



Dolphin Class Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2023

School Theme: Movers and Shakers

As our new term starts, I would like to welcome you back to Dolphin Class, introduce the people who will be teaching and caring for your child and explain a little about what we will be covering this term.

The staff in Dolphin Class are:-

Mrs Mary Edmunds – Teacher (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

Mrs Kim Ameson, Ms Zoe Simpson – HLTAs Thursday

Miss Shannon Woodward - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Julia Astley – Teaching Assistant (Monday – Thursday)

Mrs Mandy Wood – Teaching Assistant (Friday)

Miss Becky Hodson – Teaching Assistant

Mrs Amanda Brettle – Teaching Assistant

Mrs Cara Wright – SEN Support Worker

Mrs Kumi Earnshaw – SEN Support Worker

We also have our SEN Support Worker Ms Sara Jones who helps us at lunchtimes, playtimes and with personal care.

EHCP Targets: This will remain a priority focus for all children in class. We will use our theme 'Movers and Shakers' to create regular opportunities to work on all aspects of EHCP targets. This theme encourages us to take a sensory approach to look at the historical and cultural aspects of important people in history – especially those who made great progress with medicine and healthcare.

Multisensory / Early English: Communication opportunities are at the heart of everything that happens in class. All Dolphin Class pupils are supported with specific communication approaches that they are supported to use throughout the day to communicate their wishes and feelings as they complete their activities. Some pupils may use tactile signs and objects of reference to help them make sense of their day. Other pupils may use symbols, signing, ALDs and other visual supports to aid their communication. Phonic Awareness work occurs daily and we are working on our listening skills as we listen to a wide variety of environmental sounds as we follow the Little Wandle SEN scheme.

This term our work will be based around the following literature - 'Ellie's Magic Wellies' by Amy Sparkes and 'The Flying Bath' by Julia Donaldson. Our genres include Fantasy Worlds, following instructions and looking for patterns on a page. We will follow some simple recipes as we follow instructions. In the poem 'Anything but a Grabooberry' by Anushka Ravishankar, we will listen out for rhyming patterns. We will be using multisensory resources for this literature and giving the children opportunities to communicate their ideas as per their individual communication approach as well as developing early writing skills such as mark making using a variety of sensory media.

Multisensory / Early Maths: We will be exploring many mathematical aspects linked to our themed work. We will be using a variety of familiar resources and rhymes to support the

children to begin to sequence the order of numbers and understand place value. We will match items that are the same and start to make same pairs. We will begin to add one more and see how many we have got. We will look at money, including coins and role play how to use it. For our multisensory learners, we will provide opportunities to explore and interact with resources that have a wide range of textures, weights and shapes – including their properties. We will explore capacity and length and height of a variety of items. We will experience measuring different things – including measuring our own height. We will be using Numicon.

Multisensory / Early Science Work: Our theme this term is 'My Body and how to keep it Healthy'. We will be naming and learning about different body parts – focusing on external body parts. We will be looking at different food groups and considering making healthy choices with foods. We will be learning about how to keep our bodies clean and which products we might use for this. We will also consider how to keep ourselves safe in different circumstances.

Physical Development: This remains a very important aspect for many of our children. Children will continue to follow their daily individualised Physiotherapy programme. We will incorporate various learning opportunities as we move our bodies and work on our fine motor skills. We also work on movement activities during our hydrotherapy sessions (Mondays), gross motor sessions and playing skills sessions. During our Dance sessions we will move our bodies to different genres of music as we begin to explore different movements.

Multisensory / Early PSHE: This term our focus will be on 'Identifying and Expressing Feelings.' We will look at videos and photos of a variety of emotions and consider our own emotions. We will create different emotions masks to represent the emotions we are learning about. We will also consider which people in our lives are very special to us. We will also play lots of social interaction games with our friends to support the children to interact well and take their turn. Specific children regularly participate in Intensive Interaction sessions with staff.

Multisensory / Early Computing: This term we will be exploring how we use technology in relation to everyday use and for communicating in relation to counting. We will use the Magic Carpet, Eyegaze technology alongside iPads, computers and switch operated devices. We will also work on some simple counting games on the large IWB.

Creative: In DT we will design, make and evaluate a special box/container.
In Art we will investigate the work of Andy Warhol and create our own examples of his work.

Links with home: Communicating with families remains a very important aspect of our work and we welcome any communication into school from home. We will share daily information via the School Life App, pupils work via Evidence for Learning App and we continue to use our TDolphin@old-park.dudley.sch.uk email address which is monitored daily by the class team.

But the most important aspect of our time, is to have lots and lots of fun with our

teachers and friends!!!!