

14US
Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2020



Our Values...

Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Topic:

Celebrations, Festivals and Rainbows

This term, our school focus is on the 'Recovery Curriculum', as we welcome our children and young people 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 son/daughters 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.

Communication

Sensory Stories linked to **celebrations, festivals and rainbows:**
Disco - A sensory story to discover the excitement and enjoyment of a night out. The story gives pupils the opportunity to express preferences to their peers and communicate their choices.

Ernest and I - A sensory story which gives pupils the opportunity to experience comforting and challenging sensations while experiencing or expressing emotional connections in a safe and nurturing way.

Snow and Autumn - Sensory stories exploring the seasons.

Engagement for Living

Exploration Sessions - Exploring Autumn and Winter through arts, crafts and music.

Mocktail making as part of the sensory story 'disco' which encourages pupils to use their senses to explore and choose ingredients or express their preferences.

ICT - Technology - To use Clicker 7 to create play lists of favourite Glastonbury songs and disco tracks for pupils to activate on the big screen. **Eye Gaze** will be used to develop looking skills and reading skills. **Sound beam** equipment will be used to encourage pupils to create music together and perform together.

Environmental control and electrical appliances will be activated by switches in the 'SPA' so that pupils have control of their environment and can pamper their peers. **Inclusive software and iPads** will be used to practice looking, listening and reading skills.

Health

Motor Skills - Pupils will follow their individual movement plans. They will have daily opportunities to move and experience changes of position. Where appropriate pupils will be able to access their standing frames and equipment such as the Acheeva bed or benches.

Time for relaxation - reflection and 1 to 1 support will be incorporated throughout the day to support pupils' positive mental health and wellbeing.

Dance massage - A sequence of sensory experiences using actions, rhythm and props to encourage pupils to move creatively to different pieces of music.

Story massage - will be used to encourage movement and support pupils to explore their feelings and emotions.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor explorers - Pupils will have the time to explore the sensory garden, track and Forest School area. They will be encouraged to look and listen and to take notice of what they can see and hear.

Group games - will encourage pupils to have fun with their peers and reconnect with each other. They will have opportunities to develop social communication skills such as anticipation, expressing preferences and making choices as well as taking notice of others' effort and being part of a team.

(Please ensure your son/daughter brings appropriate outdoor clothing and blanket, if possible.)

Music

Music lessons will focus on **festivals and celebrations** - Pupils will explore music through playing instruments individually and as part of group performances.

Famous Glastonbury performances will be used as inspiration and give pupils the opportunity to experience the excitement of being at a festival.

They will experience a range of songs and genres and use instruments and technology such as the sound beam and Eye Gaze to join in and get creative!

Each pupil will create their own personalised play list using Clicker 7 to build up a library of their preferences and taste in music.

Community

Community work will continue in the classroom this term. Pupils will work together to produce a weekly link project newsletter for their families and peers at Chadsgrove College to enjoy. They will have the opportunity to contribute through messages, pictures and videos. Pupils will also plant bulbs and decorate plant pots to donate to plant sales so they can positively contribute to society.

Festivals such as Harvest, Diwali and Christmas will be explored through music, drama, stories and arts and crafts.

Positive Mental Health/Wellbeing

Our main focus this term will be to rebuild positive **relationships** and reconnect with one another. We will celebrate our school **community** and take time to enjoy being back together again. Our **curriculum** will be guided by the pupils' interests and preferences and we will have fun learning together once more. We will support pupils to feel confident and to engage in their learning **environment**. Pupils will be given time and **space** to rediscover the skills and talents that they have worked so hard to develop.

Focus activities will include:

Tac Pac style sessions which will explore a trip to a 'beauty salon' using relevant props and music.

Story massage about experiencing a 'spa day' where pupils will have opportunities to anticipate events, express preferences, communicate more/no more and enjoy social interaction with their partner.

Relaxation and Reflection will take place at the end of each day. Pupils will have time to reflect and relax with sensory lights and calm music.