

Robins Newsletter

Spring Term 2024



We hope you all had a super Christmas and New Year. We would like to thank you all for your kind cards, messages and gifts. We hope you feel fully recharged and refreshed ready for the new term and topic 'Once Upon a Time'. Each week we will be looking at a different story...

Learning Enrichment Activities

The new term began with an exciting delivery in our classroom. The children had to guess what story the props and pictures related to. They guessed correctly when they saw the beans and beanstalk. They acted out the story using props, costumes and learned a new song. We looked at seeds, discussed how to plant and nurture them. They are looking forward to making a cress sandwich with our cress plants once they have grown. Lots of creative activities from 3d castle building, castle brick printing, fairytale dances, potion making and creating a cookbook for the Giant. In Maths, we measured and compared length and height of objects using cubes and Giant feet. We discussed the characters and settings of the story and what could be at the top of our beanstalk. We also discussed the magic harp and what magical object they would like.

School Uniform

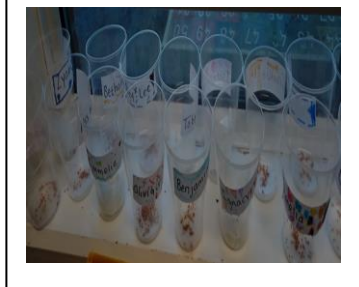
Please check all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. It makes it easier to return clothing if they have been left in the cloakroom.

We would be grateful if you could support your child to practise zipping up or fastening buttons on their coats in order to achieve their PSED/Managing Self, Early Learning Goal.

The children have daily outdoor access in Discovery Time and require a warm, waterproof coat, gloves and a hat when outside. A pair of named welly boots that can be left at school will also support messy and water play.

Drinks

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



Dates for your Diary

- The spring term parent consultations will be held on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th February (information will follow shortly).
- World Book Day - Thursday 7th March.

Houghton Highlights

This term our Houghton Highlights will cover:

- Planting and growing cress seeds and making a cress sandwich.
- Discuss what emergency services we need to call should we feel unwell or have an accident.
- Writing our own story and performing using story maps, creating their own puppets and props.

PE

Our PE lesson is on **Tuesday afternoon**, and therefore your child will be required to have their PE kit in school on this day. **Jogging bottoms, a separate jumper and trainers** as well as **t-shirt and shorts**. **Plimsoles** can be sent in separately in their school bag. Girls will need their hair tied back on PE days and anyone with earrings should either take them out on these days or bring in some micropore tape to cover their ears.

Please ensure all items of clothing are **clearly labelled** with your child's name to ensure that we can easily return lost items.

Learning at Home

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

Tricky Words/Little Wandle Phonics Book

Tricky Words - Please can your child practise their Tricky Words to support their reading? These will be read in school on alternate weeks and new words given, once confident. Once children have learnt their Tricky Words, they will be learning to write them and use them in a sentence.

Little Wandle Phonics Book - Please can you support your child to trace and practise writing the new phoneme/digraph that has been learnt at school that day?

Learning Logs

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 practise 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.

There is an updated list of dates for Learning Logs to be completed and brought back to school.

Reading

Children continue to participate in 3 group practise reading sessions with an adult per week, as per the Little Wandle Scheme. The book is matched with your child's phonics knowledge and tricky words. The book that has been read that week will be sent home on a Thursday. This will enable the child to become more familiar, fluent, and confident and show understanding of what they have read. **Please ensure your child has their book in school every day.**

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, asking them to show expression, prediction of what might happen next, did they like the ending, what would they choose for an alternative ending? You could also use the questions at the back of the book.

An exciting **reminder** that the children earn a star towards a reading reward every time they read their school reading book **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. They can read 2-4 pages a day, rather than the whole book in one session.

Values

This term the themes are...

January - Appreciation February - Positivity March - Liberty

Helicopter Stories

As part of the Communication and Language Area of Learning, we are now introducing Helicopter stories whereby your child, in a group, will create their own story through drawing pictures of a character and setting/s, scribe (with support of the adult) and read/act out to the rest of the class. This will also support their development in Literacy, PSED, Physical Development and Expressive Arts and Design. This will be on an alternative weekly basis alongside Learning Logs.

Curriculum

Please find attached our curriculum map taking us up to February half term.

We look forward to seeing you at Parent Consultations before the February half-term to discuss your child's progress and how you can further support your child at home. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs. Waby and Miss. Phillips