



# Robin Class

## Curriculum Newsletter

September 2020

Dear Parents

Welcome to Robin Class. It has been wonderful to begin to get to know you and your children and we look forward to a super year, working together to provide your child with a fantastic Reception year.

We have been so impressed with the independence of the children and how well they come into the classroom and manage their own belongings. Thank you so much for encouraging this.



Throughout your child's year with us we will follow the Development Matters curriculum, which provides a framework against which we teach, plan and assess. It is split into two areas of development – the Characteristics of Effective Learning and the prime/specific areas of learning. If you wish to find out more please search [https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children\\_ParentsGuide\\_2015\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children_ParentsGuide_2015_WEB.pdf) We will keep you posted through updates on Tapestry about your child's achievements and experiences.

As you may be aware Tapestry is an online learning journal that allows us the opportunity to share your child's individual achievements, set home learning challenges and identify next learning steps. To maximise its potential we would also like you to contribute to these by letting us know about 'Wow' moments in your child's development which you observe at home. If you have any problems using Tapestry, please do get in touch with the staff.

To truly engage the children in what we are learning we really hope to use your child's interests to lead the topic choices, so if there are particular interests your child has, or you happen to be going on an exciting trip etc. please do share it with us so we can use the information in our planning.

**friendship, thankfulness, honesty, forgiveness, compassion and trust**

We will begin to teach phonics and maths on a daily basis. This will often begin with a carpet session and then practical follow up activities throughout the unit.

Please note that we are very aware quality learning occurs inside and outside so children will have “free flow” between the areas. It means that the classroom is sometimes a little chilly so please ensure children always have jumpers/cardigans and coats and when weather demands it gloves and hats. The children also participate in lots of messy activities, playing in the mud kitchen, mixing paints, exploring a wide variety of sensory materials etc. We provide a pair of waterproof trousers; please can you provide a named pair of wellies that stay in school.

There will be lots of opportunity for physical development throughout the week within our unit. The children also have a formal PE lesson on a Wednesday morning. Please send your child into school in their PE Kit on Wednesdays. Where possible this will take place outside, so please ensure your child has warm layers ie. Fleece and joggers as the weather becomes colder.

We enjoy sharing stories with the children on a daily basis and looking at non-fiction texts. We do recommend that you spend time-sharing books with your child at home, visiting libraries and allowing your child to observe you reading. This will encourage your child to read and most importantly foster a love of books. As and when we feel it is appropriate for your child we will send reading books home for you to share with your child.

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 and will use a class notice board to let you know our wish list.

We hope that this letter gives you an idea of how we manage the Reception year. **Next Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September at 12.00** we will run a zoom meeting to share further details about the school year. Look out for an invite early next week. 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 working with you in the year ahead.

The Early Years Team

**Important information:**

- Please adhere to your drop off and pick up time. These are in place to avoid traffic congestion and too many people gathering at the gate.  
**9.15am Drop off                      2.30pm Pick up**
- Please inform the school if another person is picking up your child.
- Mrs. Mellor will be teaching on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
- Mrs. Rippon will be teaching Thursdays and Fridays.

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