

What Are We Learning At The Firs This Term?

In literacy we will be reading *The Everchanging Earth* which explores unearthing civilisations and further themes like evolution, inheritance, conservation and preservation.

The children will continue to develop their writing skills, practising the use of fronted adverbials and revising the purpose of punctuation marks including sentence punctuation and speech marks, learning various spelling rules and using cursive handwriting.

We will be learning to...

- Comment on the content of a text and answer questions, justifying the answer with evidence from the text
- Draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives
- Use capital letters, full stops question marks, exclamation marks and commas (including after fronted adverbials) accurately
- Create settings in narratives, develop characters and establish plots
- Organise writing into paragraphs
- Spell words with general accuracy
- Use adjectives adverbs, powerful verbs and similes to improve sentences
- Improve our handwriting and presentation and develop a legible joined style.

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What else can I do at home?

- Read every day.
- Practise weekly spellings.
- Practise writing accurately punctuated sentences.
- Practise times tables daily using TT Rockstars (studio and soundcheck)
- Practise counting in 10s, 25s, 50s, 100s and 1000s.
- Practise mental calculations up to 1000.
- Practise multiplication and division facts using short multiplication and the bus stop method.
- Find out about the animals and people who make the rainforest their home.
- Look at a world map and which continent various countries are in, research some of their capital cities.

In Numeracy we will practise working with decimals identifying them as fractions and decimals and then progressing to partitioning, comparing and ordering decimals. We will also be looking at telling the time, focusing on analogue, digital and 24 hour clocks.

After half term we will also be looking at shape and statistics.

Just after half-term we will be taking part in the government's Multiplication Check in which children answer 25 random multiplication questions each within 6 seconds. We will be practising our speed and accuracy at school, continue to practise at home regularly.

We will be learning to...

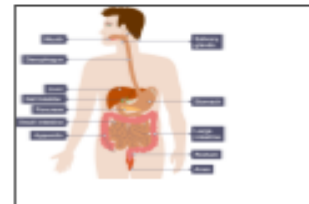
- Identify decimals as fractions,
- Understand how decimals look on a place value chart
- Divide 1 and 2 digit numbers by 10 and 100
- Understand seconds, minutes and hours
- Tell the time using analogue, digital and 24 hour clocks
- Name and describe properties of polygons including triangles and quadrilaterals
- Complete symmetrical shapes and patterns and find lines of symmetry
- Plot and read coordinates and translate shapes
- Draw and read line graphs, bar charts, tally charts, tables and pictograms

In Science we are learning about Animals including Humans. We are investigating the digestive system, the parts and their functions; types of teeth and their functions; tooth decay, what causes it and how to avoid it as well as constructing and interpreting food chains.

Then we will be investigating Living Things. Children will continue to look at food chains, identifying classification keys, identifying environmental changes and researching endangered animals

We will be learning to...

- Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans.
- Identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions.
- Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.
- Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.
- Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.
- Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.



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In history we will take a look at the Maya civilisation. We will be thinking about who they were, their location in the world and on a timeline, what their settlements looked like, their language and number systems, their appearance, fashion and crafts, beliefs, rituals and sport,

We will be learning to...

- study a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history eg. Mayan civilization c. AD 900.



In computing we are learning about animations and the structure of coding. We will also be researching paintings of portraits and creating some portraits of our own using an art program..

We will be learning about...

- To discuss what makes a good animated film or cartoon.
- To learn how animations are created by hand.
- To find out how animation can be created in a similar way using the computer.
- To learn about onion skinning in animation.
- To add backgrounds and sounds to animations.
- To be introduced to 'stop motion' animation.
- To share animation on the class display board and by blogging.

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In PSHE we are exploring:

- Keeping safe and taking on new responsibilities as we are getting older
- Thinking about how we can become more independent.
- feelings and emotions, feeling good
- ways of expressing feelings and
- the importance of respecting friends and family
- how to make and keep fabulous friends
- strategies for resolving conflicts



In geography we are developing our map skills and focusing our studies on France.

We will then be continuing map skills, looking at the position of countries of the world, lines of longitude and latitude and climate zones. We will be particularly focusing on North and South America, physical features and manmade landmarks.

We will be learning to...

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom and a region in a European country
- Locate some of the world's countries on a range of maps, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics and major cities
- Understand the meaning of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, Arctic Circle, Antarctic Circle, Greenwich Meridian and time zones.
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country and a region in North or South America.



What Are We Learning At The Firs This Term?

In music we will be learning to use a recorder. We will also be focusing on learning to sing songs from our end of year 4 performance.

We will be learning to...

- Learn lyrics to a number of songs
- Follow the rhythm to a number of songs
- Practise solo singing and small group singing
- Practise harmonies and two part songs



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In PE we will be refining our striking and fielding skills, continuing to throw both underarm and overarm with accuracy and using cricket bats and batting techniques to strike the ball.

We will also be practising a range of athletics disciplines including throwing, jumping and running over a range of distances.

In RE we will

We will be learning about the Hindu faith. We will:

- identify the terms, 'dharma', 'Sanatan dharma' and 'Hindusim.
- look at how Hindus show their faith within their families.
- look at how Hindus show their faith within their communities in Britain today.
- explore festivals such as Diwali and Holi.
- discuss what is good about being a Hindu in Britain today.



In art we will be developing our drawing skills, through sketching and shading, applying different tones and pressures. We will be looking at how to observe shapes, patterns and shadows closely, compose a still life and draw objects in proportion to one another. The children will also practise enlarging images in their art work.

We will be learning to...

- select the most suitable drawing materials
- use shading and interesting effects
- work with a variety of pen types and make different lines – free flowing, sweeping, broken, faint and hard.
- control the depth of colour using coloured pencils by applying

We will also study portraits. We will be learning about famous portrait artists and producing our own art inspired by their work. We will be looking at artists such as Keith Haring and Pablo Picasso. We will be using various media and trying to draw both realistically, with detail and correct proportions and also in other generic and distorted styles.

We will be learning to...

- use a variety of different shaped lines to indicate movement in my drawings.
- draw enlarged/ reduced/ distorted images.
- study other artists' drawings and have experimented with some of these styles.
- create colours by mixing to represent images I have observed in the natural and man- made world eg. skin tones, landscapes.
- experiment with different colours to create a mood.
- mix different thicknesses of paint for different purposes eg. thin for a wash and thicker for a foreground.



At the end of term we will produce some artwork related to South America and the rainforest.