



Humshaugh Church of England Aided First School,  
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Headteacher: Jude Long

11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome the start of the Autumn 2 Term. Remember if you have any queries you can request a chat at the end of the day. If you need to speak to Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Blythe or Mrs Hulbert, please let us know when you get to the front of the line and we will ask you to wait with your child, until all the children have been reunited with their parents. You can also email us with queries at the addressees below. Our topic this half term is '**Traditional Tales and the Nativity Story**'. Please find a planning overview for this half term attached detailing the curriculum areas we will be covering. It also includes some general information.

In addition to this information, please ensure your child has a **coat in school every day** as the weather is getting colder.

I will be offering parent consultations shortly for Nursery children in November. I can offer Monday afternoons from 1pm, or after school on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday so please let me know what would suit you best

We will continue to assess where children are currently this term using our ongoing informal observations of them as we interact with them daily. In addition we will continue to use the **Northumberland School Readiness Checker** at regular intervals (approximately every 6 months) to take a 'snap shot' of each child's development to make sure they are on track to be ready for Reception or Y1 when the time comes. **If there are any areas of their development where we need to offer more support, we will of course be talking to you about this as our aim is to work in partnership with you to help them catch up.**

#### **Reading books:**

All **Reception children** will continue to have two 'reading books' each week. These will be changed on **Thursdays** to be returned the following **Tuesday**. Now one of the books your child brings home is a simple 'phonics book' with single words in it. The aim is for them to sound out the letters and blend them to read the word, and then turn the page to check if they were right. The second book is one they have chosen from class or our school library (you read to me). When they are at the stage of reading some simple phrases or sentences, they will get a third 'book bag book' (we read together) which will be unfamiliar to them but will contain the same letter sounds as their 'phonics book'. **Nursery children** will continue to bring home a book from class or the school library that they have chosen. This is for you to read to them and for them to talk to you about what is happening in the pictures. Encourage them to join in repeated phrases as they become more familiar with the story.



**Phonics Homework:**

Reception children will continue to have a book or game sent home every two or three weeks to reinforce their phonics knowledge in a fun way. We will be sending them an individual Nessy Login this half term when they are ready to practice phonics on a phone or tablet if they want to.

**Please don't hesitate to request a chat with one of us after school, if you have any queries, however small about this or any other matters about your child. We are always happy to make a time to talk with you.**

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Melanie Wilkinson**, EYFS Teacher (Every morning and Friday afternoons)

Email: [melanie.wilkinson@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:melanie.wilkinson@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk)

**Mrs Be Hulbert**, EYFS Teacher (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons)

Email: [beatrice.hulbert@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:beatrice.hulbert@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk)

**Mrs Karen Blythe**, Class 2 Teacher (EYFS Monday afternoons)

Email: [karen.blythe@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:karen.blythe@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk)