



# Warlingham Village Primary School's



## Class Newsletter

Reception

Autumn 2018

### **Welcome to Robins Class!**

Reception will be taught by Miss Martin, with Mrs Radmall as the full time Teaching Assistant and Mrs Fisher as the afternoon Teaching Assistant. On a Monday afternoon, Coach and Mrs Price have the children for PE and Music. On a Tuesday afternoon Mrs Price has the children for literacy and topic activities.

### **Themes**

For the first half term our theme is **All about me!** We will be covering topics such as ourselves, our bodies, our families, healthy living and exercise. The second half of the term the theme is **Celebrations!** In this time we will cover the various different celebrations that happen every week, from Diwali to Christmas and many more.

As part of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, all of the Early Learning Goals are approached and covered through our topics and through the children's self-initiated play.

### **Phonics and Handwriting**

Phonics focuses on teaching children the **sounds** that letters make. We follow the programme and sound order laid out in the government document 'Letters and Sounds', with each child working at the pace which is appropriate for them. Phonics is very important as it supports a child's ability to read and write. Letter formation will be taught as part of the phonics programme and lays the foundation for the development of handwriting, which we will progress into later in the year.



### **Reading**

After the settling in period, each child is heard read at least once a week at school but they will also benefit greatly from reading regularly at home. When you read with your child, please could you make sure that you write the date, title of the book and a comment in their yellow reading record as it helps us to keep track of their progress.

Additionally, first thing in the morning we encourage the children to choose a book from our well stocked reading corner, to bring home and share with you. They can change this the following day. Please can you make sure that your child's reading book and reading record is in their book bag **every day**.

### **Water Bottles and Snacks**

The children are encouraged to bring a drinks bottle, containing water, with them to store it in the drinks trays and help themselves to throughout the day. If possible, this bottle of water should be in addition to any drink that they bring in a packed lunch. Their drinks bottle should also be clearly labelled with their name.

The children are provided with a daily fruit or vegetable snack that varies daily. If you would like your child to have an additional afternoon fruit snack, then please can you provide one in a labelled bag or box that can be collected in at the beginning of the day and handed out during snack time in the afternoon.

### **Important dates:**

Dates will come out later in the term for when you can come and see what your child has been doing and have discussion with myself.



### **ICT**

The children use the ICT suite on a regular basis but also have access to the classroom computer and laptops at other times. We are working on developing mouse control skills to begin with and logging on and off the computers. We have some programmable toys, video and sound recorders that we show the children how to use.

### **Physical Development**

In addition to the continuous access that the children have to Physical Development equipment, we also have focused whole class sessions. These sessions take place on Monday afternoon and are led by a qualified sports coach. We also do Wake and Shake sessions at least once a day. For this we use 'Activate' which is a DVD of short exercise routines.

The children will need a PE kit that is clearly labelled with their name. The kit is a white T shirt and navy blue shorts and black plimsolls. The kit can stay at school till the half term when it will be sent home for washing. It is always a good idea to check that their plimsolls fit when they bring their PE kit home in the holidays or even half way through the term.

### **Homework**

The children will be receiving their reading books soon. They will also be getting phonics workbooks to complete once we start phonics teaching. From then on Homework is given over the holidays (when appropriate) and after Christmas we also start a whole school scheme called 'Take Away' Homework which we can explain nearer the time.

We have found the school blue book bags extremely useful in the past, as they come into class and fit in to available storage trays. By having a blue school book bag, the children's homework and reading books are always in the right place and letters and other information that may need to be shared with home can be put straight in there for home time.

### **Any questions?**

If you have any questions or need to speak to us about anything please do not hesitate in coming to see any of the Early Years Team.

### **Mathematics**

In maths we will be focussing on number recognition, counting and ordering numbers to ten and beyond. We will be singing number songs and playing games that involve numbers. We also include number stories in our teaching and give the children plenty of opportunity to use numbers in their play. We will be recognising and describing shapes and patterns. The children will be using shape in construction, making patterns on paper and in their play. We will be using the language of length, weight, height, capacity, time and position with the children and building up their understanding of these areas.



### **Wow sheets**

We will be sending home a wow sheet for you to fill in. This is for you to share some of the amazing things your children do at home and for us to celebrate some of these things in school. The achievements can be, for example, in swimming lessons, wowing you with their maths or the first time they make their bed on their own etc.

### **Show and Tell**

Your child will receive a letter on Friday which will outline any themed show and tell for the week. The children can bring in an item from home that they would like to show and talk about or they can tell us about an experience they have had recently. The show and tell can take place any day on the following week and any items will be kept in the class cupboard for safety till it is time for your child's turn.

### **Reminders**

We would be very grateful if you could check that all of your child's school uniform, including shoes, coat, book bags and their P.E kit are clearly named.

### **Volunteers**

If you, or anyone else in your family, have an hour or two free each week we would be extremely grateful for additional help in Robins. Please let a teacher know if you can help so we can make all the necessary arrangements.