

P14

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: Supporting pupils in using their skills to interact with others in the wider community

Topic: Wonderful Wildlife

Outdoor learning

Pupils will be volunteering with 'Keeping Catshill Beautiful', including participating in litter picking around the local community.

Pupils will also be planting flowers in the local flower beds.

Communication Skills

TACPAC: Pupils will experience a TACPAC inspired activity, linked to their 'Wonderful Wildlife' topic. Pupils will be offered a range of different sensory objects to explore such as fur, teddies, pictures and bubbles which will enable them to develop their preferences and communicate these throughout the sessions. Sensory massage techniques will also be used to represent animals such as 'jumping' for frogs and 'fans' for monkeys climbing in the trees.

Sensory story: Pupils will be encouraged to join in with a sensory story about 'Wonderful Wildlife', which will include the use of music, video clips, lights, smells and tangible items for pupils to explore. Pupils will be encouraged to press a Big Mack switch to tell the next part of the story and to take turns with their peers in class. Pupils will be working on their communication skills targets throughout.

Intensive Interaction: Pupils will be given opportunities in their weekly Intensive Interaction sessions to develop the fundamentals of communication, such as making eye contact, turn taking, vocalising or initiating a conversation. Pupils will also be working on their individual communication targets within these sessions.

Motor Skills

Pupils will have many opportunities for changes of positions throughout the day, including using standing frames which they will be encouraged to do for at least three times each week, for up to an hour a time, as well as spending some time accessing floor time activities on mats. Pupils will also have regular opportunities to follow their Movement Plans that were designed by their physiotherapists, as well as using any other specialist equipment provided by professionals.

Pupils will continue to have regular opportunities to access Rebound Therapy on the trampoline and to use the swimming pool for Hydrotherapy sessions. Pupils will also follow their Movement Plans in these sessions and work towards relevant EHCP targets. Pupils will participate in these activities on a rota basis. When not accessing these activities they will take part in a movement session either in the classroom or outside.

Community inclusion

Pupils will be participating in community visits to different and unfamiliar settings this term to enable them to generalise using their communication skills with less familiar people.

Pupils will be visiting 'Where Next' for a series of craft and dance sessions. A visit to Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park is also planned as part of their 'Wonderful Wildlife' topic.

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/wildlife.

This musical material will also be explored further in their Sensology sessions (with Mrs Mole) that will take place on alternating weeks.

Vocational learning

In these lessons, pupils will have the opportunity to develop their Transition Books. Pupils will be able to communicate their likes and dislikes to develop a rounded and informative book which they will be able to take with them for life beyond Chadsgrove school. These will especially focus on pupils' preferences for different activities and will include pictures which show how to engage pupils within their preferred activities.

Thinking Skills

Computing:

Pupils will have the opportunity to develop their skills in using assistive technology to help them make choices, show preferences and also work on their early stages of problem solving. Pupils will be able to develop their understanding of cause and effect by using equipment such as the touch screen computer, switches and iPads.

Sensology:

A range of different stimuli will be used to awaken each pupil's five senses. Sensology will be based around Winter, Spring and Wildlife. Textures, tastes, sounds, smells and visual aids will be used as prompts and cues.

Art:

Focusing on the theme of wildlife, pupils will be communicating by making choices to create sensory artwork, such as animal sun catchers and masks, using a variety of materials. They will also be exploring habitats.