

Robins Class Parent Update

Autumn 2021



A very warm welcome to The Nest and to Robins Class Early Years and Key Stage One classroom. Each half term you will receive an update from us which will let you know about what we have planned over the coming weeks and any important diary dates.

The Robins Team this year is,
Mrs Jane Turnbull – Class teacher
Mrs Emma Marris
Mrs Sharon Dunn
Miss Caroline Brown
Mrs Abi Crack

We have very much enjoyed our first few weeks with the Robins children as we have begun to get to know one another and settle into new routines. Thank you all for your support, we are really looking forward to working with you.

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It's sure to be a busy term for everyone as we have lots planned between now and the Christmas holidays. We hope you have enjoyed the first entries on Tapestry. Thank you so much to everyone who has added a 'like' or a comment. This is a two-way communication system, so please do share your comments

with us or add a 'like' so we know that you have seen your child's pictures and the comments on their learning and progress.

Our initial topic for the Autumn term is 'Toys'. The topic will be broken down into different themes as follows to cover the first half term.

'Toys'

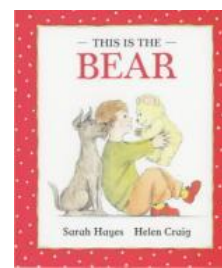
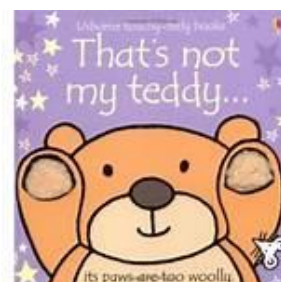
Teddy Bears

This part of the topic encourages children to explore their new environment and begin to make relationships with staff and peers. A big focus will be on establishing communication systems as appropriate and supporting the children as they learn new routines.

In Robins Class, we will be enjoying lots of stories, songs and rhymes. We will have lots of sensory resources and activities linked to the texts to make them relevant and real for all the children.

Our main stories will be, 'That's Not My Teddy' and 'This is the Bear'.

This will lead into lots of sensory exploration from washing the bears in the water tray, to decorating bear pictures using different tactile materials. We will



hunt for lost bears while exploring our new surroundings and will be making teddy bear cakes and sandwiches for a teddy bears picnic.

We have a range of additional books, rhymes, and songs.

These might include,

- Round and Round the Garden
- When Goldilocks Went to the House of the Bears
- Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, Touch Your Nose
- The Bear Went Over the Mountain
- 10 in the Bed
- My Teddy Bear
- That's Not My Bear
- This is the Bear and the Picnic Lunch

If you have any of these texts to read at home that would be a fantastic way to link learning at home and school.



In maths sessions we will be counting and acting out '10 in the Bed' song as we role play with the soft toys. We will also be introducing our big piece of lycra as we sing 5 Little Teddies Jumping on the Bed.

Art and craft sessions will also be teddy bear focused with a range of different teddy bear activities. For those that love messy play we will be able to make some teddy bear handprints! This will also



be a wonderful opportunity to create some porridge potions in our new mud kitchen down in the woodland area.

September marks Rosh Hashanah the Jewish new year. We will take the opportunity to taste some different fruits such as pomegranates and figs.

We will also try some apples dipped in

honey. If you try something new at home let us know!

This is also a great opportunity to express likes, dislikes, and preferences as we establish communication boards with objects, photos, or other visuals. Maybe everyone might try something new, and we never know we might find that it's something that we like!



‘Toys’

Balloons and Bubbles

Over the next weeks we will be exploring some favourite toys; bubbles and balloons!

Our main songs will be ‘The Balloon Song’ and ‘Tiny Tim the Turtle’ both of which are available on YouTube to listen to at home.



Additional stories and songs might include,

- Pop the Bubbles song
- Balloon



- The Blue Balloon

We will be using balloons to hit, kick, throw and catch. Fly swats make great bats for balloons and little hands and are cheap to purchase if you fancy trying this at home!



Our sensory trays will include giant balloon ice blocks of different shapes and colours. Its great fun to freeze toys inside and then discover them as the ice melts.

There will be lots of opportunities to make and blow bubbles including giant bubbles and we will also try and see if we can blow really long bubble snakes using empty water bottles and old socks.



Our creative and maths sessions will have a colour focus linked to the balloon song.

‘Toys’

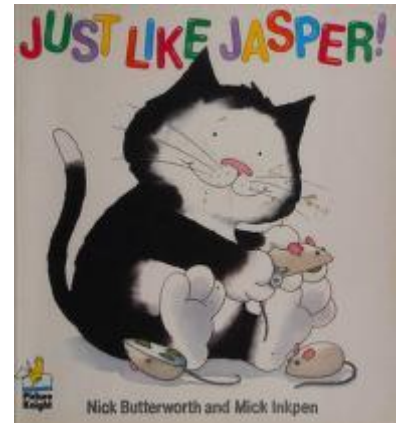
What’s in the Toy Box?

This will provide a lovely opportunity to continue exploring our new toys and resources.

Our main story and songs will be ‘Just Like Jasper’, ‘5 Little Monkeys Swinging Through the Tree’, ‘The Wheels on the Bus’ and ‘Row, Row, Row Your Boat’.

Additional books and songs might include

- The Transport Song
- Driving in my car
- Down at the station
- We all go travelling by
- Everyone hide from Wibbly Pig
- Kipper's Toybox



We will continue to explore our new toys as we consider which toys Jasper enjoyed in the story.

We will make roads, tracks and construction sites from various sensory materials and then add our vehicles.

We will have lots of fun setting up a car wash to clean our dirty cars and trucks with lots of bubbly, soapy water.



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We will be enjoying lots of indoor and outdoor play experiences every day as we get to know one another and find out more about what we enjoy. We will be introducing (or continuing) Attention Bucket to support our listening and attention skills and establishing use of visual supports as we develop our expressive communication skills.

Please do let us know via the home – school diary of any activities related to the topic that your child may enjoy or maybe if you see an activity you think they will not like please let us know. Please add any other ideas – a different book that

you know of, a song or rhyme, an art or craft activity or a piece of music..... The list of ideas that you can add is endless.

We love for all children's interests to be included and our activities can then be adjusted accordingly.

Please make sure you have managed to log into Tapestry.

This is where I will share photos and updates of learning. You are also very welcome to message me and upload photos and videos from home or add comments. It is a really useful way to share information and progress and to communicate together.

Work to do at home with your child.

During our topic, we will let you know what we have been doing each day via the diary and through Tapestry. Please support the learning done in school by talking about their day, reading the same stories if you have them available, singing the songs or engaging in craft or sensory activities etc linked with our theme. If you would like to borrow a book for a bedtime story or would like a YouTube link to a song, please ask via Tapestry or in the home – school diary.

Important Information about Robins Class.

LABELLING – Please label ALL items of clothing and personal belongings. (School shoes all look amazingly similar and are a particular problem when all similar sizes.)

OUTDOOR LEARNING – We will be going outside throughout the year in all weathers. Your child will need a full set of waterproofs (trousers and coat) and boots as an essential. These can be left in school for use whenever needed.



SPARE CLOTHES – These are essential. Please send your child with a change of clothes each day or a labelled bag can be left on their peg in school with spare sets of clothes.

Please include pants (if appropriate) and socks in spare clothes.

NAPPIES – If your child requires nappies, if possible, please send a whole pack labelled with their name. Please also label packs of wipes. We will let you know via the home – school diary as nappies and wipes need replenishing. We are happy to work on toileting programmes and will discuss changing needs with you as the year progresses.

PARENTS MEETING - Will be held later in the Autumn term.
More information to follow nearer the time.

ROBINS WELCOME MORNING – We will be hosting regular open-door sessions where parents can come and join in with activities for the morning. We hope to hold a welcome morning later this half term, more information will follow later in the term.

We very much look forward to working with you all over the coming year.

Jane and Robins Class Team 😊