



Dolphin Class Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2024

School Theme: Time Travellers

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 Syeda Khan – HLTA Thursday

Miss Shannon Woodward - Teaching Assistant & Complex Care

Ms Marcia Plummer – Teaching Assistant

Ms Jo Hipkiss – Teaching Assistant

Miss Haleema Awan – Teaching Assistant

Ms Jane Hunter – SEN Support Worker

Mrs Cara Wright – SEN Support Worker & Complex Care

Mrs Kumi Earnshaw – SEN Support Worker

EHCP Targets: This will remain a priority focus for all children in class. We will use our theme 'Time Travellers' 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 – including a focus on 'The Great Fire of London'

Multi Sensory / 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. Pupils may use tactile signs and objects of reference to help them make sense of their day. Other pupils may use symbols, signing, ALD's and other visual supports to aid their communication. Early Phonics 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—Jack and the Beanstalk – a Multisensory adaptation. Our genres include Fantasy Worlds, following instructions and shape poetry. We will follow some simple recipes as we follow instructions. In Shape Poems, we will consider how the arrangement of the poem on the page creates a familiar shape linked to the content e.g. in the shape of a tree or star. Throughout, 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 multi-sensory learners we will provide opportunities to explore and interact with resources that have a wide range of textures, weights and shapes – including their properties. In our capacity work we will explore length and height of a variety of items. We will experience measuring different things – including measuring our own height.

Multisensory / Early Science Work: Our theme this term is ‘The Importance of Plants.’ We will explore what it means to be a living thing and comparing this to non living items. We will encounter a range of everyday plants and also attempt to grow some plants from seed, bulb and cuttings. We will smell a range of herbs. We will experience labelling all of the different parts of a plant including leaves, roots, shoots and flowers. We will consider what we get from plants and how important they are in feeding animals.

Physical Development: This remains a very important aspect for many of our children. Children will continue to follow their daily individualised Physiotherapy program. 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 (Thursdays), 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 ‘Managing Feelings’ and ‘Things we are good at’. We will use poetry, massage and look at videos and photos of a variety of emotions and consider our own emotions. We will create different emotion masks to represent the emotions we are learning about. We will also consider which people in our lives are very special to us. Dolphin Class children have many talents and we will celebrate everything we are good at including our hobbies and special interests. 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, Eye gaze 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 SchoolLife 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!!!!