

10US

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2024



Our Values...

Welcoming **Teamwork**
Friendship **Trust**
Independence **Fun!**

'Maths' is our whole school curriculum priority for the Autumn Term; our Maths Curriculum Day is on 6th November.

Our Wellbeing Day
will take place on 10th October,
which is also
World Mental Health Day

Festivals of the Month

September: Yom Kippur
October: Navaratri
November: Diwali
December: Christmas

EHCP Targets

All of the pupils will be working towards the targets in their EHC Plans in all of their lessons.

The activities we do in class will 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

Theme: Enabling pupils to begin to make choices about activities, according to their individual abilities)

Topic: Wizards and Witches

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 Engagement Model, in the areas of Exploration, Realisation, Anticipation, Persistence and Initiation.

Their overall progress is measured using the 'Routes for Learning' assessment framework, using video evidence to capture pupils' achievements towards all of their targets.

Communication Skills

Sensory Story Telling: This term's story, 'Macbeth', is themed around making choices and learning how to make good choices. The story will include pupils using switches to control Powerpoint slides to tell the story and also to add sound effects focusing on emotions to the story. The story will contain repetitive elements: pupils will be encouraged to join in using actions, symbols representing emotions and vocalization. Additional stories will include: 'Short Stories from Hogwarts' by J K Rowling and 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl. As they explore these stories, pupils will be encouraged to work towards their Communication Skills targets, for example communicating choice to attentive adult, communicating 'more'/no more' through consistent actions and anticipating the next sequence within the story.

A **TACPAC** inspired activity linked to the topic of 'Wizards and Witches' will include using relaxing music and images shown on the interactive whiteboard, linked to making choices, spells and magic. Pupils will be offered different tactile stimuli; the use of repetition will help build anticipation. Pupils will be encouraged to respond to each 'Wizards and Witches' themed activity, by using facial expression, gesture or vocalisation to express like/dislike or to request 'more/no more'.

Motor Skills

Pupils will follow their **individual movement plans**, whilst also exploring movement to music. The 'Festival of the Month' will allow opportunities to explore music from different religions and cultures; pupils will be encouraged to join in with dance style activities using props such as large fans, scarves, ribbons, pom poms etc. Pupils will play parachute games with balloons to keep balloons afloat in the air 'magically'. This will encourage pupils' independent movement and allow them to try key physical education skills such as directional movement and speed.

Physibods - Pupils will have the opportunity to explore a range of whole body movement to incorporate passive and active activities, which will also encourage them to stretch/reach for objects, to roll, to experience different positions for massage e.g. lying prone over a wedge.

Sherbourne Style Dance— A sequence of sensory experiences using actions, rhythm and props to encourage pupils to move creatively to different pieces of music, which will be linked to the topic and will incorporate different genres from pop, classical to contemporary pieces. Pupils will continue to have regular opportunities to access Rebound Therapy on the trampoline and to use the swimming pool for Hydrotherapy sessions. Hydrotherapy sessions will generally be on Tuesday afternoons, but pupils may have the opportunity to use the pool on other days of the week so their swim kit may be kept in school until their Hydrotherapy session has taken place.

Music

Pupils will focus on 'magic spells', exploring wizard and witch illusions through orchestral pieces, songs and instrumental sounds. They will experiment with a wide variety of instruments, both tuned and untuned, and improvise their own accompaniments to enhance their listening and performance experiences. Soundbeam will be used to translate physical gestures into musical notes, and pupils will explore suitable apps as part of their performance work.

Art

Pupils will follow their theme 'Wizards and Witches'. They will be using a range of mark making techniques and skills including stamping, painting, collaging, cutting and sticking. The pupils will be making choices between two items such as paint colour or tools they want to use. This will all be collated in the pupils' personal sketchbook to keep a record of their progress and the wonderful work they create.

PSHE

Pupils' feelings and the ways in which they express them will be closely monitored by staff. Pupils will be encouraged to notice and respond to both adults and their peers during shared sessions, including Intensive Interaction. Positive Mental Health will be embedded in all sessions.

Thinking Skills

Sensology: Through experiencing a range of different stimuli, pupils will be encouraged to 'awaken' each of their five senses.

Look and Listen Skills:

Pupils will work on their individual thinking skills targets. They will have the opportunity to use computer programmes such as 'Big Bang' and 'Target and Touch', accessed via both switches and the touch screen computer to develop cause and effect skills. On a rota basis, pupils will also use the Eye Gaze computer.

Pupils will use technology to control Powerpoint presentations, such as via switches or the touch screen computer. These will activate a variety of images, sounds and videos linked to their class topic and pupils will be encouraged to use their visual and auditory skills to engage and show responses including 'anticipation', 'realisation' and 'persistence'. They will focus on sounds and images associated with making choices, as well as classical and contemporary pieces of music associated with Autumn.