**Autumn Newsletter 2020-21**

**Armstrong Centre**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome the pupils back after a very ‘different’ summer holidays!!!!! We are truly overwhelmed with their positive attitudes on returning and getting back into the swing of learning again in the classroom.

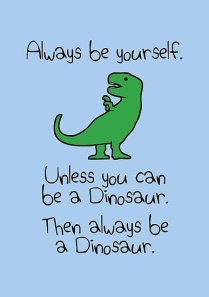
We are pleased to say the Armstrong Centre is growing rapidly and we now have three class groups, a massive welcome to all those who are new to us, we look forward to seeing you all progress throughout the year.

Our Overall Topic this term is’ Dinosaurs’. The students will develop their skills in commenting on books, pictures and character’s as well as completing their own individual work within literacy sessions.

We are promoting an even bigger ‘love’ for reading this term focussing on our pupils developing their confidence in independent reading and spelling application.

Numeracy sessions will see pupils developing their skills on number and measurement and continuing with their money skills within class based activities such as the ‘Armstrong Centre café’ and I have to say it is far better than Starbucks!

Science will have a focus on animals and their environments. Pupils will be creating their own animal habitats such as a wormery, ant farm and mini Guppy aquarium using a variety of equipment and materials in completing their experiments. Throughout the topic pupils will develop skills in recording their findings in a variety of ways.

Due to COVID 19 there have been some changes in a few sessions such as swimming, forest school, shopping and humanities. Some sessions may take place within the class bubble and others may have to be prioritised, however we will continue to deliver all sessions as normal as we can according to Government guidelines. Any changes we will of course keep you informed.

Within joint therapy sessions such as ‘in school café’, Lego therapy and sensory exploration, students will be working with both the Speech and Language Therapist and Occupational Therapist to develop their social communication and explore a wide range of sensory platforms. We are very excited at the term ahead and look forward to seeing the student’s progress throughout the curriculum.

If you have any further questions you would like to discuss, please don’t hesitate to give us a call or email.

Carol, Jess and the Armstrong Centre team

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Class Teachers** | **OT** | **SALT** | |
| Carol Rawlinson  [crawlinson@percyhedley.org.uk](mailto:crawlinson@percyhedley.org.uk)  Jessica Gaddes  [j.gaddes@percyhedley.org.uk](mailto:j.gaddes@percyhedley.org.uk) | Shauna Garrity  [s.garrity@percyhedley.org.uk](mailto:s.garrity@percyhedley.org.uk) | Carralynn Lindsey  [c.lindsay@percyhedley.org.uk](mailto:c.lindsay@percyhedley.org.uk) | |
| **Physio -** on referral | | |
| Roz Middleton  [nuth.physio.ncs@nhs.net](mailto:nuth.physio.ncs@nhs.net) | | |