What Are We Learning At The Firs This Term?

Year 4
Autumn 2026

Literacy

We will introduce the children to a range of stories focused around specific themes including: freedom and flight and Window to the world.

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.

Numeracy

We will practise mental calculation strategies and revise and extend the children's knowledge of place value. We will develop the use of various addition, subtraction, multiplication and division strategies, including solving 'real life' problems. We will also be using and interpreting statistics. Additionally, we will be using our knowledge to all our times tables to answer multiplication and division questions and to problem solve.

We will be learning to…

- Understand place value up to 4 digits
- Develop mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction
- Round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000
- Explore links between times tables and between multiplication and division
- Use and interpret statistical data

What else can I do at home?

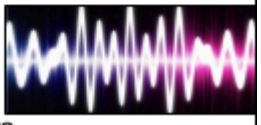
Read every day
Practise spellings
Practise writing accurately punctuated sentences
Practise counting in 10s, 25s, 50s, 100s and 1000s
Practise using number facts up to 1000
Practise multiplication and division facts - x tables
Find out about how sound travels and about electricity

Science We will be identifying how sounds are made and how they travel to our ears. The children will try to find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of vibrations that produced it.

After half term we will be investigating electricity. Children will be learning all about electrical circuits; putting their own questions to the test.

We will be learning to…

- Identify how sounds are made, associating this with something vibrating.
- Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear.
- Find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it.
- Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations.
- Recognise that sounds get fainter as distance from the sound source increases
- Identify common appliances that run on electricity.
- Construct a simple series electrical circuit
- Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit
- Recognise some common conductors and insulators
- Identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit



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In history (1) We will be studying the Celts. We will be thinking about who they were, where they came from and when they lived in Britain. The children will be looking at why they settled in certain places, what their houses looked like, what they wore, what they believed in and we will be investigating the crafts and skills of the period.

We will be learning to…

- Recognise key facets of life of people in Stone-Age and then Iron Age Britain.
- Understand how to place the Celts chronologically in relation to other events in British history.
- Identify some of the key aspects of Celtic homes.
- Identify some key aspects of Celtic life (food, clothes, hunting, farming, warfare)
- Know about Celtic crafts and jewellery.
- Understand how significant religion was to Celtic people and about the Druids.

In computing we are learning about and discussing e-safety and staying safe online. After half term the children will learn how to create and test algorithms in coding.

We will be learning to…

- To understand how to protect yourself from online identity theft.
- To identify appropriate behaviour when contributing to collaborative online projects.
- To understand the importance of balancing screen time with other parts of their lives.
- Create algorithms to control outcomes (including 'IF' statements and coordinates.)
- Understand and use the 'REPEAT' and IF/ELSE commands in algorithms.
- Use number variables in simple algorithms.

In history (2) We will be learning about The Romans. We will be thinking about who the Romans were, where they came from and the Roman Empire's impact on Britain. The children will be learning about the invasion of Britain, the Roman army, Boudicca's rebellion, Roman entertainment, Roman towns and the Romans' lasting legacy. We will also be incorporating a visit to St Alban's cathedral to learn about the Roman way of life with some hands-on experiences.

We will be learning to…

- Understand where the Roman Empire began
- Explore the Roman Invasions of Britain
- Talk about what the Romans did for entertainment.
- Know the key events of Boudicca's Rebellion
- Investigate the Roman army
- Research Roman towns and building
- Develop an understanding of the Roman legacy

In *music* *we are learning about pitch and rhythm. We will also be experimenting with glockenspiels and singing.*

We will be learning to…

- Know and be able to talk about:
- How, rhythm and pitch work together
- Pitch: higher and lower notes
- Rhythm: the long and short patterns over the pulse
- The instruments used in class - a glockenspiel.
- Singing in unison and harmonies

In design technology (1) the children will be learning about biscuits. They will adapt a basic recipe by adding their own ingredients to create a new biscuit that they think they will enjoy. After baking and evaluating their biscuit choices, they will design an suitable wrapper for them.

We will be learning to…

- To describe biscuits
- Think through health and safety procedures
- Create recipe ideas for new biscuits
- Understand the process of creating biscuits step by step
- Bake our own biscuits
- Evaluate them
- Design an appropriately named wrapper.

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In PE we will be learning Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA) and Fundamental skills. After half term children will also be learning and developing their swimming at Flitwick Leisure Centre as well as learning a range of ball skills.

We will be learning to…

- Improve their problem solving skills through challenges
- Work collaboratively to plan, explore, solve, reflect and improve on strategies.
- Develop balance, running, jumping, hopping, skipping techniques
- Develop ability to change direction with control and balance
- Understand how the body works when accelerating and decelerating
- Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres.
- Use a range of strokes effectively (e.g. front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke).

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 and shrinking them to fit the paper..

We will be learning to…

- draw accurately using detailed observation skills
- use shading effective and interesting effects for textures
- work with a variety of pencil types and make different lines
- control the depth of colour using coloured pencils by applying layers

In French This term we will be revising previous vocabulary and learning new vocabulary for greetings, instructions, numbers, colours and some foods.

We will be learning to…

- Respond to more complex spoken instructions.
- Build on key vocabulary learned in Y3
- Ask and answer simple questions with correct intonation.
- Remember a sequence of spoken words.
- Speak clearly and confidently.
- Initiate a conversation when working with a partner e.g. about the weather.

In ***RE*** the children will be thinking about Jewish family life and festivals.

We will be learning to…

- Describe the festival of Rosh Hashanah and its importance to Jewish people
- Understand what happens at Yom Kippur.
- Reflect on the important themes of Passover and what it means to Jews today.
- Consider the importance of the Ten Commandments.
- Think about the role of festivals.