

7LS
Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2020



Our Values...

Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Topic:

'We're all in this together'

This term, our school focus is on the 'Recovery Curriculum', as we welcome our children back to school and help them to settle in to their familiar routines and learning.

We will focus on pupils' wellbeing with lots of different activities in class groups, which will be all about learning whilst also having fun!

EHCP Targets

All of our pupils will continue to be working towards the targets in their EHC Plans.

The activities we do in class will all focus on different aspects of these targets, which include:

Communication and Interaction

Cognition and Learning

Sensory and Physical Skills

Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs

How is my child's progress being recorded?

Each pupil works towards their individual targets, which are assessed on a weekly basis and recorded using the SOLAR framework, which includes video and photographic evidence. Their overall progress is measured using the 'Routes for Learning' assessment framework.

Sensory Story sessions

This term's sensory stories will be themed around the seasons and also festivals and celebrations. Pupils' communication and interaction skills will be developed through the medium of story telling.

Stories will include:

Little Acorns (an Autumn story)

Snow (with a Winter theme)

The Haunted House

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

Look and Listen Activities

Pupils will be encouraged to develop their cognitive skills, with activities designed to stimulate their responses to visual and auditory stimuli.

These activities will include:

The sights and sounds of Autumn

Hallowe'en spooky sounds

Christmas magic!

Movement Skills

Pupils will receive support to work on their individual movement programmes, as recommended by their physiotherapists.

They will also be encouraged to join in with a range of movement games and fun dance activities, again themed around the seasons and festivals. Pupils will have daily opportunities to spend time using their standing frames, walking frames, practising independent walking skills and rolling and stretching out in our classroom sensory soft play area, all based around their personal needs and abilities.

Outdoor Learning

Each day, we will spend some time exploring the variety of outdoor spaces around school, including the Sensory Garden and Forest School areas. Pupils will be encouraged to develop their cognitive skills by looking and listening to the sights and sounds of their natural environment and how this changes with the seasons.

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for going outside and experiencing all of our different weather conditions for this time of year!

Song time

We will enjoy joining in with a range of musical activities, again themed around the seasons and celebrations of Autumn and Winter.

We will be singing together and using our musical instruments to join in and play along, as well as encouraging pupils to join in with action songs and dance movements.

We will also listen to a range of different musical styles, such as Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' to tie in with our theme. And of course lots of fun and favourite songs too!

Computing

A range of different 'cause and effect' computer games will help our pupils work towards their thinking skills targets. Pupils will also have the opportunity to develop their choice making skills, using 'Clicker grids' to select their preferred songs and activities on screen.

The Eye Gaze computer will also feature as part of their computer sessions, which they can use to experience alternative ways of communicating and making meaningful selections.

RE

This term will focus on Christianity, especially the story of Creation and Christian artefacts and symbols.

The Festivals of the Month for the Autumn term will also be covered. These are:

- the Jewish festival of Yom Kippur
- the Hindu festival of Navaratri
- and the Sikh commemoration of the birthday of Guru Nanak.

Relaxation/Wellbeing

Each day, there will be an opportunity to spend some time focusing on relaxation and wellbeing. For example, listening to relaxing music, with appropriate lighting and a calm atmosphere. This will also include the 'Reflection Time' routine which is used to signal the end of each day, with candles and soft music to help our pupils understand that it's nearly time to say goodbye.