

What Are We Learning At The Firs This Term?

Literacy

We will be looking at stories in familiar settings starting beginning with Treehouses. The children will be looking at how to develop their own writing using adjectives, powerful verbs, similes and exploring dialogue. They will then move on to exploring different plots, settings and characters. After half term the children will be looking at descriptive poetry, focusing on dragons. At the end of term, we will focus on adverts, letters and persuasive writing.

We will be learning to...

- Build fluency and confidence when reading
- Predict what might happen next in a story
- Comment on the content of a text and answer questions, beginning to justify their answer with evidence
- Use capital letters, full stops question marks, exclamation marks and commas
- Spell words with growing 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 spellings
- Practise writing accurate sentences
- Practise number bonds
- Practise counting in 10s, 25s, 50s, 100s and 1000s
- Practise number facts up to 1000
- Practise multiplication and division facts for 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s, 4s, 8s.
- Find out about light and magnets!

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 and subtraction strategies and solve problems. We will use arrays to understand and recall multiplication facts. We will be exploring fractions and finding fractions of small amounts.

We will be learning to...

- Use and understanding numbers up to 1000 and then beyond 1000
- Count up in multiples of 10, 25, 50, 100 and 1000
- Use negative, as well as positive, numbers
- Add, subtracting, multiplying and dividing mentally and using formal written calculation methods
- Use and learn the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4, 8 times tables
- Solve maths problems
- Explore fractions and find fractions of amounts

Science Our theme is **Light**. The children will identify sources of light and recognise which sources are natural or artificial. The children will investigate reflection of light and experiment with mirrors. They will explore how shadows are formed and how they change throughout the day. After half term the children will be investigating **forces and magnets**. They will understand that a force is needed to make something move, stop or change direction/shape.

We will be learning to...

- Recognise that they need light in order to see things
- Notice that light is reflected from surfaces.
- Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous
- Recognise shadows are formed when light is blocked by an opaque object.
- Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.
- Compare how things move on different surfaces.
- Observe how some forces need contact but magnetic forces can act at a distance.
- Observe how magnets attract/repel & attract some materials not others.
- Group a variety of everyday materials on the basis of magnetic properties.

What Are We Learning At The Firs This Term?

In History we will be looking at all aspects of life in Ancient Egyptian times including why people chose to live there and the importance of the River Nile. The children will explore hieroglyphics, gods & goddesses & the afterlife. We will be 'visited' by History off the page for a special **virtual** WOW day!

We will be learning to...

- Understand the terms BC and AD
- Understand how geography affected the way people live
- Use relevant vocabulary
- Understand about scribes, cartouches & hieroglyphics
- Recognise key aspects of Egyptian religion.
- Understand some key facts relating to the pyramids
- Understand the mummification and its significance

In PE the children will experience changes to their body during exercise. They will continue to develop their agility and co-ordination.

We will be learning to...

- Run in different directions and at different speeds, using a good technique.
- Improve throwing technique.
- Reinforce understanding of jumping techniques.
- Improve our fitness by raising the heart rate.
- Develop skipping techniques with control and balance.
- Evaluate our performance.

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In Computing the children will learn how to create an algorithm and code using Free Code Chimp. They will write a program and then be able to correct mistakes in their animation programs. After half term the children will develop a number of strategies for finding errors in programs and build up strategies for problem solving.

We will be learning to...

- Create algorithms to control outcomes
- Control a device to perform a sequence of actions or create an animation by correctly sequencing instructions.
- Create algorithms and be able to ~~debug simple instructions, to~~ correct errors.

In Geography we will be developing our knowledge and skills of maps. The Children will look at different types of maps of the local area. After a short walk around Ampthill, they will produce their own map including symbols and a key.

We will be learning to...

- Understand what an OS map is and the key features of one
- Follow a route on a map with some accuracy
- To create your own map of a familiar area

In Design Technology the children will be exploring pneumatics and will design, create and evaluate their own moving dragon!

We will be learning to...

- Select tools and techniques for making their product.
- Measure, mark out, cut, score and assemble components with more accuracy.
- Work safely and accurately with a range of simple tools.
- Think about their ideas as they make progress and be willing to change things if this helps them improve their work.
- Evaluate their product against original design criteria e.g. how well it meets its intended purpose.
- Explore and evaluate familiar products.

In Music the children will be listening to a range of music and discussing different genres. They will express their thoughts and justify their opinions. We will begin to improvise on the xylophone.

We will be learning to...

- Recognise the style of the five songs.
- choose one song and be able to talk about it.
- Find the pulse/steady beat of a song.
- To know that if you improvise using the notes you are given, you cannot make a mistake.

What Are We Learning At The Firs This Term?

In French the children will be learning a range of ways to greet people and to introduce themselves as well as responding to a variety of classroom instructions. They will have the opportunity to practise French conversations.

We will be learning to...

- Respond to simple questions with support from a spoken model or visual clue.
- Respond to spoken instructions.
- Greet others with confidence and reply to questions.
- Some key vocabulary, including: classroom equipment, food, body parts, colours, days of the week, etc.

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In **RE** we will be finding out about Islam and try to answer the question 'What does it mean to be a Muslim?' Later in the school year, we hope to visit three different places of worship, including a mosque.

We will be learning to...

- Identify some beliefs about God in Islam
- Make links between beliefs about Allah compared with views of god in other religions
- Give examples of worship in Islam
- Make links between Muslim beliefs about God and a range of ways in which Muslims worship
- Make links between the Muslim idea of living in harmony with the Creator and the need for all people to live in harmony

In Art the children will explore using different drawing and painting techniques focusing on the other cultures of Aboriginal and Egyptian Art.

We will be learning to...

- Use a number of sketches to base work on.
- Use a viewfinder to help in my sketching.
- Annotate sketches to explain my ideas.
- Sketch lightly avoiding rubber use.
- Use different grades of pencils at different angles to show different tones.
- Use hatching and cross hatching to show tone and texture in drawings.
- Comment on similarities and differences between their own work and that of others.