

4LS Curriculum Newsletter



Summer Term 2019

Topic: "Around the World"

The teaching of **Maths** is the **whole school focus** for this year. Lesson observations took place during the autumn term with the focus on how numeracy is taught across the curriculum. Teachers shared good practice.

Science will also be a focus during this Summer term of 2019.

Early Communication Skills

Pupils will follow the Barrs Court Curriculum for the development of Early Communication Skills.

Activities will include:

- Whole class sensory story sessions: This term's story is focused on the country **India**. The children have the opportunity to experience a variety of sensory stimuli related to this country, e.g. spices, traditional Indian clothing, music from India, and popular Indian food.
- Intensive Interaction sessions where pupils will work on their individual targets. These sessions also give pupils the opportunity to develop social exchanges, e.g. taking turns, smiling/laughing, wanting more, showing interest in others, and giving eye contact.

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.

Early Thinking Skills

Pupils will follow the Barrs Court Curriculum for the Early Thinking Skills. The Curriculum is concerned with the acquisition of basic skills, learning strategies and behaviours that allow pupils to interact with their surroundings.

Activities will include:

- Multi-sensory room sessions: Pupils will be encouraged to use switches to take ownership of the Environment, e.g. control lights, fans and music within the room which is themed around the country Ghana.
- TACPAC sessions: This term we will be using 'Session 2' with a variety of objects including sponges, chopsticks and furs. Pupils will be encouraged to respond to each activity by using facial expression, gesture or vocalisation to express likes/dislikes or to request more/no more, as well as developing their anticipation skills.

Music

Pupils will develop their awareness of contrasting instrumental sounds whilst exploring songs about travel and transport from around the world. They will combine voices, movement and instruments to perform songs, and focus in particular on experiencing a steady beat whilst exploring simple word rhythms. Pupils will be encouraged to use their voices and to explore a range of instrumental sounds. They will focus on contrasts in dynamics (volume) and tempo (speed), and create music with others.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Individual achievements are celebrated throughout the day. At the end of each day the children take part in a quiet Reflection Time.

Keeping with our theme of 'Around the world', this term pupils have the opportunity to take 'Gerry the Giraffe' home with them to join them on their weekend adventures. This is then shared with the rest of the pupils, developing our listening skills.

Early Motor Skills

The children will have time out of their chairs each day when they experience a range of physical activities that include Soft Play, Hydrotherapy, Rebound Therapy, and the Multi-Sensory Room. Hydrotherapy sessions will be on a Thursday afternoon. These are fun sessions aimed at encouraging movement, and provide the opportunity for pupils to work on their individual physiotherapy targets.

During classroom activities, where appropriate, pupils will have opportunities to practise their sitting and standing skills; as well as experiencing changes of position such as sitting on a bench and using their standing frames.

Pupils will be encouraged to develop muscle tone by taking part in using light, gentle, strong and tense movements; rhythmic/continuous gross motor co-ordination movement development when listening to music from a variety of different countries whilst using twirling ribbons, scarves, as well as percussion instruments such as wrist bells.

Forest School

Pupils will experience weekly sessions in our outdoor 'Forest School' environment, with a qualified Leader.

These sessions will take place on Wednesday afternoons: please do send in appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather!

Computing

Pupils will have a weekly session in the 'Computer Room', where they will take part in a range of activities, including the use of switches to control on-screen activities, practising their touch screen skills, and developing their understanding of 'cause and effect' by using the Eye Gaze computer.

Creative Arts

Each week, pupils will take part in an activity themed around a different country including dance, craft sessions, mark making, food exploration and story telling.

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

Please use the Home-School books to communicate any useful information or interesting news about your child.

Please provide any snacks for your child for break times, if appropriate.

If you have any concerns, please feel free to call us. (If we can't come to the phone, we will call back as soon as we are able to.)