

10US

Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term



Our Values...
Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Topic: 'Being Aware'

This term is about enabling our pupils to become more aware of how they can interact with the environment around them.

Although school is closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our curriculum newsletters are a guide for parent carers as to the topics and themes planned by staff for the Summer term. There are learning resources and activities available on the school website under 'home learning' if you'd like to use them, though please do not feel under pressure to do so. At this challenging time, our children just need to feel safe and loved, they need to play, explore and try fun distracting activities.

Early Communication Skills

Pupils will follow the Barrs Court Curriculum and the EQUALS Pre-Formal Curriculum for the development of Early Communication Skills. Pupils need the opportunity to Respond, Interact and Communicate whilst engaging in activities: Activities will include:

Whole class sensory story sessions:

Ideas for sensory stories will continue to be posted on the school website, so that pupils will be able to join in with these at home. Once they have listened to a story, share favourite massage strokes with them, explore and make marks in materials. Develop exploration skills and responses, through touching materials, moving their hands in materials and manipulating materials.

Intensive Interaction planned 1:1

sessions: If you are interested in finding out more about how to engage in Intensive Interaction with your child at home, please watch some of the videos on Dave Hewitt's YouTube channel and don't be afraid to have a go! (<https://www.youtube.com/user/III209>)

'Touch and Communication' sessions:

Linking to 'Being Aware' this activity will help to share the experience of positive touch. Pupils will take turns to engage with a range of stimuli, which are matched to relaxing music, and show responses. A range of examples can be found on our website. This is a great opportunity to extend their understanding of the environment around them as natural objects can be used as part of the sense of touch. There is also video demonstrating each massage stroke.

Early Thinking Skills

Pupils will follow the Barrs Court Curriculum and the EQUALS Pre-Formal Curriculum for Early Thinking Skills.

Linking to 'Being Aware', encourage pupils to show awareness of stimuli – people, objects and activities, to explore objects, materials, and substances and show control of objects and materials.

Activities to promote this are:

Messy Food Play:

Pupils may enjoy exploring foods which have been chosen to link to our 'Festival of the Month' work, which is the Jewish festival of Shavuot. Traditionally, dairy foods are eaten at this festival, so foods could include cottage cheese, custard, rice pudding.

Sensory exploration:

To support their understanding of 'Being Aware' pupils can be encouraged to develop body awareness. For example, making marks with their hands and feet in different materials and using hands and feet to create a steady beat: clap, bang, stamp.

As pupils explore all of these activities, they will be working towards their individual 'Thinking Skills' targets.

RE

This term we are thinking about 'What makes us happy' and 'What is special to us?' Spending this extra time together and having to change the way we live will enable us to reflect and explore in greater depth what truly matters to us. Pupils could capture such thoughts through a COVID-19 journal, after all we are all a part of history now! Or create their own 'Happiness Action Pack'!

Music

In addition to the links and resources on our school website's Home Learning pages, here is a great opportunity for your child to make music at home! Chadsgrove has been given increased access to the award-winning **Clarion™** instrument, an expressive accessible instrument developed for young disabled people and it also works seamlessly with Eye Gaze computers.

To download: Go to <https://bit.ly/clarionmusic> and watch one of the short videos on the Download page. That will show you how to download and install Clarion™ for either iPad or Windows devices. There are also a few videos on the website to help you get started making music. Open Up Music will continue adding films to the website over the summer.

Username: Summer2020

Password: start.group.745

Happy music making! Have fun!

How is my child's progress being recorded?

Each pupil works towards their individual targets, which are usually assessed on a weekly basis and recorded using the SOLAR framework, which includes video and photographic evidence. Therefore, please email or make a journal of any of the activities that your child engages in—we'd love to see them!

Their overall progress is measured using the 'Routes for Learning' assessment framework.

Early Motor Skills

Linking to 'Being Aware', it is important to focus on body awareness. This can be achieved through providing a range of different forms of touch (tapping, tickling, squeezing, etc.). This can be done by an adult or by encouraging pupils to carry out different forms of touch on their own body or on a sibling. To support their Fine Motor Development, use items they prefer to explore in order to encourage reaching, grasping, releasing, & manipulating. Pupils' Gross Motor Development can be developed through sitting, standing & walking. Pupils can be encouraged to develop their exploration skills such as rolling, shaking, throwing, dropping and squeezing. Explore with them a range of sensory balls (hard, soft, light up, big, small, heavy, light, textured, squashy, noisy).

Take part in the weekly Fitness Challenge announced on Twitter and the website. There are some movement ideas in the PE section of our website, some of which can be adapted to suit individual pupils' needs. Also, our 'Touch and Communication' and story massage ideas in the Sensory Learners section can be used to encourage movement for our pupils.

ICT

Over the summer term the focus will be on maintaining skills your child has learned this year in computing.

The ICT section of the school website will be regularly updated with useful websites and tasks for your child to support this.

Art

This term we will be looking at the art work of the French Impressionists, particularly Claude Monet. The style is very expressive and free, using lots of colour and colour mixing. Monet painted the world around him; the landscapes, haystacks and water. Have a look and experience his work through YouTube or Google Images. Collect pictures into a sketchbook and add words or reactions to your research. Now create your own Impressionist works of art. Practice making choices about colour and tools. Make marks, try dabbing, flicking, splatting with your paint. Mix your colours on the page, use your hands or feet if you want to! Take photographs of your creations if they are too large to put in your sketchbook. This project is all about exploring and experimenting. Your sketchbook will be a work of art in its own right. Enjoy creating!

PSHE

We would like your child to focus on experiencing and enjoying all their favourite things that make them smile! This links in with their RE theme as well as their overall topic of 'Being Aware'. This could be spending time outside, enjoying listening to all the sounds, playing with favourite toys, sharing a story, playing social games in mirrors, listening to favourite music and having a dance! If you have some magical moments you'd love to share, please don't hesitate to take a photograph and email it to us — we'd **love** to see some of your amazing home learning!