

2LS

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020



Our Values...

Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Topics:

All About Me, Harvest time, Nursery Rhymes

This term, our school focus is on the 'Recovery Curriculum', as we welcome our children 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 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 may also be measured using the 'Routes for Learning' assessment framework. Each child will also have all progress recorded in their 'Learning Journey'.

Sensory Story Sessions

During our sensory story sessions we will be exploring sensory props, listening and watching videos and role playing the stories together.

We will also use a wide range of communication aids, such as switches, symbols and word mats to encourage all pupils to take an active role in our sessions.

The books we will use to create our sensory stories include: 'I like Myself', 'The Colour Monster', 'The Scarecrows Wedding', 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes', 'Dingle Dangle Scarecrow' and 'The Little Red Hen'.

Look and Listen Activities

Our look and listen activities will be centred around our topics and will also feature across all areas of the early years curriculum. We will be sharing pictures of our families, and talking about the favourite activities we all like to do at home. We will talk about emotions, and use symbols and switches to show each other how different events make us feel.

During our sensory sessions we will listen to different autumn sounds, such as rustling leaves and heavy rain, as well as listening to many different animal sounds and, later in the term, exciting firework noises.

Movement Skills

In Early Years we have lots of space to explore how we can move our bodies and work on our physiotherapy targets, both while seated and while stretched out on our soft matted area or enjoying the outdoors. We will be having fun joining in with action games and rhymes which encourage us to move different parts of our body and watch ourselves in the large mirrors. We will also link our movements to our favourite nursery rhymes, such as 'Row your boat' and 'I'm a little Teapot'. Playing with wheeled toys will encourage us to practice pushing and pulling, while practicing our self help skills will help us develop our fine motor skills.

Outdoor Learning

Our time outdoors will enable us to explore the different weather the Autumn brings by splashing in puddles and playing in fallen leaves. We will enjoy a camp fire in Forest School, and toast marshmallows! We will also have fun collecting acorns and conkers to explore in the classroom. During our nursery rhyme topic we will make use of the outdoors to role play our favourite rhymes, such as using guttering to watch Incy spider race up and down, and make a wall for Humpty Dumpty!

Song time

Music and songs are a large part of our learning and relaxation in Early Years. We use familiar songs to help us understand that it is time for our morning 'hello' routine or that it is time to tidy up or go home. Songs also help us to learn and understand new vocabulary, while they are great fun to listen to and we can join in by repeating words, using switches or copying actions. We will use many different songs, although a few examples are 'Dingle Dangle Scarecrow', and 'Autumn leaves are Falling' will feature in our Autumn topic, while singing 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' during our 'All About Me' topic will help us to learn about our body parts.

Computing

We will be practicing using switches and learning to become increasingly aware of movements on a computer screen during many of our learning activities. Videos and songs enhance our understanding during our sensory stories and mathematical activities, while equipment such as the Eye Gaze technology and the many different types of switches we have connected to our smaller screen, enables us to practice our skills in a one to one situation.

RE

As a whole school, we have a 'Festival of the Month', where we explore different cultures and religious events. In Early Years we enjoy listening to the music from each Culture, and exploring the many sights and sounds through sensory activities and videos. We will also have times when we can all come together and explore our schools values, while taking time to listen to each other and reflect on our school day.

Relaxation/Wellbeing

Our priority is continually the happiness and wellbeing of our pupils. Early Years is a place where all our pupils can feel secure and develop at their own pace, while learning through fun and motivating activities. There are also lots of opportunities for pupils to take some 'time out' and relax, while benefiting from being together and forming strong bonds with both their peers and their teachers. Each pupil's style of learning and personal interests / needs are catered for to ensure they are able to fully benefit from their time in early years and go on to reach their full potential.