

Class Spire Newsletter Autumn 2025

Our topic for this half term is 'Classic Fairy Tales – Into the Woods' with a focus on the question 'Who's been living in the deep, dark woods?'

English

This term in English, we are using a new scheme called *Literacy Tree*. Our first unit, *Into the Wood*, links brilliantly with our topic *Me and You – a creative twist on Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. The children were hooked from the start when we discovered CCTV footage of a suspicious girl in school, which led to some fantastic wanted posters. Over the coming weeks, we'll explore how traditional tales can be adapted and re-written from different points of view, and the children will be creating their own versions of *Goldilocks* with a fresh perspective.

Later in the week, we'll also be focusing on whole class reading, where we'll develop key comprehension skills such as inference and retrieval. Alongside this, we'll begin working on Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG), starting with sentence structure. These foundational skills are essential for supporting children's progress in both reading and writing and will be practised regularly throughout the term.

History

In history we are learning all about Robin Hood, the children have been drawn in after our trip to Sherwood Forest and are excited to find out more about Robin Hood and medieval life. We will sort facts and opinions about Robin Hood and find out What made Robin Hood a legend. We will also be reading stories and retelling tales of Robin Hood.

Math

Year 1 – In math, year 1 will be learning about place value (in 10). They will use lots of different manipulatives to create different numbers and understand 1s and 10s. They will then move on to addition and subtraction within 10.

Year 2 – In math, year 2 will be learning about place value (in 100); this will include counting by making 10s, recognizing 10s and 1s, partitioning numbers and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. We will be using 100 squares and number lines to help with our learning as well as manipulatives. Year 2 will then move on to addition and subtraction within 100.

Science

This half term our focus is on Animals including humans. We will be classifying animals into mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians, and learning about their different features. We will be learning about life cycles and how all animals have offspring. We will find out about what animals need to survive and thrive before moving on to look at humans and our senses. We will conduct a hygiene experiment and understand the importance of keeping our bodies healthy.



Design and Technology

In D&T we will be making forest-fruit smoothies. The children will taste test different fruits before designing their smoothie. We will practice chopping carefully and look at the Eat-Well plate to make sure we're making healthy choices. We will then evaluate what went well and what we can improve.

PSED

In HeartSmart, the children will learn about the choices they make and how they can help or hurt their own or others hearts. They will explore their emotions and express their feelings and learn that what they put into their heart is what comes out. We will talk about who we are grateful for and why, and learn to



make healthy choices for our hearts.

RE

This term, pupils will explore the Christian belief in God as Creator, including learning about the Creation Story. We will welcome a weekly visitor from the local church to support our learning. As part of our Harvest celebrations, pupils will help prepare a Harvest Festival and learn about Fair Trade as part of our role as Global Neighbours.

Music

This term, pupils explored music through fairy tales. They chanted in time, used character voices to change dynamics, and responded to hand signals when playing instruments. Children chose sounds to match story moments, read simple rhythms, and played or clapped patterns with the pulse. They followed instructions during performances and joined in repeated phrases using expressive voices.



PE

This term, Monday afternoon PE will be gymnastics with Mrs H-G.

On Thursdays Coach Louis will be teaching Multi-Sport.

We have a trip planned to **Sherwood Pines** this term. The children will have the chance to explore the forest environment, take part in outdoor activities, and learn about the story of **Robin Hood**. It's a wonderful opportunity to develop teamwork and a love for nature.