

8LS

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020



Our Values...

**Welcoming
Friendship
Independence** **Teamwork
Trust
Fun!**

Topic:
New Adventures

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.

The pupils will return to school all having had very different experiences. It will be important to give pupils time to settle back into school life and to work closely with the 5 levers of the Recovery curriculum. The above planning has tried to take into consideration some of the difficulties that pupils may face but it may still be that our pupils will return with feelings that we have not planned for. There must therefore be an opportunity to follow a pupil's personal pathway if staff feel this is in the best interests of the pupil's well-being. The focus is to provide our pupils with a caring, safe and engaging environment where they can trust and re-engage with their learning.

Recovery English

In 8LS, we will revisit, practice and refresh phonemes and reading through practical games and daily phonics sessions. We will use stories to support pupils to engage with writing, handwriting and talking.

Suggested British classic stories:

'The Beatrix Potter Collection', 'The Lion, The witch and the Wardrobe', (C.S Lewis) and 'Mary Poppins', (Pamela Lyndon Travers).

The pupils will explore adventures in the books and create their own adventures through drama and writing.

'The Tiger Who Came to Tea', (Judith Kerr) - create and plan their own tea party!

We will also practice the techniques of: reviewing a book, describing and creating characters, discuss our likes and dislikes, sequencing, debate and discussion, letter writing to friends in other 'bubbles'.

Recovery Maths

In 8LS, we will revisit, practice and refresh our counting skills. We will do this through our Maths sessions and our Enterprise session, where the pupils will work together to plan and deliver a 'Make and Sell' shop for Christmas.

We will be working with number lines, counters, blocks and money. Counting on forwards and backwards from a given Number, ordering numbers and sequencing. In 'Shape', we will be exploring and playing with symmetry, and repetitive patterns. We will use Hamilton recovery curriculum lesson plans to engage and support pupil learning. In 8LS, we will also learn through play using resources such as board games, outside socially distanced games that will also encourage taking turns and following rules. The pupils will work collaboratively to achieve their targets. Pupils will be encouraged to compare lengths and measures using things in the classroom. We will introduce time, through the school day and Science activities.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

In 8LS, staff and pupils will create a Happiness Box. Pupils will have regular opportunities to use their Happiness Box that will contain items from home that will regulate, calm and relax the pupils when needed. (Staff to model with their own Happiness Box.) We also have a class Worry Box that will be emptied and discussed each week where advice and support is offered. The pupils in 8LS all have 'Mindful Books' that they will use to record feelings and to provide a calming activity. Yoga, mindfulness and guided meditation activities to be completed daily via Peace Out Cosmic Kids, New Horizon and Calm. We will use PHSE Association resources to help understand our feelings; What are they? How do they change? How to cope with 'big' feelings. We will learn about respecting the needs of ourselves and others.

Recovery Science

We will use the sensory garden, Forest School, the track and field as a resource to facilitate the British Science Association (BSA) STEM Activities. Pupils will explore everyday problems using Science. Once they complete 8 challenges they will receive an accredited Science Award from the BSA. The pupils will collect the Science Stamps in their STEM Activity Passport which will be sent off and moderated before the award is issued. The pupils will explore investigations such as; Brilliant Bubbles, Cheesy Challenge, Recycle and Reuse, Outdoor Gym and Fascinating Finger-prints.

Creative Arts

We will create clay faces depicting differing emotions.
In Enterprise, we will design, make and evaluate materials to make items to sell at Christmas. We will use paint, drawing and textiles to create mood boards, Christmas and Diwali cards. We will use paint to explore colour, pattern, texture, line shape, form and space. We will be creating harvest pictures using various mediums.
8LS will explore rhythm and sounds through BBC TEACH, Sun, Sea and Song (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/music-ks1-sun-sea-song-index/zr4x2sg>) and explore Prokofiev's 'Peter and the Wolf' and other film scores that uses sounds and instruments to create mood and atmosphere.
We'll use music sites recommended by the music lead to engage pupils and develop rhythm and pitch, etc.

Physical Wellbeing and Fitness

Through P.E pupils will continue to develop their fundamental sports skills and will learn to link skills to form movement patterns in Gymnastics.
Pupils will engage in 30 minutes exercise a day through walking round the track, smart moves, yoga, brain gym etc. Pupils will develop their independence, resilience, self-esteem, empathy, responsibility and respect, with active listening and looking. Active Play through Storytelling and drama resources will be used to encourage pupils to explore stories through physical movement. Pupils will be encouraged to feel part of a team, to feel valued, develop leadership skills, learn to be assertive and communicate effectively. Pupils will be encouraged to explore their feelings through dance, drama and hot seating.

Recovery Humanities

We'll explore, 'Lenny and Lily in Lockdown' and 'Lenny and Lily Return to School'. How are our journeys different? Ask pupils if they want to share their journey but respecting their right to not join in.

History

Through drama explore the Roman Empire. Look at a roman soldier; what did he wear? What did the romans eat? How did they live? Think about the day in the life of Julius Caesar. What were his responsibilities? How would you rule your kingdom?

RE

Harvest festival - explore through story, food, and art.
What do Christians learn from the story of the creation? Explore through art, music and drama.
Explore Diwali and the story of 'Rama and Sita'.
Learn about the meaning of Christmas and the story of Mary and Joseph's journey to Nazareth.

Careers and Enterprise

In Careers and Enterprise, we will explore the roles and responsibilities that we all have in our day-to-day lives and how we can offer positive contributions to our communities. We will explore places of work and various jobs and careers that will be available to us in the future, and what qualifications, skills and personal qualities we will need to achieve our goals.

We will also be designing and creating items to sell in order to make money for the school fund. This will be a cross curricular subject where we will be using our Numeracy skills to calculate costs and outgoings, and our literacy skills for things such as advertising, etc.