

8LS

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

Topic:

This term 8LS's topic is 'Clever Construction'.

English

The focus this term for English is going to centre around the topic 'Clever Construction'. Pupils will be exploring the books, 'Iggy Peck Architect' and 'How Things Work'.

Pupils will have daily 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 7.

Pupils will develop their speaking and listening skills by having opportunities to share their own news and views in registration and welcome sessions, alongside our end of the day reflection. Pupils will also engage in role play and drama based activities.

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.

Mathematics

This term, pupils will be focussing on using numbers beyond 20 including place value, addition (using carrying and subtracting), multiplication by grouping and division by equal sharing. Pupils will also be learning about weighing and measuring weight, volume and length using non-standard units. They will also start learning about positional language. In one session each week, pupils will be given the opportunity to develop an understanding of using money through a reward shop.

Science

Pupils will be learning about different forces, linked to their 'Clever Construction' topic. They will explore and name different forces and will be introduced to their properties and resulting actions. They will carry out practical investigations to find out about water resistance, upthrust, air resistance and friction and through this will be developing their ability to work scientifically.

Humanities

This term, pupils will be learning all about Anglo-Saxon Britain. They will explore Anglo-Saxon invasions, settlements and kingdoms. Pupils will also be reading the story of the Legend of King Arthur.

Physical Education

PE will take place on Mondays. The focus for the first half term is Polybat, during which pupils will develop their backhand, forehand and serving action as well as learning to score and officiate.

After half term, the pupils will develop their Boccia skills; refining their accuracy when throwing/sending the ball towards the jack and developing tactics when working as a team.

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

Swimming will take place on Fridays on a rota basis; pupils will work towards individual targets. Please ensure their swimming kit is sent into school every week.

Music

To link with the class topic 'Clever Construction', pupils will focus on the development of their composition skills and learn how musical ideas can be built upon to create a complete and effective piece.

They will create a news programme complete with theme music and school news headlines. They will use songs, raps and instrumental music to alert the school to the burning issues of the day!

Food Technology

Pupils in 8LS will be focusing on understanding and applying the principles of a healthy and varied diet. Through a variety of activities, pupils will be preparing and cooking food with a focus on simple breakfast dishes, celebration cakes and biscuits. The key learning objective will be that food must be prepared and cooked hygienically and safely before it is eaten.

Personal, Health, Social and Emotional Development

This term's focus is caring friendships and keeping safe.

'Books Beyond Words' texts will be used to support pupils' understanding of how to keep themselves safe in the changing environment.

Pupils will also engage in circle time discussions where they will be encouraged to share and listen to the views of their peers, to explore what they feel makes a good friend.

Computing

Pupils will be learning how to program a range of toys including Bee-Bots. They will create, program and direct a toy using step-by-step instructions.

Pupils will also learn how to use technology safely and know where to go for help and support if they have any concerns.

How is my child's progress being recorded?

All pupils are continuously assessed using the Chadsgrove P-scales and SOLAR.

SOLAR breaks down P-scales and National Curriculum Levels into small steps, so that we are able to track progression through each level.

Within 8LS we observe pupils regularly as they work. We use evaluation slips to record observations as well as photographs of pupils whilst completing activities. We encourage pupils to be reflective learners and evaluate their own progress and achievements.

Pupils' targets are regularly reviewed and monitored to enable progression of learning and skills. We record observations on learning ladders which track pupils' progress and this enables us to identify which level they are currently working towards.

How can parent carers support their child's learning?

Please continue reading and number skills with your children at home wherever possible. Pupils can also access learning tasks at home through Education City.

Please check the home school diaries for any messages and use it to keep us updated.

Thankyou for your continued support!