



Friday 23rd September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the new year in Robin class, we hope it will be an exciting and enjoyable term.

Our Topic is 'Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?' and will encompass traditional stories, non-fiction work about wolves, play scripts, shadow puppet shows and many other exciting activities. As always it is our mission to make the curriculum as engaging and inspiring as we can.

We will be going to the Pantomime in Bournemouth as a treat before Christmas and we are currently trying to plan a trip to visit the Wolf Conservancy Trust, but this is not yet confirmed. More information will follow.

Most of the children in the class are included into mainstream classes for one or two afternoons each week and it is during these times that the majority of their science, history and geography curriculum will be covered. Have a look on the school website to see the different year group topics and the curriculum content. The science that we will be covering in Robin is based around wolves and light and shadow.

In Robin class we will enjoy art sessions looking at colour mixing, sketching skills and designing and building a model castle out of junk. We will also be making shadow puppets and creating a show which you will be invited to see (date to follow). We will focus on developing the children's PHSE skills, particularly on their ability to understand and manage their emotions and helping them to have successful relationships with other children.

The children all do PE and Music with their mainstream buddies and this is on different days. All Robin class need to have their named PE kit **in school every day**, so it is best to bring it on a Monday and then it can be sent home on a Friday.

Generally speaking Robin class does Literacy activities in the morning followed by a Circle Time and break/snack time. Please remember that healthy snacks such as fruit and vegetables are the only snack we allow. After break there are maths activities, followed by Guided Reading and a story before lunch. After lunch the children are involved in a range of settings – some are included in mainstream classes and some in nurture or life skills groups, while some remain in the classroom. The Robin children are carefully placed according to need and this will vary.

The children will all bring their book bag home each day and it is important that this is returned **every day**. In the book bag you will find a reading book and a reading record where you can record your reading with your child. Please read as often as you can with your child. The whole school participate in the 'Reading Raffle' scheme



where those children who read to an adult at home and record it in their Reading Record earn a raffle ticket. The raffle is drawn in assembly each week for the chance to win a book. It is important to read and re-read texts until the vocabulary is really familiar. It is also important to talk about the story and the characters – what they are doing and how they might be feeling.

There will be an envelope of words your child needs to learn to read on sight, and an envelope of words your child needs to learn to spell. Please practise these frequently, daily if possible. In school we will regularly check how the children are doing with their words and add more as needed.

If your child travels by school transport, you will also find a communication book. We will always check these so please feel free to use this to tell us anything you think might be important. We will also communicate this way if there is anything we need to share with you. Those children who come to school with parents and carers we will usually catch on the playground if there is anything we need to tell you.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Nicky Harling and the RP Team

