

# Birkwood Primary School

## YEAR 2 (Robins) NEWSLETTER January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to you all, thank you so much for all the cards, your kind wishes and presents they were lovely.

The children tried very hard last term and are making wonderful progress, thank you for all your support with reading and homework it is really helping the children develop. This term we will be very busy and I really appreciate your continued support.

Here is a summary of the areas we intend to cover over the next term:

### **Literacy/Creative Curriculum**

This term we will be making links between Literacy and most of the other subjects in our curriculum through our topic 'Dinosaurs.' The children are very excited already about this topic and have been spending time in our role play area which is set up as a 'Jurassic Park'.

During Literacy sessions, we will be looking at adventure stories, riddles and we will be writing our own non - fiction books all about dinosaurs and fossils. We will continue to develop children's creative writing skills by introducing vocabulary that is more exciting and a range of punctuation marks. The children will continue to be encouraged to start all sentences with a capital letter and end them with a full stop or other punctuation mark. This term the children will continue to develop their cursive/joined up handwriting.

This term, spellings will mostly be taken from sound work and high frequency words and words related to our topic.

Spellings will to be given out on a Friday and a quiz will take place the following Friday.

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of reading and the children have many opportunities to read in the classroom every day. We will try very hard to change home reading books regularly and we appreciate your support in encouraging the children to bring their book bags every day. Please write your own comments or concerns about your child's reading in their reading records, as this is a good way for us to communicate. When the children take their Key Stage 1 SATs they will be tested on their comprehension and reading skills, therefore it would be really beneficial if when reading with your child you could ask them questions to check their understanding.

### **Mathematics**

In Mathematics this term, we will be concentrating on counting and ordering numbers to 100, as well as adding and subtracting. The children will be given lots of opportunities to apply calculation skills into other areas of Mathematics such as time, money, shape and measures. The Robins will continue to count in 2s, 3s, 5s, and 10s and will also start to apply this to multiplication and division activities.

### **Computing**

The children will have the opportunity to use a drawing programme to create pictures as well as use Microsoft Word to develop their typing skills. Online Numeracy and Literacy games will be used to support the children in their learning. The Robins will be creating pictures and pieces of text that link with the topic of 'Dinosaurs'. They will also be using

cameras and other devices when creating non-fiction books. The children will continue to develop their computer programming skills.

### **Art/Design Technology**

They will have opportunities to practise their artistic skills and use a wide range of techniques and materials. They will produce a variety of pictures, models and other art forms related to our topic. The continuous provision available allows them to be creative everyday in the classroom.

### **Music**

The children will continue to learn how to play the recorder. They will learn about pitch, rhythm and pulse. They are really enjoying these sessions and are becoming fantastic at reading music.

### **PE**

The focus for this half term is speed and agility, the children will be developing their skills in running, jumping and balancing through obstacle courses and circuit training. During the second half term the children will develop their throwing and catching techniques along with their ability to bat a ball. They will learn the simple rules of cricket and participate in team games. The children will have the opportunity to use a wide range of equipment, which they will really enjoy. They will also continue to have dance sessions each week with Mrs Porter. PE sessions are on a **Thursday** and a **Friday**; we would appreciate it very much if your child has the appropriate PE kit on these days. Thank you.

### **Homework**

The children will be given homework on a Friday and this should be brought back to school by the following Thursday please. Homework will consist of spellings and a piece of Maths work. From time to time, there may be other things too, such as handwriting practice. Again, we would appreciate your support in making sure that homework is completed.

### **Important dates for your diaries:**

- ❖ **Key Stage 1 SATs Meeting- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 3.30pm (Robins Classroom)**
- ❖ **Parents' Evening - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 3.30pm onwards**
- ❖ **Our Class Assembly - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 2.45pm**

This is an opportunity for the children to share with you what they have been learning about in class. They will come up with their own ideas and I am sure they will decide on something wonderful to share with you. You are very welcome to join us on this day!

We hope that this Newsletter has been useful and thank you for all your support so far. If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to call in and arrange a mutually convenient time for us to meet.

With best wishes,

**Miss R. Spellman**

Year 2 Robins Class Teacher

**Mrs J. Whitfield**

Cover Supervisor

**Mrs A. Summerfield**  
Teaching Assistant