

## Autumn Term in Robins



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer holiday, and are feeling relaxed and refreshed! We are all looking forward to a busy and fun packed term ahead. Mr. East will continue teaching Robins, with support from Mrs Bird.

- **Value for Life** – The new value for life this term is trust. We have already begun to consider in class what trust means to us and who we decide to trust. We have also looked at the bible stories of Moses and how trust was a key part of his journey. We will continue to explore this theme in collective worship across the term.
- **Food Allergies** – Can we remind all parents we are a nut free school, and to ensure snacks at break time are healthy, as these will be the only snacks allowed outside. Unfortunately, we will also not be handing out birthday treats from now on.
- **Topic** – Our 'discover' topic for the Autumn Term is 'The Great Fire of London' which we will use as a focus for our English and History sessions this term. We begin in English by using 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London' as our key text, and in our History sessions we will look at key figures in the history of the Great Fire, including Samuel Peeps and his diary. We will consider how life was different back in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, how the fire started and why it spread so quickly.
- **Science** – Our science topic is materials, which we will focus on more in the second half term. It links nicely into our topic as it lends itself to discussions of the different properties of materials.
- **Forest School and Staffing** – As part of our rich and nurturing curriculum, Mr. East will continue to deliver Forest School sessions to Year 3 and 4 at Tacolneston and Morley. On Tuesdays, Mr. East will be at Morley, and Robins will continue to be covered by Mrs. Sinclair, and on Wednesday afternoon Robins will have Computing and Music with Mr. Merryweather. Mrs. Ludkin will cover Mr. East's PPA on a Monday afternoon.
- **Read Write Inc.** – The children have now spent a full year with the Read Write Inc. phonics programme and have been doing really well. Please can you ensure that books stay in their book bags when they are not being used – this helps to gather them all in when books need changing!
- **Reading** – It goes without saying that reading is so important for all children and I would encourage you to listen to your child read at home as often as you can. If you

could also record when they have read and add a few comments in their reading record book as well, that would be appreciated. We will continue to hear the children read at every available opportunity in school, but this should not be their only source of reading.

- **Reading books** – Year 1s will bring home a picture book from the library and reading material from their phonics lessons. Year 2s will be bringing home material from their phonics lessons along with a book from the library. The Year 2 books from the library will be labelled with a specific colour given to the child, which is determined by the outcomes of assessment on the online Accelerated Reader scheme.
- **Book bags** – Reading books need to be kept in book bags and we will send home any information and letters in these. Please, do not put water bottles into book bags, in our experience they leak and can ruin expensive books.
- **Homework** – Homework consists of reading, weekly spellings and a fortnightly written task. We will be sending homework home on Monday and it will need to be returned by the following Monday. Spellings are also tested on a Monday.
- **Colder weather** - As the weather continues to be cold please do provide your child with suitable NAMED clothing. It can be very cold at playtimes and lunchtimes and the expectation is for them to be outside as much as possible and we would suggest a hat and some gloves for when the weather gets colder.
- **PE** – We will continue to ask the children to wear their PE kits to school on their PE days. In Robins, we will be doing PE on Tuesday and Friday.

If you need to contact the school then please contact the office. If there is an urgent matter, then please ring the school office and a message will be relayed to us. **Please read the newsletter every week as much of the key information and dates are communicated through this!**

### **'LEARN TOGETHER, WORK TOGETHER, GROW TOGETHER'**

Our priority is your child. We find that those parents who become partners in learning truly improve the outcomes for their children. When parents are involved, children achieve more, they are happier, they develop greater self esteem and demonstrate good behaviour so please do get involved as it is the most wonderful time in their lives and it whizzes by in a flash!

Many thanks,

Mr. East