

What Are We Learning At 'The Firs' This Term?

Literacy

In **Literacy** we will be developing the accuracy and fluency of our reading. We will practise using the text to answer questions that are both literal and inferential. We will be continuing spellings of common exception words, which will be practised in addition to learning common spelling patterns. We will write for a variety of purposes, but the main outcomes will be our own fantasy stories; writing guidebooks and information booklets; senses poetry and our own version narratives.

We will be learning to...

Build fluency and confidence when reading including looking at comprehensions skills of texts.

Use capital letters, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks, commas, apostrophes and inverted commas.

Improve our spelling of common exception words and spelling patterns.

Use powerful adjectives, verbs, adverbs, similes and expanded noun phrases.

Improve our handwriting and presentation through the introduction of cursive handwriting.

Explore the use of present and past tense writing. Use subordinating and coordinating conjunctions throughout our writing.

Recommended reads : 'Here be Dragons' by Susannah Lloyd
'The Boy Who Grew Dragons' by Andy Shepherd (Part of a 5 book collection)
'The Dangerous Pet Lover's Guide to Dragons' by Lindsay Hirst



What else can I do at home?

Read every day

Practise spellings

Practise writing accurate sentences

Practise number bonds to 10, 20 and 100

Practise counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s

Cut items into halves and quarters to get you used to the mathematical language and what it means

Continue to practise TT Rockstars

Practise reading the time on a clock to the nearest hour, half hour, fifteen minutes and five minutes

Maths

We will be continuing to develop our understanding of numbers up to 100 and place value, consolidating and deepening our addition and subtraction concepts. We will also be using arrays for multiplication, investigating fractions of shapes and numbers, looking at 2D and 3D shapes and measuring. We will also be concentrating on telling the time to nearest 5 and 15 minutes, as well as looking at clockwise and anti-clockwise turns.

We will be learning to...

Understand place value of number looking at ones, tens and then hundreds and thousands.

Count up in multiples of 2, 3, 5 and 10 using arrays, number lines and sharing to solve multiplication and division problems.

Add and subtract using Dienes, number lines and practical methods to support us.

Explore fractions of shape and amounts.

Explore properties of 2D shapes, including sides and corners.

Explore properties of 3D shapes, including face, edges and vertices.

Explore similarities and differences of 2D and 3D shapes.

Develop skills to answer word problems.

Understand clockwise and anti-clockwise turns in quarters, halves, three quarters and wholes.

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Science

We will be starting our new topic all about plants. We will be investigating plants and trees we can find around our school. We will be exploring different parts of plants and understanding each of their roles in keeping plants alive. We will be exploring the process of photosynthesis also.

We will be learning to...

Understand what a plant is

Understand different parts of a plant and their role in keeping a plant alive

Investigate different plants and trees around our school and also plants around the world

Investigate different plant habitats and how they live and survive there

Research different fruit and vegetables, finding out what plants they come from and what part of the plant they are



Geography

We are exploring the topic 'All About Kenya'. We will be exploring the landscape of Kenya and creating our own maps. We will also be comparing our own lives to children who live in Kenya.

We will be learning to...

Understand where Kenya is.

Understand what the landscape and climate of Kenya is like.

Compare our own lives with those who live in Kenya, looking at similarities and differences.

Investigate foods that grow in Kenya.

Understand the lives of the Maasai tribe.

History

We will be starting our new topic all about British Monarchs. We will be exploring the lives of different British Monarchs including William the Conqueror, Henry VIII, Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria, Queen Elizabeth II and our new King, Charles III

We will be learning to...

Understand how to use timelines

Explore different British monarchs and the impact they had on Great Britain

Investigate similarities and differences between the past and present

Reenact historical events, in order to be able to gain a better insight and understanding of how people in the past lived

Music

We will be learning about the 'Jazz Suites' of the mid-20th century Russian composer, Shostakovich, who wrote music at a time of great political uncertainty. These works used instruments such as the saxophone, glockenspiel, banjo and snare drum, so we will also be exploring the different sounds these instruments create.

We will be learning to...

Find the pulse and beat of music.

Sing and use musical instruments.

Create our own music.

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PE

We will be covering the topics of:

Striking and Retrieving

Sports Day practise

We will be learning to...

Develop our skills based around coordination, agility, speed, strength, stamina, and resilience through the different Sports Day events

Improve our skills in different sports.

Improve our fitness and stamina

Continue to learn how to be a great team mate!



Art

We will be starting our new topic of flowers.

We will be learning to...

Improve our sketching skills.

Explore what are warm and cool colours.

Use paint, water colours, sketching and pastels to design flowers.

Explore the work of the artist Georgia O'Keeffe.

Design Technology

We will be completing a food unit all about sandwiches.

We will be learning to...

Develop our understanding of a healthy, balanced diet.

Design our own healthy, balanced sandwich.

Explore different types of bread and fillings.

Develop our skills around spreading and chopping.

Evaluate our end product sandwich.

RE

We will be learning about different religious stories and taking care of the environment around us. We will be exploring different creation stories, as well as how different religious stories promote taking care of plants and the environment around us, including animals.

We will be learning to...

Exploring different religious stories about how the Earth was created.

Understand different religious stories about taking care of the environment around us, including animals.

Compare religious stories to our own beliefs.

Reflect upon what we could do to help take care of the environment around us and different animals.

PSHRE

We will be learning about family relationships and how they impact our wellbeing.

We will be learning to...

Understand relationships within my family

Accept that everyone's family is different and understand that most people value their family.

Identify some of the things that cause conflict with my friends

Demonstrate how to use the positive problem-solving techniques to resolve conflicts with my friends.

ICT

We be continuing to develop our computing skills focusing on computer art and presentations.

We will be learning to...

Understand different artists and their style of art.

Use computer programmes to create computer art.

Print our work.

Explore different presentation software such as Powerpoint and 2Present.

Understand how to insert images, videos and music into presentations.