

10US
Curriculum Newsletter
Spring Term 2024



Our Values...

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

PSHCE

(Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic Education)
is our whole school curriculum priority for the Spring Term.

We have a 'Keeping Safe' Day planned in January and a whole school 'Wellbeing' Day in March.

Festivals of the Month

January: Lohri
February: Chinese New Year
March: Ramadan

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: Enabling pupils to understand how to communicate their feelings

Topic: 'Let's Grow Together'

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 Stories: Pupils will be encouraged to use their available senses to join in with storytelling based on Winter, Spring and Growth, through the use of tactile, visual and auditory stimuli. Stories will be repeated and adaptations will be made in order to respond to pupils' engagement for learning in the areas of exploration, realisation, anticipation, persistence and initiation. Pupils will work towards their individual communication targets and staff will record their engagement, responses, preferences and achievements. Pupils will use different types of switches to explore sound effects relevant to the context of the story.

Intensive Interaction: Pupils will work towards 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 and using vocalisations.

TACPAC style communication session: Relevant themed music, visual images, scents and tactile resources, linked to their topic, will be used in sequence and repeated regularly so that pupils are able to build on their experiences and develop their total communication skills.

Motor Skills

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

Gross Motor Skills (Classroom/ Outside): Depending upon their individual targets, pupils will either develop their walking skills, by walking with support or with the aid of a walking frame, around the school indoor and outdoor environment, or work on rolling, bench sitting or reaching in the classroom.

Pupils will also be encouraged to explore movement and dance activities, linked to our theme of enabling pupils to understand how to communicate their feelings. They will be supported to move in time to music intended to provoke an emotional response, with sounds associated with Winter, Spring and Growth. Props such as chiffon scarves, ribbons and coloured lights will be used to encourage pupils to explore light, gentle, strong, relaxed and tense movements and to combine these with body percussion and vocal sounds.

Fine Motor Skills: Objects such as food, play dough and fabric will be placed in pupils' hands and they will be encouraged to grasp them, with staff using a hand under hand approach. Engaging objects will be placed within pupils' reach and field of vision and they will be encouraged to reach for and explore them.

Music

Pupils will explore the theme of growth and wildlife through music, with a specific focus on 'rhythm'. They will develop their awareness of other musical dimensions (particularly tempo, pitch and dynamics), instruments, and musical repertoire associated with or inspired by nature and wildlife. This musical material will also be explored further in their Sensology sessions (with Mrs Mole) that will take place on alternating weeks.

Art

Pupils will be encouraged to use their available senses to explore tactile and other sensory activities. They will be supported to create Winter, Spring and Easter themed crafts, whereby through the medium of Art they will have opportunities to explore their feelings, emotions and growth.

PSHE

Pupils will have opportunities to take part in fun and motivating activities where staff will encourage their interests and preferences to develop. Staff will tune into pupils' total communication strategies and respond quickly to take account of pupil voice. Story massage, music and a range of visual resources will be used to teach pupils about their feelings and emotions and staff will encourage pupils to express themselves.

Thinking Skills

ICT: Pupils will use technology to control Powerpoint presentations, such as switches or the touch screen computer. These will activate a variety of images, sounds and videos linked to our class topics and pupils will be encouraged to use their visual and auditory skills to engage and show responses and anticipation.

Mathematical Focus:

Massage movements will be used to encourage pupils to develop their awareness of different sized circular motions. They will develop their awareness of sequences by experiencing repetition of these massage movements using a range of stimuli.

Science Focus:

Pupils will have the opportunity to take part in some fun experiments linked to topic of 'Let's Grow Together', using the concept of 'growth' linked to identity; individuality and feelings.

Sensology Workout:

A range of different stimuli will be used to awaken each pupil's five senses. Sensology will be based around Winter, Spring and Growth and will also include the Festival of the Month as well as other special events. Textures, tastes, sounds, smells and visual aids will be used as prompts and cues.