



# Robin Class

## Curriculum Newsletter

29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents

We hope that you had a lovely, relaxing Easter break and welcome back to an exciting new term!

During the first part of this half term our general topics will cover looking at animal life cycles and growing. The children may have told you about the new addition of tadpoles to the classroom. We are also awaiting a delivery of caterpillars and will be keenly monitoring the changes that we see. During the latter part of half term we aim to plant flowers and herbs in our new planters in the garden. If anyone has any unwanted herb plants or compost, we would be most grateful for any donations.

Alongside this we will be thinking about where our food is grown and the conditions that are needed for it to do so, both in this country and abroad. The last week of half term we have two art afternoons planned which will culminate in our own production of 'sunflower paintings' as inspired by Van Gough and clay tile making, following our exploration of clay and how to use and manipulate it.

Key skills we hope to cover in our play-based learning this term include working as part of a team, developing fine motor skills to use a range of tools competently including cutting smaller shapes, using finer paint brushes and paying close attention to detail.

In the second half of the summer term we will be continuing our growing theme and have a study of an author to be voted for by the children. We will also be kept busy with Sports Day, transition day and end of term celebrations. More details to follow.

We will of course also respond to children's interests as they arise. Please do let us know if there are any particular interests or events that we could incorporate into our learning.

This half term our literacy will focus on using non-fiction books around our topic areas, together with stories from around the world. We are starting level 4 phonics which consolidates the sounds that the children have already covered previously and introduces them to longer words. We really appreciate all your support with sharing and returning reading books. Ideally children should be reading on a daily basis, please can we ask that reading records are signed when books have been read.

**'Rooted and grounded in love' Ephesians 3:17**  
**friendship, thankfulness, honesty, forgiveness, compassion and trust**



To support phonics learning we plan to offer a phonics games library and send 'Teddy' and diary home with one child each weekend. The children can record their weekend adventures with Teddy in the diary and then share their work with the class on Monday. More details will follow in the next few weeks.

In numeracy we will be continuing to look at the composition of numbers to 10. We will be reviewing number bonds to 5 and double facts. The children will be introduced to adding and subtracting numbers using the 10 frame. We will measure various objects including ourselves, using non-standard units such as cubes and bricks. Children will be using lots of different resources (including of course Lego!) to make 3D models and will be encouraged to use mathematical language to describe them. We will continue to incorporate both number board games and outdoor games such as skittles, beanbags and hopscotch into our everyday play to enhance number skills.

We will continue our well being sessions on Fridays, starting the day with Forest School and then Yoga with Mrs Ellis.

It is good to develop home school links to enrich children's learning so please share news and any special events with us on tapestry. The children love to share their experiences with the rest of the class. We hope you are enjoying the snap shots of school life you receive and we welcome any comments to observations we post.

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 think might be good for school.

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.

Looking forward to a happy, productive term ahead!

The Early Years Team

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