

2LS

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2024



Our Values...

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

'Maths' is our whole school curriculum priority for the Autumn Term; our Maths Curriculum Day is on 6th November.

Our Wellbeing Day
will take place on 10th October,
which is also
World Mental Health Day.

Festivals of the Month

September: Yom Kippur
October: Navaratri
November: Diwali
December: Christmas

Topics

This term in 2LS our topics will be 'All About Me' and 'Clothes'.

The pupils will be working from the Early Years Foundation Stage; this will be assessed using the seven developmental stages across the curriculum and/or Routes For Learning.

Topics are perfect for stimulating child initiated exploration, while also supporting teaching the prime and specific areas of learning. Each child will also have their own 'Individual Education Plan', which includes their own personalised targets.

Communication and Language

During our Communication and Language sessions, pupils will be continuing to develop their listening skills through daily circle times, meal times, stories and play activities.

Total Communication will be used to engage pupils and give them methods and opportunities to communicate their needs and share their feelings.

Through a variety of sensory stories, music, songs and role play opportunities, pupils will explore different materials, sights and sounds linked to their topics.

Some sensory stories this term will be 'Mary Wears What She Wants', 'Red Shoes', 'Aliens Love Underpants', 'Can I Play?', 'We Can Get Dressed', 'The Colour Monster Goes to School' and 'That's My Sweater'.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Pupils will practice their self-help skills, such as washing and oral hygiene, as well as continuing to learn to identify their different body parts.

Activities involving turn taking will also be a focus, to enable pupils to learn to listen and respond to each other, while developing their friendships. They will be enjoying parachute games and fun party games!

As part of their topic work, pupils will be sharing news from home, talking about their favourite toys and activities, exploring 'All About Me' sensory baskets and using mirrors to explore their own facial expressions.

Physical Development

The pupils will continue to focus on their individual targets during physical activities that include swimming, sensory movement, soft play, PE, Rebound Therapy and hand function.

Pupils will be building their confidence while swimming, for example by experiencing different positions in the water and learning to accept water trickling on their heads.

In the area of self help, pupils will be practicing washing their hands and face, and eating with increasing independence. They will also be enjoying outdoor exercise.

Literacy

Pupils will be enjoying books and songs in a variety of different contexts, using sensory props, ICT and supported role play. Pupils will be encouraged to join in with repeated phrases through the use of switches, pictures and symbols.

The class role play area is set up as an 'All About Me' area, which incorporates items such as mirrors, clothes, wigs, glasses and hair brushes.

Pupils will also explore mark making with different media, including using squirty bottles and coloured water, wet mud or sand, and printing in paint using different fruit and vegetables.

Numeracy

Pupils will be developing their awareness of number names through playing fun counting and sorting games and enjoying number songs and rhymes.

They will also be using their fingers and toes to count, with the use of counting gloves as a visual aid.

Learning numbers and shapes will be incorporated into topics by introducing fun exploratory activities. These will include using fingers and toes to count while using counting gloves as a visual aid. Pupils will also use themselves to count groups while comparing their height, their hair colour and the colour of their clothes.

Understanding the World

Pupils will use ICT via switches and communication aids, switch operated toys and switch or touch screen 'cause and effect' computer programs. The Multi-Sensory Room and Forest School will be used to explore different environments and the changes which take place during the Autumn months.

Pupils will also have a great time exploring low technology through sand and water play.

The focus for this term will also be creating digital books with pupils to explore digital storytelling and using the Clicker Program to piece together puzzle pieces showing pictures of their friends in class.

Expressive Arts and Design

Focused Music lessons will take place three times a week, taught by Ms. Steph Wellings and Mrs. Rachel Marshall. Pupils will join in with a wide range of movement songs and explore a variety of musical instruments. Pupils will also be encouraged to vocalise, create sound effects and use switches to join in with songs. They will make choices about sounds and take part in mini performances.

Art activities will include hand and foot prints in air dry clay, face playdough mats, Diwali decorations and Christmas cards. During their cookery sessions pupils will make lots of yummy treats, such as flapjacks, cupcakes, pizza and Diwali sweets.

How can Parent Carers support their child's learning?

Parent Carers could support us by regularly sending in photographs and news from home, particularly photographs of pets and holidays or days out. With this information we can increase communication and help our pupils to share information with others.

Please label all items of clothing, particularly items of school uniform and swimming bags.

Many thanks for all your help and support.

How is my child's progress being recorded?

All pupils are working within the scales of the Early Years Foundation Stage and / or Routes For Learning.

Their achievements will be noted through observations, work, photographs and an online assessment tool.

All pupils will also have a 'Learning Journey' book, which will follow their progress and special achievements over the year.