

ROBINS' CLASS GUIDE



2020-2021



MEET THE TEAM

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IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Nail varnish must be removed for school.
- No jewellery (apart from ear studs) are to be worn at school and these **must** be removed before school for the children to take part in PE. Children will not be able to participate in PE lessons if they are not able to remove their ear studs.
 - Children **must** have a water bottle in school every day.
 - Please ensure that all of the children's items of clothing are clearly named.
 - Please remember that we are a 'nut free' school.
- Children in KS1 will have snacks provided for them by the government..



ENGLISH

READING

The expectation with regards to reading at home is that it is done at least four days a week. Even if it is just a page, reading a menu when you are out for dinner, reading the information on cereal packets or a book, it is important to all other areas of development to have time to read and discuss books with children.

An adult will check the reading records every other day, so if you have read with your child or if your child has read on their own please note this in the reading record so that we can monitor how they are progressing with their reading at home. The reading record may also be used for communication with us, please note any comments or questions you may have.

If your child has read consistently throughout the week (a minimum of four days), they will be rewarded with a Dojo and be a reading star entitling them to join in with our reading ambassadors session on a Friday afternoon whereby they can share a book with their peers in other classes. If a child has not managed to read four days within the week, they will be asked to read in their classroom.

Throughout the day, adults in the classroom will be listening to your child read. We also have a daily reading session timetabled which could be in the form of guided or quiet reading.

In Robins, while we are still developing confidence, fluency and decoding skills we will revisit and repeat our reading books, keeping them for one week.

Later in the school year book changing may become more frequent to 2 or 3 times per week - whatever the children feel is appropriate for them and the book they have at the time.

The children are encouraged to independently choose their own reading books at school so they may reselect books that they have already read by choice, which as you know is recommended.



SOUNDS & WORDS

All children have a daily phonics session. This is vital for their reading and writing skills.

In Year 1 we are required by the Government to do a Phonics Screening Check each Summer. For this, we practise using our phonics skills to read various words - some short, some long, some words we know and some new, unfamiliar words. Some unfamiliar words (to demonstrate the effectiveness of our phonics skills when seeing a new word) will be nonsense/alien words.

From the 2nd half term (after the October break), as well as Daily Phonics, Year 1 will begin daily Grammar sessions too.

These skills will support your child with their reading and writing. Promotion of this at home, alongside reading and spellings is very important and highly recommended.

Spelling Shed now demonstrates pronunciation of the phonics sounds in some games, but you can also get a quick one minute demonstration from YouTube by typing 'pronunciation of phonemes' and clicking on the video by allsaintsprimary, or by following this link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s

SPELLINGS

RECEPTION CHILDREN:

Your child will be given a spelling and sounds book that will consist of: letter sounds, high frequency words to be read and written and words to sound out. Each week, an adult will update your child's book with a new sheet of spellings and sounds for your child to practise at home.

YEAR 1 CHILDREN:

Spellings are taught in discrete spelling lessons at Stebbing and are followed up throughout the week in other lessons throughout the curriculum to embed specific spelling patterns in order to support the children with their spelling.

Spelling homework will often be linked to the daily Phonics lessons that have occurred during that week. Occasionally we may focus on Sight words (those that have to be remembered by their appearance because they cannot be sounded out - also known as High Frequency or Common Exception words) or words with spelling patterns, such as plurals or suffixes, which we may have learned that week in our Grammar sessions.

The spellings will be given on the Friday morning. During the spelling session they will take part in a range of activities which will be reinforced by their spelling homework. Each child will need to complete the spelling worksheet sent home whilst also completing an activity of their choosing from the activities available.

Spelling Activities:

- Alphabetical Order
- The Synonym Shed
- Spelling Shed
- Crosswords
- Spelling Search
- Scrabble
- Battleships
- Define It



These activities will either need to be completed on the worksheets provided or on paper of your choice that is placed into the spelling folder, being mindful of the presentation of our school work. The completed work should then be brought back to school by Friday for it to be checked. Any misconceptions or misunderstandings will then be identified and additional sessions will take place if and when required.

The children may also have the opportunity to play on the Spelling Shed app within school and can continue to do so at home. The top three children on the leaderboard by the end of each week will be celebrated within our Friday sharing assembly.

MATHS

It is important that all children learn their number bonds to 10 and 100. Once the children are fluent in these skills they can begin to learn the 2, 5 & 10 times tables.

TIMES TABLES

We will be continuing to utilise TT Rockstars this year as we have seen a marked improvement in the children's times tables knowledge and fluency which has had a very positive impact in maths lessons.

The National Curriculum states the following times tables end of year expectations:

Year 1

- Start to know the multiples of 2, 5 and 10.

Year 2

- Know and recall multiplication facts for 2,5 and 10 times tables and the related division facts .

Year 3

- Know and recall multiplication facts for 2, 3,4,5,8 and 10 times tables and the corresponding division facts.

Year 4

- Know and recall multiplication facts up to 12 x 12 and corresponding division facts.

Year 5

- Recall quickly multiplication facts up to 12 x 12 and use them to multiply pairs of multiples of 10 and 100.

Year 6

- Use knowledge of multiplication facts to derive quickly squares of numbers to 12 x 12 and the corresponding squares of multiples of 10.

With these objectives in mind and with the introduction of the new Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in year 4, we would like you to support us at home by assessing TT Rockstars with your child's individual log in. Here they can practise as well as join in live festivals and compete against others. The top three children on the leaderboard by the end of each week will be celebrated within our Friday sharing assembly.

MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK

The purpose of the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.'

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE will take place on a **Monday**, and will be outside for the first term, however, children are expected to have their PE kit in school at all times.

INDOOR PE KIT

School PE polo shirt
School PE shorts/skorts
Bare feet



OUTDOOR PE KIT

School PE polo shirt
School PE sports jumper
School PE shorts/skorts
Jogging bottoms (if required)
Trainers



Children are also required to wear appropriate sports wear for any sports club that they attend either before school, at lunch or after school.

We do not provide PE kit at school if your child has forgotten it.

PHYSICALLY ACTIVE

Physically active is a government initiative designed to encourage all children to become more active within their everyday lifestyle. As a school, we are timetabling in 15 minutes every day (where possible) for the children to take part in a form of physical activity. This could be jogging around the field, active assemblies, yoga, etc.



In Robins class, the children will experience our forest school area every **Tuesday afternoon** with Miss Honeybee to explore and to learn about Earth Science. For this reason, we ask that children come to school dressed, ready in their Forest School clothes. We also ask that a pair of wellington boots is kept in school and that suitable coats and waterproof clothing are brought in when the weather worsens. Wellies and waterproofs can be kept at school in a Bag for Life or Rucksack - please ensure all items are clearly labelled.

In the winter, children should wear plenty of layers and waterproof clothing ensuring that they wear full length trousers/leggings and a long sleeve top.

In the summer, children still need to ensure that they wear full length trousers/leggings and a long sleeve top as well bringing in appropriate footwear for the day if they do not wish to wear wellies. It is also sensible to bring waterproof clothing in on the day for the typical English summer days.



UNHOMework



'Unhomework' is an alternative approach to the setting of homework which was introduced a few of years ago and has been developing within school ever since. The aim of 'unhomework' is that it enables children to be creative, imaginative, independent and make their own decisions about what they want to work on at home which fits nicely in with our Montessori ethos that runs through the school.

By year 6, we hope to have prepared the children well enough to enable them to make their own decisions about what needs to be worked on, why it needs to be worked on and how they are going to work on it.

'Unhomework' suggestions:

- Posters, poems, plays, dances, stories, baking, presentations, construction projects, etc.

'Unhomework' Progression	
Wrens	In reception 'Unhomework' is known as Show and Tell. Children will be given a timetable at the beginning of the half term with some weekly themes to guide their Show and Tell for that week. Some will be simple themes that involve them bringing their favourite book or teddy to school and some will involve using a bit more imagination and creativity. It is important that your child brings their Show and Tell in every Friday to share with the class. <i>Show and Tell Theme Examples: 5 Things About Me, My Family, My Favourite Animal, If I was a Superhero I Would be..., When I Grow up...</i>
Robins	At the start of each half term children in Robins will be offered a small selection of project-based ideas, from which they choose one to complete. The children have complete freedom and ownership as to how they complete and present their 'unhomework', having as little or as much adult help as needed. The 'unhomeworks' will then be shared with the class, in an exhibition, within the last two weeks of each half term.
Kingfishers	Children are expected to select an activity from the challenge cards within the class every two weeks.. It is up to the children how they present their unhomework. Unhomework will be shared every Friday so they can choose to complete it within the week or take two weeks. The challenge will be a sticker in their reading record books.

Woodpeckers	Children will have the choice of several different 'unhomework' titles which they will work their way through during the year. They will have two weeks to complete their 'unhomework' in any way they choose and share with the class at the end of the two weeks. This work is expected to reflect the time frame given. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend the homework club.
Kestrels	Children will be given a title based on one of our current areas of learning and will have two weeks to complete a piece of unhomework in any way they wish- on the computer, as a handwritten piece, a poster, model, poem, role play. This will be shared with the class fortnightly on a Friday. This work is expected to reflect the time frame given. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend the homework club.
Ospreys	Each child is required to complete a minimum of two pieces of 'unhomework' every half term and any 'unhomework' brought in will be shared during the week that it is due in. I will always set a week beginning date so that we can stagger sharing. If the tasks are not completed, children will be expected to attend homework club.
Owls	Children are required to complete at least two 'unhomework' tasks every half-term satisfying the criteria and headings set out at the start of the year by the children themselves. Their 'unhomework' will then be shared with the class and they will then self-assess and peer-assess their work within their 'unhomework' booklet. If the tasks are not completed in the time set, they will be carried over into the next half term. All 'unhomeworks' will be shared on a Monday or Friday afternoon.



CLASS DOJO

First and foremost, Class Dojo is a behaviour reward system where positive learning behaviours are recognised. Children are rewarded with Class Dojos to reward and reinforce these positive behaviours. Children work throughout the year to earn individual Dojos as well as working collaboratively to earn class or group Dojos. At the end of the week, if the class have earned their agreed amount of Dojos they can then enjoy their reward.

At the end of the week, the child with the most Dojo points within their class will be recognised within assembly and entered onto our Class Dojo display.

Class Dojo can also be used to share children's work. Each class has their own page on top of the whole school page where notices, photos, important messages and general information can be uploaded. Children also have their own pages whereby they can select pieces of work they are particularly proud of to be uploaded and shared with their parents.

We will no longer be using the messaging function on the Class Dojo platform. Therefore, the best way to get in contact with your child's teacher is to email them directly.

The Class Dojo application can be downloaded from the Apple Store whilst also being available on android devices through the Play Store.



Working Hard



Teamwork



Good manners



Listening



Being kind



Being Helpful

STEPS CHALLENGE

Children will be given a STEPS challenge booklet at the start of the year (replacements can be downloaded and printed from our website) where they will be tasked with completing a range of challenges to earn their STEPS badge at the end of the year. We would really appreciate your support in encouraging your child to undertake as many of the challenges as possible.