

3LS

Curriculum Newsletter



Autumn Term 2019

The development of the **curriculum** is the **whole school focus** for this year.

The teaching of **reading** will be the focus during this Autumn term.

'**Africa**' will also be a focus for all pupils this term, as we prepare to welcome teachers from our partner school in Nairobi for a week in November.

Topic:

This term 3LS's topic is 'light and dark'. This will include exploring a range of tactile and visual stimuli, as well as combining it with talking about our own daytime and night time routines.

Understanding The World (Science, Humanities, Technology)

The children will be encouraged to learn about the world around them through facilitated role play, exploring visual stimuli such as torches, fibre optics and light boxes. We will have a 'Dark Tent' in the classroom, for pupils to fully immerse themselves in a light sensitive environment.

As part of our Religious Education, we will be learning about Diwali, the Festival of Light.

In computing, we will be learning about digital literacy. Pupils will learn that symbols and texts can be used to convey information.

Forest School is on a Monday afternoon. As the weather turns cooler, please ensure your child has suitable warm clothing and footwear in school for this day.

Mathematics

This term our focus will be on consolidating our understanding of daily routines, looking at what we do at different times of the day.

We will continue to familiarise ourselves with numbers through counting songs and simple games.

English and Communication

This term, we will be focusing on our reading skills, sharing our favourite books from home and showing anticipation and understanding of familiar texts.

Mark-making opportunities will be available daily through adult-guided activities, as well as child-initiated free play.

The children have regular, ability-grouped Phonics sessions, appropriate to their needs. These sessions will involve a range of speaking and listening games to work on their attention and concentration. Some pupils will also continue to learn to recognise phonic sounds through games and songs.

Listening and reading interventions will be taking place throughout the week, as appropriate to individual needs.

Physical Education

P.E will take place on a Tuesday. The pupils will be exploring movement using different equipment including mats, soft beams, soft boxes and tunnels. The second half of the term the focus will be dance, the pupils will explore personal space and floor patterns and learn to dance with a partner.

Our weekly Hydrotherapy sessions are on Fridays. Please ensure your child has their swim kit in school.

Expressive Arts and Design

Art sessions will explore our topic of 'Light and Dark' through a range of medium, using colour, shadows and contrast. We will also be using the school topic of 'Africa' as a theme, to create some artwork to present to our African visitors.

Art in 3LS is very much about the process rather than the outcome. We encourage the children to be as independent and as creative as they can be and consequently, though we endeavour to keep it to a minimum, inevitably some mess is made!

How is my child's progress being recorded?

The children will be working from the EYFS Curriculum and will be assessed using a personalised assessment system, relevant to them.

Each child will follow their own personalised 'Individual Education Plan' with their own set targets.

The pupils' achievements will be recorded through observations and photographs in a digital 'Learning Journey', which will follow their progress over the year.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

PSED is taught holistically in 3LS and is intrinsic in everything we do. The children are encouraged to turn-take, share and express empathy through child-initiated play, supported and modelled by adults.

We encourage the children to recognise and understand a range of emotions, modelling through role-play and small-world activities.

Music

Pupils will develop a sense of steady beat whilst exploring music and songs from this term's whole-school theme, Africa. Through movement, body percussion and a wide range of instruments they will focus in particular on contrasting rhythms and experience changes in tempo.

From November, the class will also begin rehearsing for their Christmas performance in December.

How can parents and carers support their child's learning?

Please complete your child's home-school diary as often as you can, to let us know what your child has been doing at home.

You will soon be receiving a 'Reading Record', which we encourage you to use to let us know about any reading your child has done at home with you.

If you have any questions, or anything you would like to discuss, please feel free to come in and chat with me.