



Robin Class

Curriculum Newsletter

January 2023

Dear Parents

Wishing you a happy new year and a welcome back to an exciting new term. The children are settled into reception now and have a great grasp of the routines and expectations.



In the following few weeks, we will be thinking about trees and birdlife and talking about how people celebrate Chinese New Year. We will of course respond to children's interests as they arise. Please do let us know if there are any interests or events that we could incorporate. It is good to develop home school links to enrich children's learning so please keep us informed of any news via tapestry. Please do use this as two-way communication and share any wow moments you have at home. We also welcome any comments to observations we post.

Key skills we hope to cover in our play based learning this term are paying close attention to features and form in our artwork, using tools to effect changes on materials and developing fine motor skills to use a range of tools competently.

This half term our literacy will focus on poetry and non-fiction books. We hope to teach the children a poem called 'Rain Sizes' that they can recite by heart. Please see this link to find out about the importance of poems in a child's education. <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/poetry-in-the-early-years-foundation-stage/>.

We have been really impressed with the children's grasp of the initial phonics sounds. The support you have given at home has helped embed this, thank you. This half term we will begin to look at digraphs (when two letters make one sound e.g ai in sail.) Please look out for new sheets and support the writing of the letters. We really appreciate all your support with sharing and returning reading books. Please remember that sharing the school book is only part of the richness of reading. Visits to the library, sharing bedtime stories and children seeing you read for your own enjoyment is all of great importance.

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In maths we will be looking at the composition of numerals, 6,7 and 8. We will be introducing a 10 frame and using this to compare and combine amounts up to 8. We will be using lots of different resources to make 3D models and encouraging children to describe their creations using mathematical language.

Winter is here but we continue to work outside and inside so children will have “free flow” between the areas. It means that the classroom door is often open and it is sometimes a little chilly so please ensure children always have layers, jumpers/cardigans and coats, gloves and hats. Please make sure these are named. The children also participate in lots of messy activities, playing in the mud kitchen, mixing paints, exploring a wide variety of sensory materials etc. so please come to school prepared for this too!

Well-being is at the heart of Little Missenden and the children have opportunities for being physically active every day, as well as yoga on a Friday morning and PE on a Wednesday afternoon. Please do send them in dressed in their PE kit on those days.

To provide a stimulating and engaging experience for the children there are many consumables that we use on a regular basis for example, rice, shaving foam, bubble bath, flour, soil etc. We would be grateful for any contributions or any other sensory materials you spot that you think might be good for school. Any contributions of crackers or breadsticks to add to our fruit snack would be much appreciated too.

We strongly believe that partnership with you is the key to quality education, so please do be involved, feel free to ask questions, share concerns and celebrate success with us.

We look forward to continuing working with you this term.

The Early Years Team

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