

Inkberrow Primary School

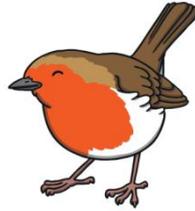
Love to learn, learn to care

Head Teacher: Mr G. R. Duggan-Seville

MA BA(Hons) Ed QTS PGCE NPQH SLE



9th September 2019



Autumn I Newsletter 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Robins Class!

We hope you have all had a great summer, have enjoyed the sunshine and are looking forward to the new and exciting year ahead in Robins' class.

The Robins Team

The teaching team for Year 1 will be Miss Hannah Fowler, Mrs Carly Crawford, Mrs Nock and Ms Herbert. We also have Flash, the class hamster.

Teachers: Miss Fowler - Monday, Tuesday (pm), Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
Mrs Crawford - Tuesday (am)

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Nock - Monday (am), Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (am)
Ms Herbert - Wednesday (am)

Here is some useful information about the topics and activities that your child will be enjoying during the autumn term.

Theme

Our theme for this half term is '**My Home and Me**'. This theme will be cross curricular, touching on areas of literacy, maths, science, history, geography and art.

English

Developing your child's reading and writing skills will continue to be a whole class priority. This half term we will have a 'Book of the Week' chosen from a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to link with our topic.

- **Literacy Curricular Target** - Our focus this half term is 'Punctuation'. As well as developing a love of reading and writing, we will also be focussing on handwriting and basic punctuation skills such as, finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.
- **Phonics** - All the children will continue to follow the daily phonics programme called Bug Club. The will do a 20 minute phonics session every day.
- **Spellings and Spelling Tests** - A list of six spellings will be sent home to practise every Tuesday. The children will be informally tested on these spelling lists, so please help your child to learn



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them. There is also a generic spelling list on our school website listing the words that children at this stage are expected to be able to read and spell.

- **Handwriting** - Initially we shall practise accurate pencil grip and sitting positions along with various handwriting patterns to encourage the flow from left to right. We shall focus on the accurate cursive letter formation, which is challenging and a sheet will be sent home for you to support at home too.
- **Reading** - In our Robins' class, children are encouraged to become as independent as possible and are able to choose their own reading book from within a colour banded shelf specified by their Class Teacher. This is to be done at the beginning of the day, before registration ideally. Individual reading levels are very closely monitored, so there is no necessity to accompany your child to the library to assist. You may, however, like to remind them to change their book once it has been thoroughly read and enjoyed. Remember that children often like to re-read a text and they gain so much out of doing this, rather than rushing through the levels. Each child has a Reading Record book in which you need to record the books they have read and add comments as appropriate. Any adults who share your child's book will do the same too. Please note that group reading sessions on Tuesday mornings are not always recorded in the children's reading diaries, but this does not mean that your child has not shared a book.
- In class, there are a variety of ways in which a child will read over the period of a week - individual, group and whole class - but there is **no substitute for daily reading practice at home**. Your support with your child's reading is hugely important, as being able to read underpins success in all other subjects and your assistance with this is vital.
- Please note that on **Tuesday 24th September at 2.30pm there is a Reading Workshop and Information meeting for Wrens and Robins parents and carers**. This is a very informative session and it would be beneficial for all parents to attend if possible. It will explain how the skills for reading are taught and how vital your support is at home.

Maths

Each day we will be learning and practising our Basic Number Skills for a short session. This consists of learning and remembering the order of numbers, the bonds to 10 (addition and subtraction) and then onto halves of numbers to 20 and doubles of numbers to 10.

Our focus in maths this term will be place value, addition and subtraction with additional work on maths in context and reasoning skills.

P.E.

In P.E. we will complete work in both Games and Gymnastics. Please note that our P.E. days are on Mondays and Tuesdays, although it would be most helpful if P.E. kit could be left in school throughout the week in case these times ever need to be changed. Please ensure all items of uniform are named.

Forest School

We will be going outside to enjoy Forest School sessions every **Wednesday afternoon** during this half term and we will be linking these sessions closely to our topic. Starting from Wednesday 11th September, please bring your child dressed in their uniform but with their old clothes in a named bag ready to change for Forest School after lunch. They will need to bring in adequate warm clothing, a pair of wellies, waterproof trousers, a waterproof coat and a hat and gloves, which can be left on their peg if appropriate. We will be going outside whatever the weather (unless it is too windy or icy to do so), so please ensure your child has



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sufficient layers and waterproof clothes. On Wednesdays the children will come home in their forest school clothes at the end of the day with their uniform in a bag.

Homework

We would very much appreciate your assistance with our half-termly homework, which is in addition to daily reading practice and weekly spellings.

Our half-termly homework sheet has activities related to English, Maths and our Topic. There are a variety of tasks including internet use and there is a certain amount of choice involved. If you do mislay the current homework sheet, it can be found on the website attached to the half termly homework letter.

In addition, your child will bring home the first of our Inky Maths Challenges on Monday 9th September. These have proved to be great fun to share with parents and carers. They show you the sort of Maths we are doing in the classroom and give the children an opportunity to practise and reinforce their skills. The Inky maths challenge sheets will be a weekly activity, to be completed at home at a convenient time, and can be returned by the following Monday when they will be marked and a new challenge sent home.

Independence

Now that your child is in Robins' Class, it is a good time to begin promoting greater independence. Here are some ways that you can help:

- Encourage your child to say goodbye outside the school door and come into school independently where they will be met by the class teacher or TA and encouraged to organise their belongings and get started on their day.
- Please encourage your child to take responsibility for carrying their own bags and looking after their own belongings, ensuring that their things are put into the correct places each morning. Clearly naming belongings will help us return items to the correct child should they go astray.
- If you need to send any notes, letters or payments into school then please send them via your child. They are all sent up to the office along with the register in one box thereby saving interruption to office staff - and giving the children an opportunity to act as 'Postman'!

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Formal parents' evenings will take place as usual in the autumn and spring terms.

In addition, there will be a **'Meet the Teacher' meeting on Tuesday 10th September at 2.45pm** to expand on the points outlined here and to answer any queries. This will take place in the Robins' classroom whilst the pupils share a story time with another class.

We look forward to meeting you soon and to our partnership in the year ahead.

Best regards,

Miss Fowler and the Robins Team



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