



Robins and Puffins Classes Spring Term Newsletter



Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a restful break and we look forward to welcoming the children back into school for an exciting Spring Term.

Please could we remind you to ensure that you send your child to school with a warm coat, hat and gloves as we will be learning outdoors whatever the weather. Some parents like to provide a pair of wellies to keep at school should the weather be wet. Please could we also ask that all items are named.

Your child will continue to need a named bottle of water at school each day. You are able to provide squash, although this will need to be consumed at lunch time. If your child would like to bring a snack to school, it should be either a piece of fruit, or vegetables such as carrot or cucumber sticks. Fruit snacks are available at school each day.

Reading, Spelling and Phonics

Our aim is that the children quickly learn to read and develop a love of reading for pleasure. To achieve this, we offer a range of teaching and learning activities.

Each day the children will:

- Learn a new sound and practice reading words during a phonics session (we follow the Read Write Inc. Phonics Scheme).
- Take part in a group Guided Reading session with an adult.
- Listen to a story read to them by an adult as part of a story time session.

Every week the children will bring home two pieces of reading material:

- A book or ditty for them to read to an adult (if they are able to read independently).
- A book to be read to them by an adult. This will be labelled "A library book to share."
- They will also have a Book Review they can complete with an adult for their library book.

Please ensure that book bags come back to school every day so we can change your child's book at least once a week.

Year 1 children will learn spelling rules, with weekly spellings to learn. They will bring these home in their spelling books to practise.



Maths



Reception children will continue to focus on number and their understanding of the value. They will be shown numbers and quantities in many forms such as written numerals, dots on dice and groups of objects. The children will also explore addition through combining groups and explore subtraction through taking-away. Reception children will be encouraged to show curiosity to 3D shapes and begin to name shapes in their environment.

KS1: Number and Place Value

The children will consolidate their understanding of number by identifying one more and one less of numbers up to 100. They will use pictorial aids to support them such as number lines and hundred squares.

KS1: Calculation

The children will revisit number bonds to 10 and begin to learn which numbers add together to equal 20. They will be encouraged to record their answers using +, - and = signs. They will continue to rehearse counting in 2's, 5's and 10's and begin to use these patterns to help them solve multiplication and division problems and to draw arrays.

KS1: Shape, Space and Measure

Last term the children learnt the names and properties of 2D shapes. This term they will be introduced to 3D shapes such as cubes, cuboids, pyramids, cylinders, cones and spheres.

English

This half term the children will be writing character descriptions, based on a variety of books and visual literacy resources. The non-fiction element of their learning will involve report writing based on both our history and geography topics. The children will be developing their knowledge of capital letters and letter names.

Science- Plants and The Seasons

The children will learn to identify and name a variety of common plants, and those classified as deciduous and evergreen. They will also learn to identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common plants including roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers.

As the weather improves, we will get planting and growing!



Physical Development - PE



PE will be taught on a **Wednesday for Robins** and **Friday for Puffins** and the children will need to come into school wearing suitable clothing and footwear e.g. jogging trousers, t-shirt, fleece and trainers. Long hair should be tied back and earrings removed.

Physical Development - Handwriting

The younger children will complete activities to develop their fine motor skills e.g. playdough, bead threading, sorting objects with tweezers.

All children will be taught to form lowercase letters as discrete shapes starting at the line with a lead-in stroke.



RE

During the Spring term we will be finding out about what the Bible says about how Christians should treat others and live their lives.

We will also be getting ready for Mothering Sunday and Easter celebrations.



History and Geography-

We Are Explorers!



We will be finding out about two explorers, Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. We will think about their discoveries and how they affected others. We will develop our geography learning, thinking about different continents and comparing Lincolnshire with a part of America.

DT-Junk Modelling

We will be thinking about the explorers and how they travelled. We will be using junk to create our own vehicles! We will be learning the skills needed to use tools safely and testing out the best way to attach our pieces together.

Art-Van Gogh-Sunflowers

We will be learning about Vincent Van Gogh and his famous Sunflowers paintings. We will also be painting our own Sunflowers, and linking this with our science learning on plants. We will be learning how to mix our own colours and thinking about warm and cold tones.



PSHE

During our Circle Times, we will be continuing to get to know each other. Our focus will be 'Be Yourself.' The children will be finding out together all about:

- Understanding and naming different feelings and emotions
- Talking about our feelings when we are sad or cross
- Talking about things we like
- Why we are marvellous
- Sharing our opinions with others

