



Friday, 16 September 2016

## Dear Parents/Carers

*Well it has certainly been a very busy week. A hot one too. We are all ready for the weekend! The hot weather naturally makes the children somewhat sleep deprived and then we see this exhaustion and of course at times tears in school. The children are to be congratulated in the way that they have coped with the heat this week and continued to work hard. I am very proud of them. Enjoy a restful and cooler weekend.*

## This week

We had a mammoth **Birthday Celebration** this week. Catching up on 15 children celebrating their birthdays. We celebrated outside in the cool of the shade, thinking that the hall was far too hot! The children are to be congratulated on the way in which they can adapt to Worship in any environment! Happy Birthday to: Meghan, Michael, Jessica, Mason, Naomi, Ella J, Tyler, Matthew H, Oliver B, Jazara, Bessie, Molly, Daisy Bo, Chloe H, Maurice. My apologies to Ella R and Ella J for the confusion I caused. I managed to give Ella R an additional Birthday and overlook Ella J. The girls were so sensible and understanding of their poor confused Headteacher! Thank you girls.



We have addressed our planning of **Collective Worship** to make this (we hope) more meaningful, topical and applicable to the daily life of our children. This week we have thought about the Paralympics with the values around these games and the events of 9/11. To each Worship we apply our relevant school values and British Values too. We have a time of reflection and prayer and a Bible reading related to our theme. As of Monday, we will have the first meeting of our Worship Council. This will encourage children to plan, lead and be involved in our daily and Church Worship. We hope also to see the children involved in Sunday and special Services in Hartlip.

You will know from my dojo messages on Thursday that I was hopeful that our sessions at the **mobile library** would resume this week with the exciting new initiative of the library parking on our drive. Unfortunately this did not come to fruition. I am currently seeking to find out the reason for this and will keep you posted.

### Next week



**Clubs** start next week. We are fortunate to be able to offer the children an extensive programme of provision. I am grateful to staff and volunteer helpers for their time and commitment to this. Mrs Ridge will be in touch today with notification of the clubs that your child has been assigned to. If your child is attending a club to which the nominal fee of £5 is attributed, please make sure that this is paid before commencement of the club, or on the first day of attendance. Monies finance and support consumables and the extracurricular

programme as a whole. Additional funds raise finance for fun events for the children to enhance the educational, holistic experience of school. On a weekly basis, the cost is £1.25 for an hour's provision. We thank you for your support.

I have reshaped the look and provision of **lunchtime clubs**. You will have seen this on the clubs letter. Basically there is a different activity running each day, open to all children in school. Monday: Worship Council, Tuesday: Recorders, Wednesday: Storytime, Thursday: Cartoons and colouring and Friday: Green Team and outdoors. With the exception of recorders, children will be able to 'dip in and out' of the clubs of their choice on a daily basis. There will also be an area for completion of work and reflection if there are behaviour issues. I hope that the children enjoy this new provision.



We have purchased new cones for '**stop and drop**' which means that more of the road can be afforded to this venture. It seems to work quite well. To ensure that it is effective, please do not park in the coned area. Use this to actually stop and drop your child. They are quite safe and walk from the white gate to a member of staff at the next gate and then in to school. Thank you for your cooperation.

As of next week, we have a **new award** in school. It is called the eggcellent attendance award. Basically every child with 100% attendance for the week is entered in to a draw and the child pulled out takes home that week's eggs. Attendance is a whole family commitment. So, we hope that you enjoy the eggs!



If your child is interested in learning **guitar**, our guitar teacher has spaces available this term on a first come first served basis. Please contact the school office for details.

A Message from Mrs White:

### **Hartlip Harvest Supper Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October 7pm**

The Hartlip Harvest Supper is a village gathering of all ages, with a ploughman's meal with puddings, and an entertainment by local talent afterwards. You will be seeing posters around the village very soon!

If you are coming to this event and you would like your child to be part of the entertainment (a few seasonal songs and a little play 'The Little Red Hen') then do see Mrs White next week. We will have some short practices on the next few Fridays after school and a short practice on the stage at the village hall on the day.

***Tickets do sell out quickly so get in quick!***

Yours sincerely

Mrs. T. Jerome  
Headteacher

## Robins



Dear Parents/Carers,

WOW! The new Robins have been simply amazing. It's hard to believe that they have only been here for a week and they are settling into the new routine. I have to say that they all look absolutely exhausted (the hot days certainly have not helped) and I'm sure they are ready for a restful weekend!

The aim for this week was to begin to get to know each other and encourage the children to try a variety of new activities. Through child-initiated play the children have had the opportunity to explore their new learning environment and resources and of course meet new friends. Communication and language development are important skills in order for your child to form friendships and child-initiated activities prompt communication amongst their peers. It has been very reassuring to see all the children engaged in activities and playing alongside each other. They absolutely love the mud kitchen, digging, gardening and water play activities!

Well done Robins on being truly amazing!

*The Robins Team*

## Blackbirds



Dear Parents/Carers,

What an exciting week: we have been to the Moon! This week we read 'Man on the Moon' and went on our own journeys to the moon. We acted out the parts of Bob (the man on the moon) and a moon tourist. We explored the moon using our senses and described our adventure. After reading the book, we thought about our favourite part and why we liked it. We sketched our ideas and some of us wrote about it too. As a class, we thought of questions to ask Bob and we emailed these to him ([bobthemoonman16@gmail.com](mailto:bobthemoonman16@gmail.com)). At the end of the week, we created our own postcards, imagining we were sending them to Earth from the moon. As we were reading the story, some of us saw Aliens but Miss McCabe said we must have been imagining them as she couldn't see them and there are no such thing!

Year 2 have been working hard in maths this week. We have used arrow cards to explore how numbers are made of digits and looked at place value (thousands, hundreds, tens and ones/units). We played a new number game and Chloe was crowned the winner!

In maths Year 1 have been looking at 2D shapes in our environment. We were detectives on a shape walk and played a game on the whiteboard where we had to spot shapes. We learnt how to use geo-boards, making shapes using elastic bands. We played a shape game in pairs. Some of us still need to practise the common shape names (circle, square, rectangle and triangle) whereas some of us could guess and describe shapes by their properties. Our shape song also helped us remember them.

Year 1 have enjoyed their visits back to Robins on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday this week. While they were there, Year 2 have learnt about the story of feeding the 5000 in RE and looked at conjunctions as part of their extra writing.

This week we began Phonics. Year 1 stay in the classroom and Mrs Barrett comes to teach them there. Year 2 and Miss McCabe go off to do their phonics in the hall.

We have also enjoyed our first science lesson with Mrs Byatt this week as well as PE with Mrs Ridge.

Happy weekend :)

*The Blackbirds Team*

## Peacocks

Dear Parents/Carers,



This week has been very hot and humid and we have been working very hard. In Maths, we have been using place value to partition 3 and 4 digit numbers and beyond. We have a good understanding of this... please test us! We have used our understanding to help us add and subtract 10, 100 and 1000 from these numbers too! We have a game on our Lumio areas to complete at home.

In English, we have been learning the story of Boudicca, who was a famous Celt Queen. She fought the Romans after her land was lost to them. We have been using a story mountain to break down the story into five parts; the introduction (opening), build-up, dilemma, resolution and ending (closing). Ask us what happened in which part of the story. We have also been using a thesaurus to extend our language to help develop our writing.

In topic, we have studied the Roman Empire and how it spread across Europe and other parts of the world over 1000 years. It is amazing how many countries they would rule today! In Science, we were looking at light and shadows... we made shadows on the playground by stopping the sunlight from getting to the floor. We had a lot of fun!

Mrs Harris has been working on the Peacocks' KLZ page... keep looking for important information, dates, pictures and useful links to help us learn.

*The Peacocks Team*

## Eagles



This week, Eagles have been storming through their number facts – primes, squares, multiples and factors! Please question your children on number types over the weekend, some need the practice to remember what each word relates to, and there were a lot of new maths words this week!

We are enjoying reading and writing about our new book, 'A Monster Calls' and the children have been very interested in discussing how Conor's mother has been affected by cancer. Nearly every child in the class shared a moment or a memory taking the time to appreciate each other's experiences. I was very proud of them.

Homework came out by Class Dojo and spellings will be stuck into contact reading books later today for testing next Monday. Please keep up the reading and the times table practice at home!

Many thanks,

*Mrs Hunt and Mrs Burrows*

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Clubs

Thank you for all your prompt responses regarding clubs. Please keep an eye out for a message via Class Dojo regarding what clubs your child has gained a place at. I plan to get this information out to you today, however please do bear in mind it may not be before the end of the school day.

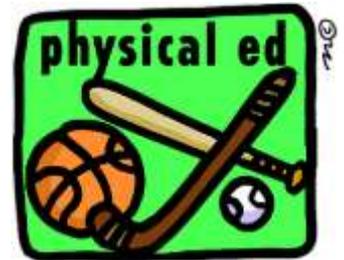


Clubs will begin next week (unless otherwise stated). Remember please that children should have a separate kit for after school sports clubs so they do not have to wear their school PE kit. They tend to disappear home and not returned for PE lessons.

Please ensure club monies are handed in (£5 per child, per club – unless otherwise stated in the club letter) prior to or by the first day of the club. Thank you.

## PE learning

Lessons have resumed in all classes (with the exception of our newest members of the community – The Robins. They have had lots of other opportunities to develop their fine and gross motor skills through their discovery time this week).



In REAL PE, the whole school will be focussing on their Personal Skills, alongside one of the key fundamental REAL PE FUNs skills (based on the physical ABC's - Agility, Balance & Coordination). The Y2s have been working on their floor movement patterns, like skipping, hop scotch (forwards and backwards), galloping, side stepping etc. We played an energetic matching pairs game. Ask us about this. Challenge your family members in our warm up game of (physical) rock, paper, scissors.

Peacocks & Eagles have begun their Tag Rugby units. The focus for Peacocks class was to learn how the belts and tags worked. They had a competition between tree teams to see who could tag the most people and discussed the best stance and ways to move. Next they played 'Run the Gauntlet' where you run from one end to the other, whilst the opposing team try to tag you. The children also practised the best way to hold the ball.

Eagles will be practising some ball skill drills and playing games, helping them to attack and defend.

## Other Dates for the diary:

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Y5/6 Tag Rugby Festival at Sittingbourne Rugby Club. Whole of Eagles Class attending. 1.30/2pm – 5pm (tbc).

*Mrs Ridge*

## Outdoor Learning

### Autumn 1 Week 2

What a glorious way to start our Outdoor Learning sessions ... the sun shone upon us all! We began this term by searching for a tree to represent each of our Tree Teams: 'Beech, Chestnut, Oak and Sycamore'. Using a Tree Identification Kit, we looked for each of the trees by checking the leaves, bark and any buds. Throughout the year we will regularly check on each of the trees to see how they have changed over each season. Unfortunately, we couldn't find a sycamore on our walk around the orchard. So... if anyone knows where there is one in the village or you have one in your garden that you could photograph, please let us know!



### Next week's Outdoor Learning sessions:

EAGLES will continue Outdoor Learning sessions for this term.

After discussions as a staff, we have agreed that the best way to move forward is to block lessons together to allow for continuity in learning and to make things less complicated in terms of remembering a change of clothes! Next term, we will swap classes so that throughout the year each class has 3 terms of blocked sessions.

## Science

**Blackbirds:** Have started their learning about Materials by sorting different objects into what they are made of. We identified wood, metal, fabric, plastic and foam! We also played Kim's Game to work out what other objects were made out of.

**Peacocks:** Are learning about Light and Shadows and how light can travel through different materials yet shadows are formed by the absence of light. They have learnt the new words opaque, translucent and transparent. Can they tell you what they all mean?

**Eagles:** Will begin their Science topic through Outdoor Learning next week.

*Mrs Byatt*

