



Wivelsfield Primary School
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Robins' Newsletter – Autumn 2021

Welcome to the Robins! We have had a brilliant start to the year getting to know each other and learning together. The children have settled so well and have been having lots of fun exploring both our indoor and outdoor learning environments. Thank you for your support in helping the children to become independent in their morning routine.

Staffing Team

I am very lucky to have a lovely team working alongside me in Robins. The class Teaching Assistant is Miss Mason as well as Mrs Hunter (Monday-Thursday mornings), Ms Brennan (Monday-Thursday afternoons and all-day Friday) and Ms Butler (Wednesday afternoon).



All About Me

In Robins, our curriculum is often led by the children's interests and hobbies. Our weekly learning focuses on a Key Text which links to our half-term topic. Using rich texts helps build the children's literacy skills and love of books as well as making direct links to other areas of the curriculum. Our first topic for the Autumn term will be 'All About Me. Through this topic the children will discover more about themselves, their bodies, senses and emotions as well as sharing about their family and feeling as part of the school community. Please see the Robins Class page on the school website for our enquiry web which outlines our topic in more detail.

Reminders and Important Information:

Tapestry

Please check your e-mails for your Tapestry login details so you will be able to see all the exciting learning and adventures your child has been up to! Thank you to all the parents who have already activated their accounts. Information and messages will often be sent out via Tapestry, so please log in regularly. Please contact Miss Hughes if you are having issues logging on.

Spare Clothes

We love to embrace any creative opportunities that may spontaneously appear to us; therefore, we would like all children to have the following items in school at all times:

- A pair of wellies
- A coat

- A sunhat
- A spare set of underwear and socks/tights (this can be kept in a plastic bag in the bookbag).

Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named.

Water bottles

Please could all children bring into school a named water bottle, as it's important that they can access water throughout the day. Their water bottles should contain water; we often have accidents in the classroom and squash and juice can cause problems with stains and sticky damage to the classroom. If children have a packed lunch they should bring a separate water bottle to be kept in the classroom during the day.

Snack

The children are entitled to one piece of free fruit everyday as well as a free carton of milk (until the age of 5). We will offer this snack in the morning as well as the afternoon. However, your Robin is welcome to bring in their own healthy, low sugar snack instead. This could include: a piece of fruit or crackers.

Nut Free School

We are a nut free school so please do not include any food (in your child's lunch box or snack) that contains nuts for example peanut butter, Nutella or cereal bars containing nuts. If food containing nuts is consumed before school, please ensure hands and faces are washed and teeth brushed. This is due to a severe air borne nut allergy within school.

Long hair

Please could long hair be worn up at school to ensure the children are safe.

Reading books, Reading records and Key Words folder

The children will be sent home with a reading pack containing a reading book(s) and any other key information. Please ensure this reading pack is in your child's book-bag every day.

Initially, the children will be given books which do not have words in them. These books are key to helping the children understand how to use the images to develop their understanding of the story and their story-telling skills. Please read with your Robin as often as you can. It is good practise to read the same book a few times as this supports your child's literacy skills.

Reading books will be collected every **Friday morning** and then changed and handed out on **Friday afternoon**. Don't forget to write a short comment in their Reading Record so we know how they got on. We aim to hear each Robin read individually at least once a week. Their book may be changed at this time too, if appropriate.

After the October half term, Key Word bookmarks will be attached to your Robin's reading record book. This will contain words that your child is learning at the moment during Phonics such is Tricky Words and High Frequency Words. The bookmarks will be checked weekly at school and new bookmarks will be added when your child can display a confident and immediate recollection of the words.

P.E.

This term P.E. and hall time is on **Wednesday morning**, please come to school in your P.E. kit and trainers. P.E. kit should include a green t-shirt and white shorts. As the weather gets colder, the children will need to bring in long tracksuit bottoms (black or grey) and wear their school jumper/fleece, as we will continue to use our superb field for as many sessions as possible. All items of clothing must be clearly labelled. You will be informed as to when our PE sessions will begin.

Forest School

We have a wonderful outdoor classroom and spacious school grounds which are utilised and explored during a weekly Forest School session led by Mrs Hunter on **Monday afternoon**. More information regarding dates and clothing will be sent home in a few weeks.

Star Moments

In Robins we are full of superstars who have lots of fantastic moments both at school and at home. We would love to hear all about the magic moments and achievements they have at home, so we have included some star moments sheets for you to fill in and send back. We will then celebrate these moments and share them with the class. If you run out of star moments please mention this in your child's reading record or ask us at the end of the day and we can provide you with more or pop over to our Robin Class page on the school website. Star moments can be used to celebrate any aspects of your child's progress (e.g. independently dressing for school, helping with something at home, showing an eagerness to read, helping look after a sibling etc.)

Show and Tell

Children are welcome to share awards or achievements from outside school activities. Show and Tell will be built into our topic learning groups and you will be informed as to what your child will need to bring in and when.

Robin of the Week

Every **Friday**, one child is awarded the 'Robin of the Week'. This is awarded for amazing effort, achievement, progress or development. The child receives a certificate which they keep and Rosie the Robin, who they are asked to look after until the following Monday when they should return it to school.

Volunteers

Volunteers are hugely beneficial and much appreciated; if you have any time to help in class we would be most grateful. We are particularly looking for volunteers to help listen to children read during the afternoon sessions, please let us know if you have any availability. If you feel you might be able to support us with our topic learning, please contact Miss Hughes.

Many thanks for your continued support,

El Hughes

Miss Hughes and the Robins Team

