

# Alnwick Castle Class Newsletter - Spring 2

## Teaching Team

Mrs Johnson (Mon-Tues)  
Mrs Donnelly (Wed-Fri) but we will also be supported by...  
Mr Moloney and Mrs Gill as well as Jillian and Andrea in Preschool!



We hope you have had a good half term rest and ready to start our next adventures. We had an amazing start to 2025 with all our amazing space learning. We have more exciting events as the first week back includes World Book Day where we will be doing a whole school 'book love' project and of course we will be finishing this half term with some Easter fun. We have another wonderful beach school day on Friday 7th March. Our topic this half term will be 'Once Upon a Time' where we will explore some of our favourite traditional tales. Please remember to use Tapestry and the school website ([www.hipsburn.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.hipsburn.northumberland.sch.uk)) for further details throughout the term.

## Areas of Learning

This half term we will be exploring traditional tales together in our topic 'Once Upon A Time'. We will use stories and nursery rhymes as the basis to inspire our learning all across the Early Years Framework. We have chosen some favorites which include:

- The Three Little Pigs
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- Jack and the Beanstalk

Before moving on to Easter in the final week of the term.

Through these tales and rhymes we will explore the structures of stories, create our own versions and encourage the children to retell the stories using their imaginations and creativity. Continuing with Read Write Inc. phonics we will begin to introduce new Set 2 sounds, mainly digraphs (when two letters make one sound) and trigraphs (when three letters make one sound) whilst continuing to develop skills in phoneme recognition and decoding words.

In Maths we will continue to apply the counting principles up to 10 (forwards and backwards), explore how to represent these numbers in different ways, including using a ten frame and be able to arrange our numbers into smaller groups to support being able to conceptually subitise these larger numbers (for example, know that it is 9 because I see 3, 3 and 3). We will also be working on our 3D shapes as well as pattern.

Our focus story will provide lots of opportunities to encourage Expressive Arts and Design and Physical Development, creating models and pictures to help us to retell the tale. As well as exploring different ways to move and exploring our outdoor learning environment. To support our Personal, Social and Emotional development, we will be thinking about feelings and relationships. Children will develop their ability to deal with feelings in a positive way, share opinions and explain their own views, set individual goals and listen and play with others cooperatively. As part of Understanding the World Around Us we will beginning to look at growing in preparation for the summer term and look at celebrations for Easter.

A fun filled literary inspired half term ahead!

## Reminders

### Wednesday & Thursday -

Please come in PE kits

### Friday - Whole School

Celebration Assembly.

Library

Please bring water bottles everyday and keep reading books in book bags each day too so they are always available to read.

Please bring in wellies and waterproofs so we can enjoy the outdoors no matter what the weather does!

