

**4LS**

## Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term



### Our Values...

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

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.

Our Summer Term theme is :  
**'The World Around Us'**

### Early Communication Skills

Pupils will follow the Barrs Court Curriculum and the EQUALS Pre-Formal Curriculum for the development of Early Communication Skills. They will also have personalised individual communication targets to work towards.

Activities will include:

#### **Whole class sensory story sessions:**

Ideas for sensory stories will continue to be posted on the school website on our class page, so that pupils will be able to join in with these at home. Our first story is: **'Whatever Next!'** is available to watch and download now.

#### **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. (<https://www.youtube.com/user/III209>)

**'Touch and Communication'** sessions are available on the school's website alongside **Story Massages**. These are a great way of encouraging pupils to communicate their preferences and responses to music and touch, as well as providing relaxation time for them.

([https://www.chadsgroveschool.org.uk/web/sensory\\_learning\\_pmlid/463664](https://www.chadsgroveschool.org.uk/web/sensory_learning_pmlid/463664))

### Early Thinking Skills

Pupils will follow the Barrs Court Curriculum and the EQUALS Pre-Formal Curriculum for Early Thinking Skills. They will also have individual personalised targets to work towards.

As our theme is 'The World Around Us' activities are themed ranging from 'Outside' to 'Sensory Space' with the idea of including as many exciting sensory experiences as possible!

Activities will include:

#### **Sensory Exploration:**

Alongside our first Sensory Story, 'Whatever Next', pupils can enjoy activities linked to 'Space', including making and exploring: Sensory Space Bottles, Moon Sand, creating 'Space' environments at home using sheets/dark dens.

**Messy Food Play:** suggested activities are available on the school's website for topic themed specific ideas. However, you can use whatever you have available at home to help your child explore different textures/temperature/consistencies e.g. custard, rice, jelly, flour.

**Mark Making:** using water and paint-brushes to mark make on hard surfaces, using different body parts to mark make on different textured surfaces, painting leaves, printing with leaves/stones, chalk marking onto black paper. Mark making apps are also a great way of encouraging mark making without the mess!

### 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! Chads Grove 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!

### RE

Pupils will be encouraged to engage with sensory experiences linked to a range of different religions.

This term, pupils will be focusing on experiencing what it might be like to be inside a religious place. Activities can include: playing music from different religions, sharing stories from different religions and tasting/smelling foods from different cultures.

### Early Motor Skills

A range of activities are planned for this term, which are tailored towards each pupil's individual movement skills. These could include: sensory trails, interesting tactile objects for them to explore/reach/look towards; encouraging as much movement as possible.

Linked with our theme of '**The World Around Us**' some activities may include:

- Providing different textures for the pupil to explore with their hands/feet/arms/legs to encourage body awareness. eg. hard, soft, bumpy, smooth, rough.
- Encouraging pupils to move their body when they hear music playing and then stopping.
- Stretches and 'dance' activities with objects that make interesting sounds/visually interesting objects for them to grasp e.g. torches, scarves, bells, shakers, balloons.
- Using touch experiences to locate body parts through songs and nursery rhymes.

There are some great movement ideas in the PE section of our website, some of which can be adapted to suit individual pupils' needs. Take part in the weekly Fitness Challenge announced on Twitter and the Chads Grove website. Also, our 'Touch and Communication' and story massage ideas in the Sensory Learners section can be used to encourage movement for our pupils. Do continue to work on your child's personalised physiotherapy targets.

### Computing

Over the summer term the focus will be on maintaining skills your child has learned this year in computing, e.g. cause and effect responses.

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

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We would like your child to focus on experiencing and enjoying all their favourite things that make them smile! This could be spending time outside, enjoying the sound of the birds, playing with favourite toys, sharing a story with their parent/sibling, playing social games in mirrors with an adult, listening to favourite music/nursery rhymes 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!