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Robins Class Newsletter - Spring Term 2021



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope that you all have had a lovely, relaxing Christmas holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready for the busy spring term ahead.

English

This term, we will be using the following texts:

- 'The Hidden Forest' by Jeannie Baker
- 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman
- 'The Spider and the Fly' by Mary Howitt
- 'Alice in wonderland Poem' by Michaela Morgan
- 'The lost thing' by Shaun Tan
- 'Wild animals of the North' by Dieter Braun

The children will explore these texts through letters, character descriptions and non-chronological reports. We will be studying poetry and both fiction and non-fiction texts to deepen our knowledge and understanding of comprehension and grammar, including different sentence types, distinguishing between fact and opinion and analyzing themes and conventions. The children will get the opportunity to discuss what they have read through debate and presentations, examining how the author has used language to enhance meaning, using evidence to justify their answers.

Story Wings and Reading

Our Story Wings scheme aims to encourage children to read a variety of genres and discover authors they are not yet familiar with. Your child has a chart in the front of their reading records to record the books they have read and reviewed for 'Story Wings'. Please do encourage your children to continue working towards their Story Wings, as it would be great to award some more badges this term! Please also continue to hear your child read at home; it is an opportunity to enjoy stories together, discuss new words and ask questions about character and plot. Children have plenty of opportunities to change their library books at school.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will look at telling the time on analogue and digital clocks, along with building upon our mental strategies for calculation. We will be developing our fluency in counting in different multiples,

develop our skills using formal written methods and explore effective strategies for all four operations. The children will then have the opportunity to apply all of this learning to solve mathematical problems involving money and time. We will then move on to looking at the relationship between fractions, decimals

and percentages. In Geometry we will use our knowledge of shape to help us visualize fraction, decimal and percentage equivalents.

Science

In science this term the children will continue to take on the role of natural scientists. However, this term we are looking at plants. We will be exploring different plants and examining them, before learning all about the different parts and conditions that they need to survive. We will also learn how and why plants make their own food.

Using our knowledge, we will make predictions based on the environments plants are in and the effects this has on the surrounding wildlife.

Geography

We will be looking at global awareness in Brazil along with natural resources in Chile whilst answering our big enquiry questions '**can we save the future of the Amazon Rainforest?**' and '**could we survive without natural resources?**'. This will help us to think about different environments and where they are located on maps, along with the role humans play in preserving and protecting natural resources.

Art

Our artist this term is Chesley Bonestell. We will be looking at his paintings of space and linking this to our Geography learning on global warming. We will have the opportunity to sketch and paint our own earth from space image using pictures and our knowledge on this subject.

Design and Technology

In Design and Technology this term we will be conducting some research on healthy snack foods, exploring different recipes, ingredients and packaging used. We will learn how to evaluate a healthy snack and to design and market packaging before creating our own healthy snack food for our target audience.

Computing

Our ICT this term involves learning about repetition and loops within programming. We will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. We will use Logo, a text-based programming language to carry this out. We will continue to look at being safe online, knowing when things don't feel right and when to tell an adult.

Religious Education (RE)

In RE this term we will be learning about the Hindu festival of Mahashivrati and the religious importance of this festival. We will then be studying the Understanding Christianity question 'what did Jesus do to save human beings?' and researching our own answers to evaluate it.

Physical Education (PE)

In PE this term we will use Joe Wick's online videos to partake in PE from home. When children return to school we will be looking at the skills involved in relay racing and Hockey. Throughout the week, we will also do golden mile.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

We will be starting this term looking at working collaboratively and how does this works. We will then move onto looking at how to cope with change and transitions, looking at a variety of subjects such as puberty and grief.

Homework

Children should be reading each day at home, along with practising their times tables on TT rockstars.

Many thanks

Miss McPhee
Class Teacher

Miss Byrne
LSA

Love Hope Justice

