

Alnwick Castle Class Newsletter

2025 - Spring 1

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

Dear Parents / Carers,
Happy New Year! We hope you have had a fantastic festive period and wonderful start to 2025. We can't wait to start the new Spring term and be awed by our super special Space topic... it is sure to be filled with lots of learning and fun to be had and we will be finishing the term with a special Space Assembly. We will continue to keep Tapestry updated but please also remember the website has lots of other useful information on too (www.hipsburn.northumberland.sch.uk).

So watch out for our out of this world space adventures!

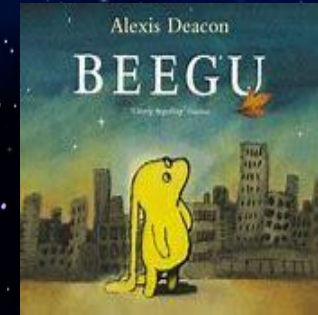
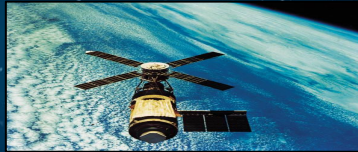
Monday - Reading books
and water bottles
Thursday - PE kits
Friday - Celebration
Assembly

Please keep reading
books in book bags each
day so they are always
available to read.

Areas of Learning

Our topic this half term is 'Space' - to infinity and beyond! We will immerse ourselves in the world of outer space and learn about:

- Space travel
- Significant people and events in Space
- The moon
- Planets
- Comparing environments



Our book focus is Alexis Deacon's Beegu which we will use as a stimulus to inspire reading and writing using a variety of genres and purposes including rhymes; stories; letter writing; instructions and descriptive writing. We will follow Read Write Inc.

phonics programme to develop skills in phonic recognition, decoding words, understanding how to use expression and inference skills.

In Maths we will continue to explore our numbers to ten in depth; through representation, addition and subtraction. We will look at pairs of numbers as well as parting numbers using the whole-part model. In addition, we will explore measuring and comparing mass and capacity, length and time.

Our focus on space will provide lots of opportunities to create 3D creations such as space beds, dream catchers and some out of this world creations, selecting materials for a purpose and using a range tools and resources appropriately. Whilst encouraging Expressive Arts and Design we will use the artist Van Gogh and his 'Starry Night' image to develop our understanding of famous artists. We will expand our repertoire of songs and dances using the scheme Charanga and use instruments to explore our Space topic.

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. Within this topic we will learn about the diverse world that we live in and explore how our opinions and experiences can differ to other people's as well as . As part of Understanding the World we will explore stories of friendship from different religions including Christianity, Hinduism and Buddhism. We will reflect on what it means to be a good friend and what qualities make a good friend. In on our Physical Development, we will explore Yoga and Dance movement as a way in which to explore different ways in which to travel and move, as well as having lots of opportunities to explore our outdoor environment.

Don't forget we like to get out and active whatever the weather so please bring wellies and waterproofs so we can enjoy our active outdoor learning all the time.



Useful links:

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parent>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9vyvcdm>
<https://www.natgeoekids.com/uk/>