

Exciting Explorers Year 1 Spring Term 2 2026

English:

We will be learning that writing has different purposes: writing to inform and writing for entertainment. We will write a version of 'They Came from Planet Zabalulu' and write a letter to Tim Peake

Through the term we will work on improving our writing by:

- Talking about our writing,
- Saying sentence aloud before writing,
- Using and in a sentence
- Letter formation,
- Writing questions and using a question mark

Key vocab: entertain, inform, sentence, word, letters, handwriting, formation, full stop, spaces, story, letter, question mark

Maths: This term we will focus on *Additive Structures* across three units. Children will explore different ways that addition can be represented and used in real situations. We will introduce both addition and subtraction, helping children understand how the two operations are connected. We will develop fluency with number facts within 10 through practical activities, games and reasoning tasks. These skills will be applied and revisited throughout the term to build confidence and accuracy. We will continue our daily Rekenrek sessions to strengthen children's understanding of number relationships.

Key vocab: add, subtract, total, altogether, difference, number facts, part, whole, part whole model, equation

Computing: Computer Science and Digital literacy

We are going to continue the algorithm work from last term. We will extend our learning by creating and debugging simple programs. We are continuing to learn about using technology safely and what to do if we feel we need help.

Key vocab: Direction, instruction, challenge, undo, route, delete, command, unit, algorithm

PE: Gymnastics This term we will extend our learning about the 5 gymnastic shapes and link them in a sequence which includes different ways of travelling. Our outdoor sport sessions with Mr Roberston will continue. We will learn an invasion game that will focus on working together and following instructions.

Key vocab: star, straddle, tuck, pike, straight, partner, travel, perform, sequence, start, finish, teddy bear roll and fluency.

Religious Education How and why do we celebrate special and sacred times?

We will use what we learnt last term about sacred places and learn about the Christian festival of Easter and a festival in another religion. We will attend an Easter activity session at a local church.

Key vocab: Easter, Special, Celebration, Jesus, Cross

Science: As we start to see signs of Spring, we will begin to identify and name common wild and garden plants and trees. We will know and describe the structure of the plants and use our observation skills to make comparisons and to gather basic data. We will look at the work of Sir Tim Smit who contributed to the Eden Project.

Key vocab: seed, plant, bulb, soil, roots, stem, leaves, flowers, petals, tree, roots, trunk, branches, leaves, fruit,

Seasonal Changes: We will make observations and comparisons of the seasonal changes throughout the year. This term will name the four seasons.

Key vocab: Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter

Art and Design: We will be exploring plaiting, threading and knotting techniques inspired by Cecilia Vicuna. We will combine these skills to produce woven artwork and evaluate it.

Key vocab: art, craft, wool, wrapping, knot, plaiting, threading

Geography: We will begin to look in more detail at the world around us and how this is represented in pictures and maps. We will begin to recognise the names of the continents and the oceans.

Key vocab: World map, globe, Continent, Ocean, Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic, Southern Ocean, Antartica, South Pole

History: Lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements, some should be used to compare aspects of life in different periods.

Key vocab: Felicity Aston, Tim Peake, modern, recent, achievement, Ibn Battuta, long ago

Music: Through singing and using chime bars, we will keep a steady beat, copy simple rhythmic patterns with long and short sounds and copy simple melodic patterns with high and low notes. We will apply these skills through singing and using musical instruments (glockenspiels). We will compose our own piece of music and listen to different types of music each week. **Key vocab:** pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, improvise, sing, notation, composing.

Jigsaw: Healthy Me: This term we will learn how to keep ourselves healthy and safe.

Key vocab: healthy, unhealthy, balanced, exercise, sleep, clean, safe