

9US
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

Independent Living Skills/Work Related Learning

Pupils will use the classroom, outdoor spaces and Food Technology Room to begin to explore the skills required to promote their independence. They will be working on their soft skills of speaking, listening and teamwork. Pupils will learn about jobs people do, including their family members.

Art

Art activities will be inspired by the human form and movement. Pupils will begin by looking at and discussing the work of two artists – Henry Moore and Umberto Boccioni. Pupils will be introduced to some key specific art words and terms. They will use a variety of techniques and materials to explore the drawing and sculpting techniques of Henry Moore and the characteristic colourful style of Umberto Boccioni. Pupils will create outcomes in 2D and 3D and they will work towards final abstract pieces in foil, 'Modroc' and oil pastels.

Computing

This term, pupils will learn how to stay safe on line. They will look at a variety of data and create their own bar charts using data collected. Pupils will also learn how to create documents with minimal staff support.

Science

Pupils will be learning all about the human body and keeping healthy. They will explore healthy eating and exercise, learn about how the heart pumps blood around the body and find out how to measure pulse rate. Pupils will learn about the harmful effects of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs but also how some drugs like medicines can be helpful and important.

Humanities

The focus for this term is Geography. Pupils will explore different climates in polar regions and deserts.

During the term, pupils will compare our climate with others and learn how to record the different impact of climate changes.

Pupils will record the weather in Bromsgrove alongside the weather in polar regions and deserts.

How is my child's progress being recorded?

All pupils are continuously assessed using SOLAR, which breaks down Chadsgrove P-scales and National Curriculum Levels into small steps, so that we are able to track progression through each level in each subject area.

Music

Musical activities will link to the class topic 'The Human Body'; pupils will experience skeleton dances, body percussion and a range of songs that will help them to learn about the human body and how to stay healthy. With a focus on how to structure a performance, percussion instruments will be used to improvise, create word rhythms and perform a final skeleton

Maths

This term, pupils will be taught in short blocks in order to ensure appropriate coverage of the following key areas: properties of numbers, the four operations (focussing on addition and subtraction), using money, time and sequencing events, measuring, sorting and sequencing and thinking skills and problem solving. This should help pupils to be able to remember, build and apply their mathematical skills in a range of different contexts.

A key focus this term will be using a range of equipment to measure length. Some pupils will use conventional metre rules etc. and others will use blocks to measure items and people.

Pupils will also explore language such as 'analogue' and 'digital' when telling the time and use their class timetable to enable them to sequence their day.

PSHE and Relationships

The focus this term is on peer pressure and how advertising and online media can impact on mental wellbeing. Pupils will explore and develop an understanding of how friendship works and how to respond to a variety of situations which may occur when friendships go 'wrong'.

We will use reading time to read books where friendships are a focus.

Wellbeing Days will also form part of the curriculum focus for this term.

PE, Swimming and Fitness

PE takes place on Wednesdays; the focus for the first half term is Table Cricket led by Worcestershire County Cricket Coach. The pupils will develop their batting, bowling and fielding skills. The second half of the term the focus is Boccia; pupils will refine their accuracy when throwing/sending the ball towards the jack, and when working in a team to develop tactics.

The pupils will take part in an outdoor adventurous activity during the term.

On Tuesdays, pupils will either take part in Hydrotherapy, fitness or Rebound Therapy. Those taking part in Hydrotherapy will be informed individually.

English

This term's focus will centre around the topic 'The Human Body'. Pupils will be exploring a range of autobiographical stories both visually and in text, including 'I am not a Label'. To promote a love of reading, pupils will continue to build up their experience and knowledge of stories by having lots of opportunities to explore a range of books, both independently and as a class.

Pupils will have three weekly Phonics sessions, appropriate to their developmental needs, to help expand their knowledge of sounds and to develop their fluency in preparation and practice for reading.

Pupils will also continue to practice their handwriting and typing skills. This will be supported by the use of software such as Clicker 8.

How can parent carers support their child's learning?

Please check the Home-School books on a regular basis to communicate any useful information about your child as well as to keep in touch with what they have been doing in school.

Please provide a snack and drink for break time (where appropriate). If you have any concerns at all, please feel free to contact us by email or phone, although we may not be able to speak to you right away if we are in class.