**Summer Newsletter 2020-21**

**Armstrong Centre**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome all pupils back again after what has been a very difficult period! We continue to be overwhelmed with the resilience the children have and admire their ability to come back to school with such positive attitudes towards their learning.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Joanne back into her teaching role. She has been a devoted member of staff for 15 years both as a support worker and teacher and after taking a break from teaching to raise her own family has now returned.

Our Overall Topic this term is ‘Coasts and boats’. This is something in which couldn’t have come at a better time, since we can now begin to get out in the community more and explore our local coastal areas. Within this topic we will be replacing forest school with beach school instead, working with materials found at the beach and using these to make some wonderful pieces of work. Additionally, some students will be working on transitioning within the community again and developing our communication and money skills in real life settings.

Our students will continue to develop their skills in commenting on books, pictures and character’s as well as completing their own individual work within literacy sessions.

We also continue to devote our sessions and morning routines, promoting reading this term focussing on our pupils developing their confidence in independent and shared reading, spelling application, and also their handwriting.

Numeracy sessions will see pupils developing their skills on number and place value, shape and measurement and prepositional work. We will use our previous terms work on money and transfer this skill when out in the community where pupils will purchase items needed for food technology sessions and snack times.

In Science pupils will be looking at the topic of ‘sinking and floating’ and will be creating boats and rafts using various materials. The pupils will carry out a range of experiments and develop their predication skills by choosing which boat they think will float, we may even get the paddling pools out!! We will end our topic by designing a class vessel for the enrichment week which will see the pupils test it out and participate in a boat race in the swimming pool.

The therapists will continue to work in group and individual sessions as well as helping to embed strategies throughout the curriculum. Pupils will take part in a variety of sessions developing communication skills; independence skills; sensory regulation skills; interaction skills and emotional awareness skills.

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

Carol, Joanne, Jess, Shauna and Carralynn

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