

Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

Robins Class

Autumn 2014



Our Themes:

Autumn Term 1 – People of the Past

Autumn Term 2 – Let's Celebrate

Our Key Values:

Caring Commitment to Achieve Co-operation
Fairness Honesty Respect



Welcome back Robins! I hope you have all had a fantastic summer holiday and are all rested and raring to go with our exciting new school year. I received lots of lovely postcards from you during the summer holidays from all around the world. I enjoyed reading them and hearing all about your holidays. We have a very exciting term ahead of us this term and lots of fun things planned. Below, you will find all of the information that you need about the new topics that we will be covering during the Autumn term.

Literacy

During this term we will be linking our literacy with our IPC topics and will be writing about Christopher Columbus and using Pocahontas as our visual literacy. We will also be working on our handwriting as a school and we are looking forward to the warm up exercises, which take place before each lesson. We will also be concentrating on spelling, grammar and punctuation in weekly lessons. In the second term we will complete lots of celebration activities, which will continue to link our literacy with our IPC topic.

Numeracy

In numeracy this term we will be looking at number and place value to begin with, then we will move onto looking at addition and subtraction, measurements, properties of shape and statistics. We will strive to link our numeracy lessons to our IPC topics wherever possible, as we do in all of our lessons and will ensure that they are interesting, exciting and challenging for all children in the class.

Science

In Science this term we are studying things that are alive. We will be looking at life cycles, and food chains in term one. In term two we will be concentrating on light and dark. We will look at various light sources, what plants need to grow, how materials can reflect light and how shadows are made.

R.E

In R.E this term the children will be learning about who they care for and how they show this. We will look at different examples of caring in different religions. In term two we will be learning about celebrations and how we celebrate and reflect on our beliefs and values.

Computing

In the first term we will be Treasure Hunters and will use our programming skills to find treasure! In the second term we will be TV chefs and will be filming a recipe –we will use our computational thinking and use different software such as Microsoft Word and Movie Maker.

PSHE

This term we are learning to contribute to shaping a welcoming and safe community for all. We will consider problem solving and ways we can calm ourselves. In term two we will be developing our skills of friendship and working well together in groups.

P.E

In P.E the children will be taking part in multi-skills which will include striking, throwing and kicking. In term two they will be concentrating on multi-skills games, such as bench ball and other exciting team games.

International Primary Curriculum

We learn these subjects through our theme. For our themes we have an entry day to enthuse the children and an exit day to celebrate all that we have learned.

Term 1	Term 2
Our theme is People of the Past.	Our theme is Let's Celebrate.
The children will be discovering why people are famous and what they contributed to our lives.	Our entry day will be one big celebration – the children will choose what they would like to celebrate and how they will celebrate.
Our exit day will be a pop up Madame Tussauds – the children will be creating different people from the past and props associated with them. These will then be displayed in the afternoon. We will invite parents in to see our wonderful creations.	Our exit day will be an even bigger celebration that involves the whole school. The children will lead the way on this and suggest ideas of how we can do this.

Term 1	Term 2
<p>As Historians we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how famous explorers compare in history • out about important inventors and their inventions • what life was like at different times in the past 	<p>As Historians we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how people in our families celebrated in the recent past • how particular past events are still celebrated
<p>As Artists we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to compare an explorer from the past with a modern-day explorer • to create a portrait of a friend • to explore the work of a famous artist • to paint in the style of a famous artist 	<p>As Artists we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how decorations were used in the past • how the work of artists is used in celebrations • how to make images and artefacts that could be used in celebrations
<p>In society we will be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to stay safe in busy places 	<p>In society we will be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how different people celebrate different events • how different groups of people have different rules
<p>As Musicians we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to explore sounds from our bodies and following a beat 	<p>As Musicians we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about sounds in our stories and toys.
<p>As Designers we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to use different materials to create our models for Madam Tussards 	<p>As Designers we will be learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to plan for a celebration • how to design and make a product for a celebration
<p>In our International learning we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • finding out why some people in the past wanted to make a change. 	<p>In our International learning we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • looking at the different celebrations around the world.

Important Information

Our weekly homework and spellings will be set on Wednesday and returned on Monday.

Our P.E days are: **Monday and Friday.**

Phonics challenges will be tested on a **Friday**. Please practice these with your child as often as you can, alongside listening to them read every night.

The children will have opportunities to read to an adult in school and can change their reading book on a daily basis. It is very important they are reading at home in order to help them progress through the various different stages and improve their vocabulary, which in turn helps them in their writing. Please understand that the children's reading stage will be changed when they have demonstrated over a period of time that they have improved their fluency and comprehension on that stage. There are a number of varied books for each reading stage and it is important that the children read a breadth of different genres. Before making the decision to move the children up a level, I always consult their National Curriculum reading level first.

We encourage the children to be as independent as possible in Key Stage One, including developing their responsibility for bringing their P.E. kits, homework and spelling books on the correct day, and reminding them to change their reading books when they need to. We ask for your support with this.

We are always looking for parents willing to come into school to listen to the children read. If you can help with this it would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to come and see me if you think you can help. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to approach me. I look forward to working in the Robins class again this year and I am sure we will have another fantastic year together.

Kind Regards

Miss Bottle