links to online classrooms sent home to support with their phonics learning further. Additionally, children may be sent home with different speed sounds/green alongside their books.</li> </ul>