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| header  **Robin Class Curriculum Letter – Autumn Term 1 2022.** |
| **Teacher:** Mrs Nikita Reid  **Teaching assistant:** Mrs Sian Game  Dear Parents  **Welcome to the new school year!**  We hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday and that your child is looking forward to a new academic year. I am delighted to be the new class teacher for Robin Class. I have already spent lots of time with Mrs Connelly learning about the children’s passions, strengths and ways in which the children like to be supported in their learning. Please remember to return your child’s one-page profile by the end of the first full week so that I may find out a little more about each of the children. The Year 1 and 2 children have already made me feel wonderfully welcome and I know that they are going to be incredibly supportive and kind to the new members of the Robin family. We are thrilled to be welcoming our new school starters into Robin Class - a warm welcome to all our Puffins! Our class is supported every morning by Mrs Sian Game who knows the school, and the children very well, and together we will ensure that we both work with and play with all of the children throughout the course of each day and week.  Collection arrangements  Now that Covid restrictions have been relaxed, we would like to invite all Robin parents and carers to collect their children from directly outside the classroom door. Please kindly gather in the outdoor classroom area ready to collect your child/children so that you are in close proximity to the classroom. This will also support me in becoming familiar with who routinely collects each child and enable me to communicate messages directly with families at the end of the day, including celebrating the children’s successes, of which I am certain there will be many!  Curriculum  C:\Users\robin.SCHOOLNET\Downloads\pow.jpg  Our topic this term is ‘Superheroes’. Further details are outlined in the curriculum topic web attached. Our WOW topic entry day (Friday 9th September) will be at the **Atworth Base** where the children will be involved in lots of different superhero themed activities collaboratively with Kingfisher and Woodpecker classes! It would be wonderful if your child could come in dressed as their favourite Superhero, whether this be fictional (such as Spiderman or Supertato) or a real-life hero such as a nurse, paramedic or policeperson.    We will be reading various books this term all about Superheroes. This will include *Superworm* by Julia Donaldson, *Supertato* by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet and *Superbat* by Matt Carr alongside a range of non-fiction texts about people who help us.  To support our learning, we would welcome visits (even for 20 minutes) from parents or carers who look after people in society. Whether this be as a nurse, supermarket worker or vet. Not all heroes wear capes and talking informally with the children and sharing your work would be wonderful in supporting our learning about people who help us. As a small village school, we encourage our community to help us bring learning alive for the children, so if you think you might consider being involved in this, please pop in and see me after school to find out more. Thank you ☺  Reading  Home reading books  In Robin Class, and across Key Stage 1, we will be embracing our new Phonics Programme, ‘Essential Letters and Sounds’. This Programme ensures that the children’s phonics knowledge aligns closely with the reading books they bring home. Early on in the term, all children will be assessed on their phonics knowledge. The children will then receive a carefully tailored book to bring home which they should read three times after which it will be changed for new book. The children will receive fully decodable books in their formative school years until they are secure in Phase 5 Letters and sounds. Year 2 children will begin accessing a broader range of text types that do not rely solely on their phonics application once they have been assessed as reading fluently at Phase 5.  Please follow the following routine for reading:   1. A new book will be selected for your child. 2. New books will be recorded in the reading record book and stored in the child’s book bag. 3. Read the book at home at least three times. Each time, write the title, and a brief comment (including page number for longer texts) and initial or name.   *Please also feel free to add information and comments about any other books from home or the library that you have been sharing together.*  Mrs Game and I aim to read with the Reception children individually, multiple times throughout the week. Year 2 children will also read individually or as part of a small group with Mrs Game and I each week. We aim to read for pleasure as a whole class daily. Home reading books will be matched closely to the phonemes (sounds) your child is currently learning. At first these will be very simplistic but over the course of the year the books will gradually become more complex and demanding. It is very important that we follow this structure in order for children to progress within their phonics learning. We really appreciate your support with this.  Reading for pleasure  In order to harness a love of reading, we also like to give a little more responsibility to choose a reading book of their own. Robin class children will also be encouraged to select a second book to bring home. This can be read by your child, or by a family member if more appropriate. This will not be chosen in line with their phonics attainment, and it available purely for the enjoyment that reading and sharing a book can bring which is fundamental to a child’s overall development as a reader. Please also write when you have shared this book in your child’s reading record book.  Home Learning  Reading  Although the children will not change their book every day, we do expect as part of their homework that children read aloud for about 15 minutes every day **whenever possible**, re-reading their book 3 times before it is then changed.  Topic learning  At the beginning of each term a homework grid will be sent home alongside the curriculum letter and topic web. This grid details mini projects and activities you may wish to complete at home. Time will be made each week for children to share their home learning when they have completed a task. We encourage the children to complete one piece of learning from the grid each term.  Spelling  For Years 1 and 2, a termly spelling grid will be sent home. Children will continue to use a yellow spelling journal that must be kept in their book bags. We recommend using these journals 3 or 4 times a week at home in order to support your child with their spellings. Mrs Reid will carry out a weekly spelling test on a Friday. Reception children will begin using a spelling journal in the Spring term.  Mathletics  Inside the back cover of the home school books you will find your child's Maths passport with a list of number skills to practice together at home. We will check these at least once per short term and update them in school. Please practise with your child (little and often) to help them achieve these targets. When you feel your child is confident in each target, please date the box and let us know. Children will be awarded a certificate followed by a new passport when they display quick and fluent recall of their targets.  Sharing News  We enjoy listening to the children sharing their news and talking about items of interest. We try to set time aside on a **Monday** and **Friday** each week for this. Please make sure anything brought into school is clearly labelled, not too precious and we ask that you try to limit your child to one item per week. We actively encourage a focus on children sharing special experiences the children may have had, home learning and achievements from outside of school.  Reminders  PE kits must be in school **every day**. Please check that your child has the correct, labelled kit in school (i.e. navy shorts, white t-shirt, plimsolls and socks). For outdoor PE children will need suitable footwear, black or navy tracksuit/jogging trousers and a black or navy zip-up hoodie/sweatshirt.  Classroom organisation  Each week all of the class teachers receive PPA. This time is most precious to us all and is used in order for us to prepare resources, plan lessons and activities and assess or carry out observations of the children. In Robin Class, Mrs Reid’s PPA will be on a Thursdayafternoonand the class will be covered by PH sport and a TA. All learning that is undertaken by a TA is carefully planned and resourced by myself and is a really lovely opportunity for the children to enjoy learning with another valued member of staff.  Helping in school  We really welcome offers of help in the classroom, particularly in the afternoons to listen to the children read. If you think you can spare half an hour or more then please come and talk with us. There are also lots of other jobs such as sticking learning into the children’s topic books or tidying/organising the library that you may wish to volunteer for.  As a school, we value positive relationships with all our families. I wholeheartedly believe in open communication between home and school and invite you to come and chat with me at the end of the day should you have any questions or queries about the teaching and learning in Robin class. My door is always open.  I hope that you’re looking forward to a busy and successful year as much as I am!  Mrs Nikita Reid |