

14US  
Curriculum Newsletter  
Spring Term 2020



**Our Values...**  
**Welcoming    Teamwork**  
**Friendship    Trust**  
**Independence    Fun!**

The development of the **curriculum** is the **whole school focus** for this year.

The teaching of **reading** will also continue to be a focus throughout the year.

The teaching of **Maths** will be the focus during this Spring term.

Topic:  
Relationships

Communication Skills

All pupils will have daily opportunities to develop their total communication skills such as eye contact, vocalisations, facial expression, gestures, language and signs during one to one sessions and during small group situations.

Learning opportunities will include: Intensive Interaction, Tac Pac, turn taking games, music therapy, massage, rebound sessions, interaction in the swimming pool and through exploring sensory stories and drama.

**Focused activities will include:**

**Romeo and Juliet sensory story:**

The narrative of this classic love story will be conveyed by using a combination of concise text and meaningful sensory experiences.

**Story telling of 'James and the Giant Peach':**

This book will be adapted and shared in a meaningful way to the whole class. Role play, technology, art, visuals, music and dance will be used to bring the story to life and pupils will explore the relationships between the different characters.

**'Seasoned with Spice' sensory story:**

This is a story about cooking, family, friendship and love. 'Bookending' each session means that the story will be told at the beginning and at the end of each session with level appropriate activities provided in-between. Repeating the story will give pupils opportunities to organise the information gained within the sessions and support their memory.

Engagement for Living

All pupils will have the opportunity to engage with sensory activities based on the sensory story '**seasoned with spice**' written by, international sensory expert and author Joanna Grace. The story will be shared at the beginning and end of each session.

The story 'Seasoned with Spice' is about cooking and includes rich sensory experiences which are found in everyday life and experienced by many families, friends and communities of people. Pupils who do not eat orally will have the opportunity to access all of the activities using their available senses. Sharing food and conversation at meal times provides us with opportunities to build relationships and is an important social event in most communities.

**Activities include:**

**Planting herbs and spices:** Pupils will learn about where fruits and vegetables come from.

**Stir-fry Vegetables:** Pupils will select vegetables to cook a healthy meal.

**Fruit Smoothies:** Pupils will explore fruit and create a healthy, sweet drink.

**Face Plates:** Pupils will have the opportunity to have fun and be creative with food. Creating a healthy plate of food for their family.

**Herby Sandwich:** Pupils will harvest their crop of home grown herbs and use them to create a healthy sandwich.

**Fudge Frolics:** Pupils will explore spices and choose what taste, smell and texture they want to use to create home made fudge.

### Health

Pupils will have the opportunity to follow their personal movement programs each day and have regular changes of position including standing, walking, bench sitting and floor time (where Appropriate). Pupils will also have the opportunity to access **hydrotherapy** and **rebound therapy** each week.

This term, pupils will have the opportunity to develop skills in the area of 'creative movement'. They will experience different relationships through movement and dance. This will include working individually, with a partner and as part of a small group.

**Star crossed lovers:** Pupils will work in the multi-sensory room to create a movement sequence with a partner. Music, lighting, specialist equipment such as the sound beam and sensory stimuli will be used to engage pupils and motivate them to travel/move in different ways. They will work towards achieving 3 different positions which will form a beginning, middle and end to the routine. Music from the famous love story will signal when movements should begin and change. Pupils will be encouraged and supported to think about the characters' emotions and how they might move. Pupils will have the opportunity to perform their finished piece to an audience.

**True love story- massage sequence:** The story of 'Romeo and Juliet' will be told using familiar 'once upon a touch' massage strokes. The story will be repeated regularly so that pupils have the opportunity to demonstrate their learning through anticipation, initiation, persistence and responsiveness. Pupils will be encouraged to join in with the actions and create/adapt their own.

**Capulets vs Montagues Team games:** Pupils will have the opportunity to apply their motor skills in a variety of different situations. Through fun and motivating games with their peers, pupils will be grouped into 2 teams representing the 2 feuding families to compete in dodge ball, pass the family flag, relay races and parachute games.

PE takes place on a Thursday. The focus this term is the Motor Activity Training Programme (MATP); the pupils will develop their fine and gross motor skills through activities that concentrate on pushing, pulling, kicking and striking, they will learn to apply these skills in small sided games.

Swimming will be on Wednesday's, so please ensure that your son/daughter have their kits.

### Music

In Music this term, pupils will explore rhythm and melody through singing, instrumental work, movement and dance. Using their class focus on 'Romeo and Juliet', they will experience contrasts in music as they explore various musical styles that signify differences in the environment and represent changes of emotion.

### Art

Pupils will have Art lessons in the Art Room with Mrs LLOYDlangston. This term they will be following the theme of 'love' to support the 'Romeo and Juliet' context running through their learning. Pupils will focus on engagement, choice making and exploring. They will experience paint and different mark making techniques before moving into textures, sounds and how things feel. They are going to make heart inspired mobiles that will twist, sparkle and inspire!

### Community Inclusion

Pupils will experience visiting different places of interest, leisure facilities and post 19 provisions within their community each Friday. This will give pupils the opportunity to build confidence and social skills so that they can contribute positively to society. They will be encouraged to apply their skills into a variety of situations and communicate meaningfully with new people. We now have links with 'Keep on Moving' in Bromsgrove, The 'Myriad Centre' in Worcestershire and 'Where Next?' in Redditch. We will also be working closely with the 'Chadsgrove Educational Trust Specialist College' to prepare pupils for adulthood and support them to think about their future goals and aspirations.

### Inclusive Technology

Pupils will have opportunities across all areas of the curriculum to use assistive technology. Switches, communication aids, Eye Gaze technology and sound beam equipment will be used to support pupils to express themselves and engage them in learning so that they are motivated to join in and make something happen!

Pupils have access to the Multisensory room twice a week so that they can develop the skills to control their own environment. This term we will be bringing the love story 'Romeo and Juliet' to life with special lighting, music and drama.

### Mental Wellbeing/PHSSE

Positive mental health will be a focus during all activities throughout the day.

Personal care routines will become pedagogical opportunities to engage with intensive interaction and one to one conversations to build positive relationships.

Pupils will also be given opportunities to share time out of their chairs with their peers and be supported to interact with one another.

At the end of each activity staff will remain silent for 2-4 minutes and give pupils the opportunity to reflect and process their learning.

Video clips may be shown to the class of a pupil who has demonstrated good effort during a challenging activity.

All pupils will have the opportunity to attend their annual reviews to celebrate their achievements and contribute to their EHCP.

They will also share their review film with their peers so that their personal achievements and progress is recognised.

At the end of each day pupils will be able to engage with reflection and celebrate each others efforts during star of the day.