



# Love to Learn, Learn to Care

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5th September 2025

## Autumn 1 Newsletter 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Robins' Class!

We hope you have all had a great summer, enjoyed the rest and are looking forward to the new and exciting year ahead in Robins' class.

### The Robins Team

The teaching team for Year 1 this year will be Mr Burke, Mrs Lancaster and Miss Forbes. Children will also have a weekly Forest School session with Mrs Booton.

Here is some useful information about the topics and activities that your child will be enjoying this term.

### Topic

Our theme for this half term is 'This is Me!'. This theme will be cross-curricular, touching on areas of English, Maths, Science, History, Geography and Art.



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## English

Developing your child's reading and writing skills will continue to be a whole class priority. This half term we will have a 'Book of the Week' chosen from a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to link with our topic.

- Curricular Target - Our focus this half term is 'Punctuation'. As well as developing a love of reading and writing, we will also be focusing on handwriting and basic punctuation skills such as, finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.
- Phonics - All the children will continue to have their daily 45 minute Read Write Inc phonics sessions.
- Spellings and Spelling Tests - A list of six spellings will be updated on Spelling Shed every Thursday. The children will be informally tested on these spelling lists on the following Thursday, so please help your child to learn them.
- Handwriting - Initially we will ensure accurate pencil grip and sitting positions along with various handwriting patterns to encourage the flow from left to right. Throughout the year we will focus on the accurate letter formation, in preparation for the Blackbirds where they will start joining, please do not encourage your children to join before this point.

## Reading

In the Robins, children will begin their bronze 100 book reading challenge. This challenge is designed to promote a love of reading and enjoyment of books. This challenge is designed to be completed across Year 1 and Year 2 and will be recorded in a separate booklet; prizes can be collected from Mr Duggan when they reach a certain target. Children should enjoy these books with you as they are unlikely to be able to read them independently and are not expected to at this stage. In the Robins, children are encouraged to become as independent as possible and are able to choose their own reading book from the bronze shelf. This is to be done at the beginning of the day, before registration ideally. You may need to remind your child to change their book once it has been thoroughly read and enjoyed. Children should read these books alongside their levelled Read, Write, Inc book, it is really important that you reread these books daily with your children to ensure fluency and to check for understanding. Each child has a home link book in which you are encouraged to record the books read at home and add comments as appropriate. Any adults who read with your child at school will also stamp or sign to say that they've read with an adult. In class, there are a variety of ways in which your child will read over the period of a week – individual, group and whole class – but there is no substitute for daily reading practice at home. Your support with your child's reading is hugely important, as being able to read underpins success in all other subjects and your assistance with this is vital.

## Maths

Our focus in maths this term will be place value, addition and subtraction with addition work on number formation.

## P.E.

Our PE day for this half term is a **Monday and Thursday** (please note, due to timetable changes these are different to those days initially sent out), please send your child into school in their PE kit. We will be focusing on throwing and catching through an introduction to ball skills, as well as balance and co-



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ordination in our gymnastics lessons. As per Mr Duggan's email PE will begin during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school along with Forest School.

### Forest School

We will be going outside to enjoy Forest School sessions every Wednesday afternoon during this half term and we will be linking these sessions closely to our topic. Please bring your child dressed in appropriate forest school clothing. They will need to bring in adequate warm clothing, a pair of wellies, waterproof trousers, a waterproof coat and a hat and gloves. We will be going outside whatever the weather (unless it is too windy or icy to do so), so please ensure your child has sufficient layers and waterproof clothes.

### Independence

Now that your child is in Robins' Class, it is a good time to begin promoting greater independence.

Here are some ways that you can help:

- Encourage your child to say goodbye outside in the line and come into school independently where they will be met by the class teacher or TA and encouraged to organise their belongings and get started on their day.
- Please encourage your child to take responsibility for carrying their own bags and looking after their own belongings, ensuring that their things are put into the correct places each morning. Clearly naming belongings will help us return items to the correct child should they go astray.

### Parent/Teacher Meetings

Formal parents' evenings will take place in the Autumn and Spring terms. In addition, there will be a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting during the first few weeks to expand on the points outlined here and to answer any queries. This will take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 2:45.

I look forward to meeting you soon and to our partnership in the year ahead.

Best regards,

Mr Burke



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