

4LS

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2023



Our Values...

Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

'Humanities' is our whole school curriculum priority for the Autumn Term.

A Humanities Curriculum Day will take place this term for the whole school, with lots of exciting activities planned which will focus on History, Geography, RE and British Values.

Festivals of the Month

September: Sukkot
October: Dussehra
November: Diwali
December: Christmas

EHCP Targets

All of our 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:

Encouraging pupils to discover their likes and dislikes

Topics:

Getting to Know You

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

Circle time activities: Pupils will have the opportunity to develop fundamental communication skills during daily morning welcome routines and reflection routines. Pupils will be encouraged to listen out for their name and join in when it is their turn using pictures, symbols, switches and signs.

Sensory Stories: This term we are focusing on the story 'Happy to be Me'. Pupils will be encouraged to use their available senses and total communication strategies to explore a range of sensory props, materials and resources that are linked to the story in order to discover their likes and dislikes.

Intensive Interaction: Pupils will work on their individual communication targets through frequent daily opportunities to engage with Intensive Interaction conversations. Pupils will be encouraged and supported to develop the fundamentals of communication, including use of eye contact, turn taking, sharing attention, using vocalisations and developing concentration and attention span.

TACPAC: 4LS will explore TACPAC Set 1 and TACPAC inspired activities which are linked to the season of Autumn and the Festivals of the Month this term. Pupils will be encouraged to build on their experiences and express their preferences.

Motor Skills

Pupils will have daily opportunities to follow their individual movement programs in class which have been set by their physiotherapist. This may include pupils using standing frames, walking frames, benches for sitting and/or being supported to do a range of passive/active stretches. Staff will encourage pupils to stretch, reach and move their bodies as far as possible in many activities throughout the day.

Movement based story: Pupils will have the opportunity to work in the hall and take part in a movement based story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Within the story pupils will experience movement individually, in pairs and as part of a bigger group. Pupils will be supported and encouraged by staff to maximise their physical abilities in a fun and engaging environment. Each key event within the story will be transformed into a movement routine and music, props and key phrases will be used repeatedly to encourage pupils to recall the sequence and anticipate their favourite parts.

Hydrotherapy and Rebound Therapy: In these weekly sessions, pupils will have one to one support to follow their movement program while having fun and engaging in social interaction with staff and their peers.

Soft Play: In these sessions, pupils will take part in a range of body awareness activities such as action songs and story massage as well as practicing their personal targets in a safe environment.

Thinking Skills

Cause and Effect:

Using the big interactive screen, pupils will be supported to select Autumn themed songs, Nursery Rhymes, action songs and music relating to the Festivals of the Month. Pupils will have the opportunity to access a variety of inclusive technology such as switches, touch screen, Eyegaze and Sound Beam to make something happen. Pupils will also work on individual targets and increase their awareness of causing an effect within their environment. Staff will observe their likes, dislikes and engagement for learning.

Sensory Play:

Pupils will be encouraged to use their available senses and total communication strategies to explore arts and crafts, tactile and sensory activities. Pupils will work on their personal targets during these sessions and staff will observe and record their likes/dislikes and engagement for learning. This year pupils will also have weekly opportunities to work with specialist teachers in Art and Messy Food Play which will encourage pupils to generalise their skills further.

Multi-Sensory Room:

In the Multi-Sensory Room, pupils will experience being immersed in an interactive environment where they will have support to operate and control elements of their immediate environment.

The Arts

In Music lessons, pupils will explore our wide range of classroom musical instruments whilst becoming familiar again with the Music Room and the structure of their weekly music sessions. Using the focus of 'I like/I want', they will explore lots of instruments and a range of contrasting songs and musical styles. They will become increasingly familiar with changes in tempo (speed) and dynamics (volume), plus relevant nursery rhymes and the choice of instruments available; they will explore how to express a preference and to share what they like, and don't like, with others.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Pupils will take part in fun and motivating activities where staff encourage interests and preferences to develop. Staff will tune into pupils' total communication strategies and respond quickly to take account of pupil voice.

How can parent carers support their child's learning?

Please send your child's swimming kit in on a Thursday. Please use the home/school book to let us know of any achievements your child has had at home and any weekend news that we can share during our morning routine.