

Autumn 2023 Curriculum Newsletter

Ladybird Class

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

Staffing

The staff in Ladybird Class are:-

Mrs Judith Tallett – Class Teacher
Mrs Kerri Stevens – Teaching Assistant
Miss Nikki Sutton – Teaching Assistant (Tuesday – Friday)
Mrs Mandy Wood – Teaching Assistant (Monday)
Mrs Liz Thompson – Teaching Assistant
Mrs Joanne Hipkiss – Teaching Assistant

We also have SEN Support Assistants Mrs Leanne Knight and Mrs Michelle Amphlett who help us all day and Mrs Michelle Pearson who support us with personal care.

Learning and development

The learning and development in Ladybird Class is based around the Engagement Model, which has 5 areas which we observe and use to plan pupils next steps these are, Exploration, Realisation, Anticipation, Persistence and Initiation. We learn through themes creating a range of experiences and activities that engage and motivate our pupils to achieve their full potential. We also focus on pupils' targets from their EHCP weekly. Our children learn through multisensory experiences. We also incorporate their personal and physical needs into their learning including physiotherapy.

Each day is structured so that we have set daily routines, play and both adult-led and child-initiated activities.

Focus for this term

Our whole school theme for this term is **Movers and Shakers**. We will also be using some special events and places as inspiration for some of our activities.

In Multisensory English, we will be experiencing a range of visual, auditory and tactile stimuli and aromas based around our theme. We will be looking at a traditional story, 'Goldilocks and The Three Bears' and non-fiction on following instructions as well as learning about poetry using action rhymes and poems. We are focusing on our responses to stimuli, cause and effect and the 5 areas of engagement. In our Phonic Awareness lessons, we focus on listening and attention skills and trying some new ideas from the Little Wandle phonics programme. These lessons are based on a range of interactive sensory lessons and we also use this time to focus on our communication skills.

In Multisensory Mathematics, we will be focusing on the concepts of numbers through songs and rhymes and exploring objects linked to our themed work. We are also exploring measurement, length and height. We will be using Numicon.

We will be learning about 'My Body and how to keep Healthy' in Multisensory Science. We will be encountering and exploring different body parts using songs e.g. 'I've got a Body' and 'Head, Shoulders, knees and Toes'. In the second half of the autumn term, we will also be learning about 'Keeping our body clean' and 'Healthy Food'.

In Multisensory PSHE sessions, we will be exploring a range of activities and experiences learning about 'Managing our Feelings'. In our Creative sessions, we will be trying some Multisensory Art experiences linked to the theme 'Movers and Shakers' and we will be looking at the artist Andy Warhol.

In our Sensology lessons, we will have multisensory experiences based on the theme. Every day we aim to have a movement-based lesson these usually include body awareness, Physibods, nursery rhyme physio, physio story or physio dance.

Your child will also have the opportunity to participate in a range of play and adult-led activities linked to our theme such as imaginative play, water/sand play, stories, puppets, role play with dolls, animal and number songs and rhymes, sensory mark making, playdough, inset puzzles and jigsaws, sorting, counting, creative activities, cooking, computer activities, using the interactive

whiteboard, iPad and Magic Carpet or Eyegaze and outdoor play. We are a very busy class and developing your child's communication is at the heart of everything we do.

Our timetable and learning opportunities

Musical Interaction

We have specialist sessions with Del in the music room in small groups during the first half term.

Hydrotherapy

We have Hydrotherapy in the school pool every **Monday**, please send kits in on a Monday including a towel and specialist swimwear or swimming pads.

Physical Development

Is on a **Friday** and we go to the hall.

Other Specialist Rooms / Areas

As a class, we will also have the opportunity to visit and use the facilities in different areas of our school including the library, Magic Carpet, music room, computer room and sensory room.

Working with school

Home-School diary

We now use School Life as the main source of communication between home and school so if you have anything to share with us or to ask, please use the virtual diary and we will read this each morning. We will write daily about activities we do in school, particular achievements, how your child has been throughout the day and what has happened regarding personal care and lunch etc. If you require any particular information, please ask.

We look forward to sharing all of our news with you. If you have any news from home or information you need to share we would love to hear from you! Please feel free to write to us as much as you want. You can also email Tladybird@old-park.dudley.sch.uk.

Additional information

Spare clothes

Please send in a change of clothes for your child in case they are required throughout the day. This does not have to be uniform, but please include tops, trousers/skirts, underwear and socks as we often need a change of clothes due to water/messy play. Please label everything clearly.

Hand massage

We would like to start using creams as part of our hand massages in school. The pupils in class benefit from regular hand massages and with addition of a cream it provides another sensory element to learning. Please can you provide a bottle of moisturising cream or lotion to stay in school, labelled that we can use on your child.

Family Learning Session

We have Family Learning sessions once ever half term.

We look forward to working with you and seeing your child develop and progress.

Jude Tallett

Weekly routine

Please keep this page handy so that you know what items need to be sent in on specific days.

Every day		Healthy snack and drinks bottle (if appropriate) Enteral feeding tube and milk (if appropriate) Coat Specialised equipment like legs splints or body braces
To keep in school		Pads/underwear where needed Spare clothes Medication where required
Every Monday	Hydrotherapy	Swimming costume/trunks and a swimming pad/nappy or ideally reusable incontinence swimwear Towel
If your child has leg splints, please make sure they are wearing or have long socks in their bag.		