

Robins Newsletter

Summer Term 2023



We hope you all had a super Easter break and are fully recharged and refreshed ready for our final full term in Foundation Stage. The topics will be split into two categories of 'Up Above and Down Below' (Summer 1) and will be looking at information and facts about our World in the Ocean and Space. We will be learning about ocean pollution, sea creature facts and habitats. Our space topic leads us to explore the star constellations, Famous Astronauts, planets, comets, craters and phases of the moon. Our final topic of 'Going Wild' (Summer 2) will be venturing off on safari, exploring the depths of the jungle, taking a look at life on a farm and learning more about different habitats and life cycles.

The children have come back to school happy to see their friends, settled quickly into their routines and have discussed our feelings relating back to the Colour Monster story. We have already started learning about sea creature facts, the 5 oceans, looking at the globe, learning facts about King Charles, creating our own sea creatures, counting forwards on a number track and saying one more/less. We also have looked into protecting our oceans, sorting plastic pollution, and learning the job of a Marine Biologist. We are looking forward to continuing with our 'Under the Sea' theme and then being super 'Space Explorers'.

School Uniform

Please check all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. It makes it easier to return clothing if they have been left in the cloakroom.

We would be grateful if you could continue to support your child to promote independence in personal care, getting changed and practising zipping up or fastening buttons on their coats in order for them to **achieve their PSED/Managing Self, Early Learning Goal.**

The children have daily outdoor access in Discovery Time. Please provide your child with a **waterproof coat and a sun hat.** A **polite note** that **suncream should be** applied at home in the morning before school and should last the whole school day.

When outside, a pair of named welly boots that can be left at school, will also support messy and water play.

Please provide a **change** of clothes and underwear to keep on their peg in case of accidents (including trips and falls outside in wet weather.)

Drinks

Please ensure your child brings a labelled bottle of water to school every day which will be sent home daily for cleaning.



Houghton Highlights

This half term our Houghton Highlights will cover:

- (1) Understand how to care for our environment.
- (2) Introduce and practice riding a balance bike.
- (3) To make Star biscuits.

PE/Forest School

Our PE lessons continue to be on a **Tuesday** afternoon and therefore your child will be required to have their PE kit in school. We will take some of our PE lessons outside this term, so please ensure your child has **jogging bottoms, a separate jumper and trainers** as well as **our school t-shirt and shorts**. Long hair will need to be tied back on PE days.

Throughout the whole of the summer term we are very excited to be accessing our Forest School with our super Forest School Leader Mrs Cookham. You will have already been notified if your child is taking part this half term and this will also take part on a Tuesday afternoon (one group PE, one group Forest School and then rotated for the next half term).

For Forest School, your child will need to bring in clothes to change into after lunch; as per the information letter sent home. This will include **named welly boots, waterproof jacket, sun hat, jogging bottoms or leggings, t-shirt and a fleece**. **Please note these will get quite muddy and would suggest you provide older clothes for these sessions.**

Learning at Home

Thank you for your continued support with helping your child practise their learning at home!

Tricky Words

Your continued support to help your child practice their Tricky words is paramount to developing their reading and writing. They are doing brilliantly in learning these words and please remember to practice the previous weeks.

Tricky words will be read in school on alternate weeks and new words given, once confident.

Once your child has **learnt their** Tricky words for that week, please assist them in **writing** the words and then **writing** the word in a sentence. These can be written in the yellow Tricky words book and will be stamped by an adult.

Learning Logs

We are enjoying sharing our learning logs with our friends. They play an important part in supporting children's confidence, communication and language skills, fine motor skills and practice their segmenting to write words and sentences.

When completing learning logs please encourage children to sound out words for themselves by using their Phonics knowledge. They are progressing really well with their writing at school and are able to write words, phrases or sentences with a little support.

Reading with Little Wandle

We continue to hear your child read three times a week in our practice reading sessions at school. Their book will continue to be sent home on a Thursday/Friday in order to share with you. This helps your child to recognise their Tricky Words, blend any unfamiliar words and build fluency in their reading, assisting your child with comprehension and expression. **Please can you return your child's book on a Thursday in order to be able to reuse for another group the following week. We only have six books in each set. Many thanks.**

Please continue to read with your child regularly as this plays a vital part in developing their love of reading and their confidence in their own abilities to read and understand texts. Hearing your child read a minimum of 3 times per week for as little as 5 minutes will have a huge impact on their confidence and competence in reading.

I would encourage you to help the progression of your child's reading by asking them questions about the book regularly i.e.: discussing the characters, setting, feelings, prediction of what might happen next, did they like the ending, what would they choose for an alternative ending?

An exciting **reminder** that the children earn a star towards a reading reward every time they read **three or more times per week at home**. Once they have gained six stars, they will choose a reading reward gift. Please write any comments or sign to show they have read at home.

Independence in Early Years

As we are approaching the end of the EYFS Curriculum, please encourage your child to continue developing the following skills:

- Using cutlery to cut up their own dinner.
- Dressing and undressing themselves.
- Supporting independent toileting needs.
- Sounding out words to blend and build sentences in their reading books, recognising tricky words and build fluency with familiar words.
- Segmenting words to write short captions and sentences and letter formation (using Little Wandle rhymes).
- Sharing and taking turns.
- Solving minor problems independently.
- Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others.
- Begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly.

Curriculum

Our Curriculum Map taking us up to May half term for our topic 'Up Above and Down Below' can be found on the 'Curriculum' page of our website. We hope your child will enjoy our topic and we will also include their interests in their learning. The skills that are being taught are the end of Foundation Stage Early Learning Goals. We have been building up to these goals in broken down chunks over the past year in order to prepare and support your child. Your child's Statutory 'EYFS' Early Learning Goals data will be submitted to the Government before the end of Summer Term 2 and this will be made available to you in your child's End of Year Report. A new KS1 Curriculum will be taught from Year 1.

We are also excited to have another WOW day for our Space topic on the **10th May 2023**. Your child's normal school uniform will be worn. The children will be going on a Space Adventure in school, making Star biscuits, learning about planets, making bubbling planets in our science experiment and many more exciting activities.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Thank you for your continued support, it is very much appreciated.

Mrs Waby and Miss Phillips