



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Robins Class Newsletter – Summer 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello everyone and welcome back to the Summer Term! I trust the warmth and rest of the Easter holidays has refreshed your senses. We had a great start to the year together in the last term and it has been most rewarding to see the progress Robins' class have made in such a short period of time.

Our Big Enquiry Question for the first half term: **What can we learn about Preston Candover from the past?**

History – During this half term, Robins' class will be investigating the local history of Preston Candover. Like true historians, we will visit the ancient church of St Mary the Virgin and use our findings to learn a little about the medieval origins of this place of worship. We will explore the history of the church through its architectural style and compare this to the more recently built replacement church to devise questions about change, cause, similarity, difference and significance. If you happen to have any objects at home that portray an aspect of Preston Candover's history and you would be willing for us to kindly borrow (or take a photograph of) for our learning this half-term, please do let me know; it would be very much appreciated!

RE - Our RE concept this half-term is 'sacred places' which will link well to our study and visit to the churches.

English- English lessons this term will begin with the marvelous book by Andy Seed 'Interview with a Tiger'. As I am sure you have heard, the children in Robins' have loved learning all about the Rainforest last half-term so I know they will very much enjoy this unit of work. Together, we will explore this clever book's fun fact filling vocabulary, the question and answer format that this text exemplifies and we will learn how to embed contextual information in the format of an interview. Children will go onto writing their own interviews with an animal of their choice that provides a way to convey specific information.

We will then move onto looking at 'A Walk in London' and use this text as an example in order to write our own version of 'A Walk in Preston Candover'; an informative and persuasive text which will persuade others to visit our local area. This unit will not only give us an opportunity to use our research from history lessons but also to gain an appreciation for what we can find in our local area.

In addition to these writing focused English lessons, pupils will continue to have regular spelling, handwriting, guided reading and grammar lessons throughout the week. Please continue to support reading and spelling at home as much as possible to further build upon what we are learning in class.

Maths- In maths lessons this half-term, pupils will be recapping how to read and write analogue and digital times, explore the use of timetables and year 4 will also be learning about the 24 hour clock. We will also be exploring geometry in this term as pupils will learn about angles and their relation to

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pivoting. As we move through the term Robins' class will be increasingly working with multiplication and division and the nature of commutativity.

Multiplication Check - If your child is in Year 4, they will be participating in the statutory multiplication check in the week beginning 3rd June. The purpose of this check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12. Pupils are aware that this will be happening but we are taking a low-key approach towards the check to avoid causing unnecessary stress. We will be having lots of fun completing practise sessions and we also encourage the use of Times Table Rockstars to ensure pupils are confident with their times table knowledge prior to June.

Science - Science lessons will explore plants, looking specifically at plant reproduction. Pupils will learn how flowering plants have evolved specific parts to carry out pollination, fertilisation and seed growth. They will be able to explain how seed dispersal improves chances of enough seed germinating and growing to mature plants and reproducing as well as explore what conditions are required by seeds and bulbs to germinate. Through dissecting plants and planting their own, pupils will enjoy the hands-on experiences involved in this science unit.

Art - Our Art lessons this half-term will also build upon what pupils learnt last half-term as we shift our focus from Georgia O'Keefe to Vincent Van Gogh. We will begin by comparing the artwork of both artists, identifying similarities but also differences between some of their well-known pieces, focusing mainly on their use of colour, tone, line, pattern, texture and shape. We will look particularly carefully at Vincent Van Gogh's artwork, Irises, a symbol of hope and, of course, one of our school's core values.



Computing – We will start the term exploring how to create digital pieces of artwork through the use of painting and visual manipulation programs like photoshop. This will be closely linked with our focus in our art as we learn how to use the broad brushstrokes of Van Gogh into digital recreations. We will go on to use our digital prints to create prints on paper and fabric before assembling them together as a colossal class collage. We will then go onto exploring programming through the use of repetition in shapes and games. Children will learn to plan and test commands to create a variety of patterns and shapes. This will lead on to using such programming to plan games.

PSHE – For this term Robins' class will be exploring the theme of 'Living in the Wider World through studies of diversity, inclusion and how we may respectfully consider the true breadth heterogeneity in British society and the world at large. Children will sensitively learn about prejudice and discrimination and what we can do to steer ourselves in the right direction. Through understanding the viewpoints and needs of others, we can all learn to follow our school value of love and synergize well together. I use hope and positivity to bring this notion to a fresh new start after the Easter holiday.

French- In French lessons this term, Robins will learn how to discuss the answer to the question: As tu un animal? They will learn how to identify and describe animals, read and write animal descriptions. Pupils will then learn about the tradition of of le goûter and name some typical foods. They will learn to express their likes and dislikes in French, both orally and written.

Music- We will continue to have Mr Garrod teaching Robins Music every Tuesday afternoon. In these lessons, pupils will continue to learn how to play instruments confidently, read musical notation and compose and perform different types of music.

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Our Big Enquiry Question for the first half term: **Do mountains move?**

Geography – We have an exciting topic lined up for the second half of the summer term as we delve into the arena of mountains and earthquakes. Children will learn about the human physical geography of Nepal and the surrounding area before moving onto exploring some of the more specific physical and human features and then characteristics of mountains and the communities that occupy them.



Home-learning - Maths and English home-learning will continue to be set on Fridays. This will include Times Table Rockstar challenges, MyMaths activities. Please continue to support your children with reading at home and encourage your child to complete an activity (learning tool) in their reading record as Story Wings is ongoing and so far we've had lots of success in accumulating badges!

Leader in Me - We will continue to embed the '7 habits of highly effective people' through the Robins curriculum to empower our pupils with the leadership and life skills they will need to thrive in the 21st century. The children have been great in describing the 7 habits and we have learnt a lot together so far. I look forward to furthering our application of the 7 habits into our daily school life and life in general!

I am very pleased to announce that Robins' class will be learning with Mrs Cooke every Thursday morning. If you have any questions or queries about either your child or their learning, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can also pop me a message in your child's red communication book. I look forward to sharing our learning with you throughout the term.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Aston

Robins Class Teacher

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