

12US

Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2020



Our Values...

Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Topic:

Celebrations and Festivals

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 is measured using the 'Routes for Learning' assessment framework.

Recovery English

Where possible, our recovery English work will link to our topic with an emphasis on reading for pleasure and enjoyment. We will explore festival poetry during the first half term including Japanese Haiku poems. We will also focus on biographical writing and research a lockdown/NHS hero. Our focus text will be "Kenzuke's Kingdom" by Michael Morpurgo. We will use this text for shared reading and discussion, role-play, character analysis, fact files and creative writing and comprehension tasks. 1:1 reading, phonics and spelling activities and Lexia will all be incorporated predominantly in the morning.

Recovery Maths

Recovery maths will focus predominantly on revision and rebuilding any forgotten skills and/or concepts pupils may have incurred. To begin with, we will focus on creative and mathematical tasks including maths rangoli patterns and Fibonacci inspired maths art. As the term progresses we will focus on number work including place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication, times tables and division. We will move onto money including making amounts of money and calculating change. ICT will be incorporated into maths lessons by using Numeracy workout and Education City.

Physical Wellbeing

Tuesday P.E – Playground

Friday P.E – Track

P.E sessions will be outside as much as possible and activities and games will be planned according to social distancing guidelines and pupils' levels of strength and stamina post lockdown.

We will also support pupils within class to carry out their movement programme physiotherapy plans including the use of walking and standing frames. We will also encourage pupils to be physically active whenever possible.

Humanities

As part of our topic work on the Japanese Moon Festival during October, we will focus on Japan. We will create a fact file of the country including religion, population, climate, flag, capital city, sport, cuisine etc. We will also explore the history of Japan including WW2. Additionally, we will complete activities around remembrance day.

As part of our R.E curriculum we will explore other festivals including Yom Kippur, Navarati, and the birthday of Guru Nanak.

Preparing for Adulthood

With an emphasis on Independent Living Skills, we will complete a range of activities relating to social media pros/cons, how to do laundry, cleaning and hygiene at school/home, preparing simple meals in class, making a bed, money and budgeting and reading bus/train timetables.

We will research potential future jobs/interests/activities to continue beyond school. As part of our work surrounding employment we will discuss personal characteristics favoured by employers, first impressions, dress code, do's/don'ts etc.

Additionally, pupils will be working towards an OCR Life & Living Skills accreditation in "working as part of a team". (OCR Teamwork.)

Creative Arts

We will incorporate creative arts into many subjects but during discrete sessions we will focus on:

Art: Art linked to festivals including Japanese lanterns/fans/paper dolls. Koinobori pine coins/Kimono art projects/Japanese themed scrap books. We will also explore celebratory art with an emphasis on rainbows and colour.

Music: We will focus on group playing and performance to fun, upbeat songs including "Celebrate" and "Don't Stop Beliving". We will listen and appraise "Shakura" - Japanese folk music and explore tradition Japanese instruments.

Science

This term pupils will be working towards completing the British Science Association "Superstar" Science Crest Award. These are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) projects which enable pupils to have fun exploring different practical elements of science. After they have completed 8 projects they will be able to be submitted to receive an award. These 'experiments' will have direct links with maths, creative arts, communication and teamwork.

Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing

Positive mental health and wellbeing will be at the core of everything we do. There will be opportunities for pupils to partake in their favourite activities, with their peers, so that they can enjoy being back at school again. We will discuss Covid-19 when appropriate and provide pupils with strategies to help manage feelings such as anxiety or worry.

Pupils will complete activities on positivity and self-esteem including positivity jars, mental health journals, hope clouds and wellbeing bingo. We will celebrate our strengths.

Additionally, pupils will focus on healthy lifestyles including healthy bedtime routines and the importance of distinguishing between mental and physical health.