



# Seals Newsletter

We have had a lovely first term back to school. We thought we would let you know about some of the changes happening and what we have been up to!

## Staff

In seals we have two full time SESOs who lead lessons and plan work for our workstations.

We are waiting on our third team member to start which should hopefully be at the start of next term.



Chris



Lucy



## Workstation

First thing in the morning when we come into school, we put our bags away and do our workstation, this is a set of 4 drawers we each have which includes work that is specific to us. An example could be a counting activity or practicing writing the letter K.



### Circle time

We sit down together around the table and say good morning or good afternoon. Each child chooses or writes their name and then chooses one of our three songs to sing (clap, tap or hello) then we choose our next friend to have a go. Then we sing the day of the week, the date and what the weather is.



### Attention Autism

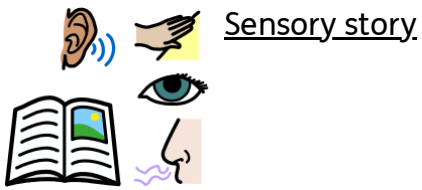
It is made up of four stages. Stage one is bucket, which has a of sensory and attention grabbing items in which we explore. Stage 2 is attention builder which is the teacher demonstrating and appealing an activity using simple language to keep the children engaged. Stage 3 is turn taking/shifting attention, where all children have a go at participating in the activity. Stage 4 is individual activities where the focus is doing an activity for themselves (such as sticking or painting).



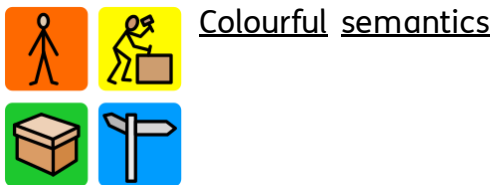
### Sensory play

For sensory play we explore different things such as water, slime, rice and pasta. Sensory play is all about touch, sight, smell and taste. We explore different textures and sensations

and movements. We also have a swing and omnivista machine that we use during this time.



We do sensory and singing stories. Its telling a story with a sensory approach. For example we do the three little bears we explore real straw and water to make the story more sensory based. For singing stories we use the CD player and sing along and look at the images from the story.



Colourful Semantics is a system for colour coding sentences according to the role of different words. It can help children to break down sentences and understand the individual meaning of each word and it's role in the sentence. We use songs such as five little ducks, so will separate the sentence into who? doing? what? where?



On tuesday mornings we go to the NSC for our sports sessions. Each week is different but for example we play football, netball and racket sports. We really enjoy running around and playing different games.



## Swimming

On monday afternoon some of us go swimming and the rest of us go swimming on wednesday afternoon. We go to Glencrutchery swimming pool and each have a lesson with the swim teachers then we have play time with water toys.



## Forest school

On friday afternoons we go to forest school. This is outside the back of school, it is an outdoor area in which we explore and enjoy nature. It teaches us about managing risks and caring about our outdoor environment. Our forest school leader Eva does sessions such as using a flint and steel to start a fire!



## Life skills

Each week we go on different trips to different places in the community and around the island. This helps our social skills and helps us learn life skills such as handling money. We have recently been to shoprite a few times to do a food shop for our cooking lesson and we have been to the local park.

## Individual timetables

This is an overview of what the majority of us do in seals but we all also have individual timetables which have other activities they are accessing in mainstream and the unit.

For example some of us go to reception for phonics, maths, literacy, Hydro, music and bike for life at the NSC. Everybody is doing so well and we are looking forward to working more with them next term!

Have a lovely half term, Chris and Lucy.

Questionnaire- help us get to know them a bit more and use this in our planning!

Child's name:

What is your child's favourite activity at home?

Favourite song/rhyme?

Favourite Tv show/ game?

Important family members/pets?

