

## 8LS Curriculum Newsletter



### 8LS 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 our topic in 8LS will be "Our Bodies and Minds".

### English

This term we will be developing our Literacy skills through the exploration of poetry, fiction and non-fiction text relating to our topic "our bodies and minds".

Fiction stories we will be reading, amongst others, include: "Giraffe's can't dance" - Giles Andrea, and "Funny Bones" - Alan Ahlberg. We will also be looking at a selection of poems from the series, 'Revolt Rhymes' by Roald Dahl.

Through these texts we will use pictures and words to identify key characters and events and have opportunities to role play these stories.

We will continue to develop our reading skills through our daily 'Phonics' sessions where we revisit learnt sounds, learn new sounds and practice whole word reading strategies.

Furthermore, we continue to share guided reading sessions together, read our own reading books 1:1 and spend time choosing books from the school library.

### Mathematics

The pupils will be developing the four main areas of Maths with 8 small 2 week units.

In addition and subtraction we will be developing our ability to add and subtract 10s and 1s using physical resources.

In multiplication and division we will be developing our understanding of halving, with extensions looking at thirds and quarters.

### Science

The Science focus is on 'Health'. In 8LS, will be talking about what it is like to feel ill. We will also be looking at medicines and learning that medicines can be dangerous, with the help of various hazard symbols. The children will be making many observations and conducting some simple research.

### History / Geography

This term pupils will be learning about Africa as part of the whole school focus. We will be investigating various different countries in Africa and looking at how their way of life differs to ours.

### Physical Education

P.E will take place on a Monday. The focus for the first half term is Gymnastics; the pupils will work with a partner and learn how to perform match and mirroring movements.

The second half of the term the pupils will be learning how to play Polybat.

Please could the children bring in trainers, shorts and a plain t-shirt for P.E. Thank you.

Swimming takes place on a Tuesday. The pupils will be working towards individual targets on the Dolphin Award Scheme.

### Music

In Music this term pupils will focus on performing using traditional African instruments, singing songs and completing a range of composition tasks linked to the musical 'Anansi Saves the Village' - a story about the effects of the slave trade on a West African village, with the music featuring traditional Ghanaian songs and percussion rhythms. We will continue our African theme as a whole-school focus up to the end of term, and share our musical progress in Chadsgrove's Christmas Shows in December.

### Art

Pupils will be working on the whole school theme, 'Africa'. They will explore and draw masks and artefacts before concentrating on how African animals are depicted in art. They will research and learn about Tinga-tinga painting, exploring colour, different tools, paint mixing, application and pattern. They will design and create a Tinga-tinga inspired animal painting of their own.

### Personal, Health, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be looking at Chadsgrove School's values of trust, independence, welcoming, fun, friendship and teamwork. We will be comparing these with our own individual qualities, and celebrating our differences. 8LS will be identifying what it takes to be a good team and investigating some of the problems a team may encounter.

### Computing

This term the pupils will be working on E-safety. Pupils will learn about the importance of staying safe online. They will identify friends, personal information, evaluate websites and access online safety activities.

### How is my child's progress being recorded?

The children will be working from the National Curriculum and assessed using the P scales and SOLAR.

Each child will follow their own personalised 'Individual Education Plan' with their own set targets, which will be reviewed and monitored.

We encourage pupils to be reflective learners and to evaluate their own progress and achievements. We also record pupils' progress through observations, photographs and the work they produce. We use learning ladders to track progress and identify next steps.

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

Please continue encouraging your child to read whenever you can. Where possible please support your child to complete any homework which is set.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We will ensure all pupils have a 'home/school' diary so that it is easy to pass messages on.

THANK YOU!