

13US

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.

English

Developing communication skills and encouraging reading and writing skills would still have been the focus for English lessons for 13US in the Summer Term.

Perhaps you could take this opportunity to listen to your young person read or read to them. For some, helping them with their handwriting skills would also be beneficial.

Books Beyond Words (BBW):

The BBW book 'Beating The Virus' is on the school website in the 13US folder. It may be helpful to read this book with your young person. It could help them gain a greater understanding of what is happening during this difficult time. It would also enable you to answer any questions they may have or quash any worries.

Science / Life Skills

We would have been continuing to learn about cleaning, washing, drying and storing laundry as part of the 'Home Management' Unit of our 'OCR Life and Living Skills' course.

This would be a fantastic opportunity to get your young person to help sort the washing, turn on the washing machine, hang the washing out on the line or help fold the dry clothes.

I have already seen a video of one young person mowing the lawn and several pictures of helping out with household chores — well done! Keep this up.

Maths

In the Summer term pupils would have continued to work, in their three distinct groups, through a selection of activities that are personalised to each of the pupils' needs.

The general area we would be working on is **Developing number skills:**

- Counting in whole numbers
- Counting activities
- Recognising and counting numbers
- Understanding taking 1 away and adding 1 on
- Recognising and counting by rote numbers
- Recognise the use of numbers in familiar contexts

This could be encouraged at home by counting familiar objects both in the house and in the garden. Objects could be sorted into colours, shapes or different sizes. Pegs on the washing line are great for teaching 'one more than' and 'one less than'.

Community Learning

Throughout the Summer term the pupils in 13US were due to re-visit 'Where Next?' in Redditch, continue their visits to 'REACH' in Bewdley and participate in an exciting Film making project run by Birmingham Centre for Arts Therapies. We also had some litter picking trips to some of our lovely local parks and road safety awareness planned.

P.E. and Fitness

For this half term the focus is cricket, practice the following skills; throwing, catching and batting. Any type of ball can be used. Play a family game of cricket or Table Cricket.

Take part in the weekly Fitness Challenge announced on Twitter and the website. After half term the focus is Sports Day; practice throwing objects for distance, throwing into containers, and stepping or jumping activities. Running activities include running in a straight line, a wheelchair slalom in and out of cones, a family relay and an egg and spoon race.

Art

Pupils would have continued to work on their OCR (and ASDAN) art accreditation during the Summer Term. It is hoped that they will complete their beautiful 3D mirrors when they return to school. There are lots of Art and crafts ideas in the Art folder on the school website for you to have a go at. Alternatively, you could always draw or paint a rainbow in support of our fabulous NHS workers.

Computing

Over the summer term the focus will be on maintaining skills your child has learned this year in computing. The ICT tab on the school website will be regularly updated with useful websites and tasks for your child to support this.

Rebound Therapy

If you are lucky enough to have a trampoline in your garden—keep bouncing!!

Food Technology

The planned focus for this term is 'life skills'. Please encourage your child to 'have a go' in the kitchen. It doesn't matter what they are doing, even if it's only the washing up! In addition pupils would be learning about the health benefits of fruit as part of a balanced diet, please explore a range of recipes for the whole family to enjoy. Happy cooking!

THRIVE

This term pupils would have been working on tool maintenance and finishing off their assessments in order to gain their certificates. There are PowerPoints on the school website showing how to sow seeds, prick out and pot them and pot sunflower seeds.

Forest School

We were going to plant flower and vegetable seeds, use tools to build planters and look at improving the pond this term. Bring your sunflower plant back when we return - whose will be the tallest?

PSHE

It is essential that you look after your Mental Health during this difficult and unprecedented time. Please refer to the Play and Mindfulness section on the school website.

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!

How is my child's progress being recorded?

We would love to continue to see photos of you carrying out all your household chores, but please don't feel any pressure to do anything. It is important to have fun, be happy and stay safe.