



Autumn Term Newsletter

Base 4 [Nidderdale, Kingsdale & Bishopsdale]

Welcome back, we hope you had a lovely summer break. It is great to see all our young people settling into new routines and classrooms, greeting friends, and ready to learn. Our team includes Heather (teacher lead) and Lucy H and Natalie M [HLTA leads], supported by Sarah, Sandra, Phil, Tanya, Amy, Alison, Lucy B, Jo, Emma and Jane.

Our Primary and Secondary Autumn themes are: My Busy Day and Sunrise to Sunset

In My Communication, our principal literacy focus books are, 'Paddington Goes To Hospital' and 'The Flight of Icarus' [mythology]. Our texts offer us cross curricular learning opportunities linking to My World, My Cognition and My Creativity. Planned activities include: learning about our bodies and the 5 senses; investigating day/night and the sun and designing/building Icarus' wings. Students will also be introduced to story massage, something we hope can be shared at home too.

My World will focus on those people who help us. We have arranged visits to school from key public service professionals including; health colleagues, the police and fire service. We are learning more about faith celebrations such as Rosh Hashanah, Diwali, Sukkot, Day of the Dot, Harvest Festival, Christingle. We will explore aspects of key faiths including important days, festivals, routines, objects and symbols.

Forest school will continue Tuesday mornings. Our focus in the Autumn term is on preparing for Forest school, our Forest school family, and the weather. For the John Muir Award we will continue to look after and care for our outdoor wild environment and develop safe havens for hedgehogs and the insects.

My Cognition sessions will be based around number songs/rhyme and number concepts including measurement. In Sensology science lessons pupils are developing skills in what they can see, touch, taste, hear and smell when exploring aspects of our world and environment. My Cognition/My Care & Independence lessons will also support learning and concepts of healthy living, our bodies and e-safety accessing and using technology and iPads safely.

Creative lessons will link to the key artists Van Gogh and Lowry. This is an opportunity to develop our expressive and fine motor skills in mark making and exploring colour, form, texture, pattern and shape. We plan to construct and build class displays using different

media types to offer a learning environment and opportunity to celebrate our students' talents.

This term My Physical/PE sessions will include orienteering and yoga. Students who swim need to bring kit each Monday ready for swimming on Thursdays. We will continue to work on postural management, MATP, physio programmes and the MOVE programme. Fine motor activities will develop those independent skills supporting dressing and every day functional tasks. Some rebound sessions across the term are also planned as part of our sensory processing/gross motor curriculum offer.

ASDAN My Independence programme supporting secondary students in preparation for adulthood [PfA] will continue across the curriculum with a focus on the pathways Healthy/Independent Living and Friends, Relationships, and Community. This term we will have a focus on the Environment, in particular recycling.

A kindly reminder that ALL students are supplied with at least 3 sets of spare clothes and that bags checked daily for any clothes that have been used. For Forest school please send in waterproofs/ change of shoes and warm clothes / extra blankets.

Please keep in touch via home/school communication books and email. We also love to see what you have been up to at weekends and in the holidays so please upload pictures and comments to Tapestry. We would also really appreciate any MAPP PLI evidence and progress photographs or notes of what you observe at home.

Heather, Lucy, Nat and the Base 4 team.