



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Robins Year 4



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to the Summer Term. I hope that this newsletter finds you well and rested after a lovely Easter break. We have another exciting term lined up for Robins class with so many wonderful opportunities and projects for pupils to look forward to. Please read on to find out what we will be learning about this term...

Our Big Enquiry Question for the first half term: How does where we live shape how we care for the environment?

Geography - This half term will have Robins exploring the location of La Plagne in France. As geographers, pupils will be identifying the human and physical features of this European location, use a range of maps, photographs and videos to compare La Plagne to our local area and consider how aspects such as climate vary in mountainous areas. We will explore how people are employed in our local area and how money is spent to benefit our local area and compare this to La Plagne.

Science- Science lessons this half term will see pupils investigating rocks and soils. They will learn about the composition of rock as a solid material and develop an understanding of where various types of rocks can be located. They will explore the differences between fossils, sedimentary rock, igneous and metamorphic rock through practical, hands on- enquiries. Pupils will explore the properties of the different types of rocks before taking a closer look at the composition of soil.

English- Robins class are sure to enjoy their English lessons this term, with two wonderfully imaginative texts to inspire their reading and writing. We begin with 'The Pet Dragon' by M. P. Robertson, a humorous and beautifully illustrated picture book that sparks the imagination. Using this as a starting point, pupils will explore the unusual world of dragon keeping. They will learn how to write clear and engaging explanation texts, focusing on features such as subheadings, technical vocabulary and present tense. Children will then write their own guides to dragon care, explaining what to do in scenarios like going on holiday, taking your dragon on a play date, or leaving it home alone!

Later in the term, we will dive into the myth-inspired world of 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Stodd-Stanton. This exciting adventure story will lead us into narrative writing, where children will create their own quests involving magical artefacts and mythical beings. They will focus on entertaining their reader through rich description, action, and suspense as they plan and write their own Norse-inspired adventure tales.

In addition to these writing focussed English lessons, pupils will continue to have regular spelling, handwriting, 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.

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Maths – This term in Maths, Year 4 pupils will continue to develop their confidence and fluency across a wide range of number and measurement skills. We will begin by exploring place value, including rounding 4-digit numbers, counting in 25s and 1000s, and reading Roman numerals. As we move into fractions and decimals, children will explore decimal place and learn to recognise decimal and fraction equivalents. We will also explore key multiplication and division strategies, including mental methods, scaling, factors and multiples, and written methods such as chunking with remainders. For your reference, here are the strategies children will be revising and learning:

Addition

$$\begin{array}{r} 600 \ 50 \ 4 \\ + 500 \ 60 \ 7 \\ \hline 100 \ 10 \\ \hline 1200 \ 20 \ 1 \end{array}$$

Expanded Decomposition Method

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \ 5 \ 4 \\ + 5 \ 6 \ 7 \\ \hline 1 \ 1 \\ \hline 1 \ 2 \ 2 \ 1 \end{array}$$

Compact Column Method

Subtraction

$$\begin{array}{r} 400 \ 30 \ 13 \\ - 300 \ 50 \ 7 \\ \hline 100 \ 80 \ 6 \end{array}$$

Expanded Decomposition Method

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \ 3 \ 13 \\ - 3 \ 5 \ 7 \\ \hline 1 \ 8 \ 6 \end{array}$$

Compact Column Method

Multiplication

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \times 23 = \\ 23 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline 138 \\ \hline 1 \ 1 \end{array}$$

Additionally, children will also measure and convert between different units, work with perimeters and areas of rectilinear shapes, and interpret data in bar charts. Throughout the term, problem solving and reasoning will be woven into all areas to help children apply their learning in real-life contexts.

Multiplication Check - As you will be aware from discussions at parents evenings this year, if your child is in Year 4, they will be participating in the statutory multiplication check within the first two weeks of June. The purpose of this check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall all times tables facts 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. In order to prepare for this check, Year 4 pupils should ensure they can recall all their times table facts up to 12x table. They will have 6 seconds per question during the check so both speed and accuracy are required. You will be notified of your child's score within the Year 4 end of year reports.

PSHE - This half term, PSHE lessons will focus on managing feelings. Pupils will explore how daily events affect emotions, how feelings can change, and strategies for managing frustration, anger, and grief. They will also learn where to seek support. In the second half-term, the focus will shift to managing risk in different environments, such as near railways, water, and roads, as well as sun safety and firework safety. Pupils will also explore how to stay safe online, the impact of peer pressure, and how to report online concerns.

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RE - RE lessons this half term will focus on the concept of 'Devotion'. Pupils will explore what being devoted means and how this may look in worship for those practicing the Hindu faith. Children will evaluate the importance of devotion to different people and how devotion may look to different people of different faiths and beliefs, including within Christianity. After half-term, we will explore the concept of 'Protection'. Pupils will learn what protection means, why protection is important and how different religions may express their ideas about protection. They will then use what they have learnt to evaluate whether protection is important.

Computing - This term in Computing, Year 4 will explore programming through two exciting topics. First, in 'Sequencing Sounds', pupils will learn to use a new programming environment to create sound-based projects, understanding how commands work in sequence. After half-term, children will control a sprite's movement, adapt programs, fix bugs, and design a maze-based challenge.

Our Big Question for the second half- term: What makes a civilisation thrive or fall?

History- After the half-term break, Robins will embark on their final history unit of the year, which is all about the Vikings! In role as historians, pupils will begin by exploring the characteristics of the Vikings and how they are stereotypically portrayed in some of the films and texts that we see. Pupils will identify the origins of the Vikings and learn about some of the significant raids and battles the Vikings took part in. We will then begin to question the historical accuracy of the information available- how reliable are our sources? Why might they be slightly biased? Through looking at some of the more recent archaeological discoveries at Yornik, pupils will begin to explore significance before using everything they have learnt throughout the topic to decide whether in fact the Vikings were law- breakers or law makers.

School Trip – Date for the Diary

As part of our history learning during this half-term, I have booked for Robins class to visit Butser Farm on **Thursday 26th June**. Thank you for your prompt responses. We look forward to a marvellous day out. can all enjoy this marvellous day out.



P.E– P.E lessons this term will usually take place on a **Monday** and **Thursday** afternoons, however please ensure that your child comes to school on a Monday with a **full PE kit** and ensure it stays in school all week, just in case we choose to do extra PE sessions within the week or swap PE lessons for various reasons. PE lessons this term will include badminton, outdoor adventurous activities (OAA), athletics and kwik cricket. In addition to the timetabled PE lessons, children will continue having the opportunity to complete their golden mile at other times during the week. Of course, this is weather dependent.

Music- We will continue to have Mr Garrard (a music specialist teacher from the Hampshire HIAS music team) teaching Robins Music every Monday 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.

French- In French lessons this term, Robins will learn how to discuss and describe items of clothing. They will consider what items they would take with them on holiday to a particular destination and explain why, using vocabulary relating to the weather. We will also celebrate Bastille Day on the 14th July.

Home-learning- This will continue to be set weekly on a **Friday and is due in the following Thursday**. Maths will be primarily focused on times tables practise ready for the multiplication

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check in the first half of June. English will consolidate learning from the classroom. Occasionally, there may be pieces from other subjects. Please continue to encourage your child to look after their home-learning books and complete their work in a well-presented fashion; normal handwriting pens and sharp pencils are most suitable for this. Such strategies will help prepare Robins for their promotion into year 5!

As always, 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.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Aston (Robins Class teacher)

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