

# Robins Class Parent Update

## Autumn 2024



Welcome back to Robins Class. We have missed everyone and are very happy to have Little Robins back in the Nest!

This year we say hello to Harry and Reggie who are joining us. A very warm welcome to them both and their families. As always, each half term you will receive an update from me which will let you know about what we have planned over the coming weeks and any other important information.

We have had lots of new staff join us this year which is wonderful!

The Robins Team is now;

Jane Turnbull – Class teacher

Sharon

Caroline

Kat

Juliette

Frankie

Sharon

Victoria

We have very much enjoyed our first few days with Robins as we have begun to get to know new staff and children and settle

back into our routines. Thank you all for your support, we are really looking forward to working with you this year.

.....  
It's going to be a fun and busy term as we have lots planned between now and Christmas. 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. If you were with us last year, it is important that you continue to check regularly and share your thoughts with us.

You are also more than welcome to send messages to me via Tapestry and to upload photos or videos of your child at home. We have very much enjoyed sharing the summer holiday pictures with the children and this is such a great way to build their communication.

Our topic for the first half of the Autumn Term is **'What Does It Do?'** The topic will be broken down into two themes as follows to cover the first half term.

### **'What Does It Do?'**

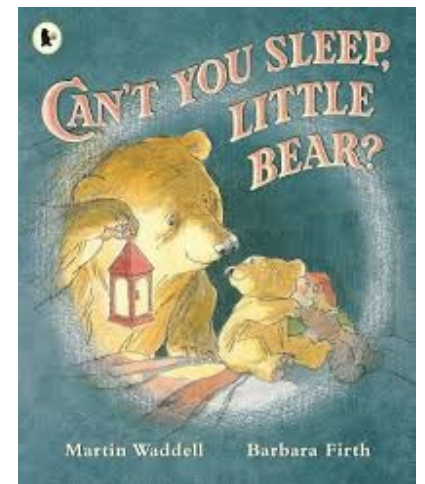
#### **It Moves, It Lights Up, It Makes A Noise!**

Our initial focus will be to encourage the children to explore their environment and develop relationships with staff and peers. We will be establishing and developing communication

systems as appropriate and supporting the children as they learn new routines.

In Robins Class, we absolutely love a good story as well as songs and rhymes. We will have lots of sensory resources and activities linked to the texts to make them fun, relevant and real for all the children.

Our main story will be, "Can't You Sleep Little Bear?" We will read the story on the carpet with lots of bears and blankets which is sure to be popular! We will make the classroom as dark as we can and then light another lantern



each time one is lit in the story. We also have a starry night projector to explore for the end of the book.

This will lead into lots of sensory dark exploration. We will use the dark den and make other tents and dens to snuggle up in with the bears and read bear stories. We will explore different kinds of lanterns and will investigate shadows using torches to see if we can make them and then change their shape, making them bigger or smaller. We will see what happens when we put on sunglasses and investigate glow sticks! We will also look after the bears, tuck them into bed and read them a bedtime story.

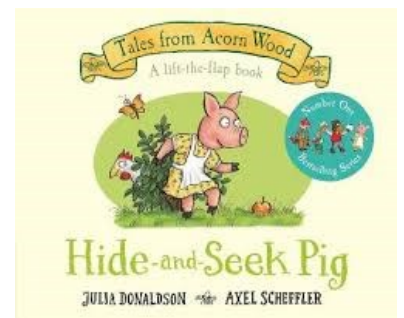
We have a range of additional books, rhymes, and songs. These might include,

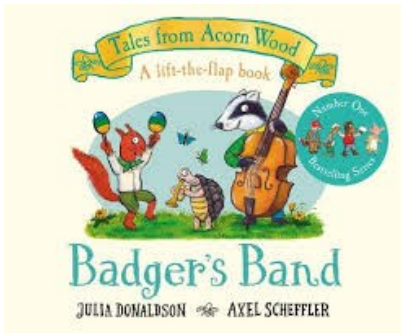
- Round and Round the Garden

- Ten in the Bed
- That's Not My Bear
- That's Not My Teddy
- This Is The Bear

In maths we will be returning to shapes, focusing on squares as well as revisiting circles and triangles. We will identify shapes and talk about their properties, looking for these shapes in the environment. We will explore shapes in different sensory trays and on the light board, getting accustomed to how they look and feel in our hands. We will print with shapes, match shapes, use mark making tools to draw around shapes and use them to make patterns and pictures.

Outdoor Learning will be focused on playing and having fun together while we build important new relationships with our new team. We will be reading 'Hide and Seek Pig' and will explore our outdoor environment playing hide and seek games with our friends and with the bears. We will make dens and also enjoy some bear parachute games. We will be introducing some new games to play together such as What's the time Mr Wolf? And beanbag games.





We will also make lots of noise after reading Badger's Band. We will explore body percussion and different instruments, as we try playing loud, quiet, fast and slow.

If you have any of these texts to read at home that would be a fantastic way to link learning at home and school. They are also available to see on YouTube.

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

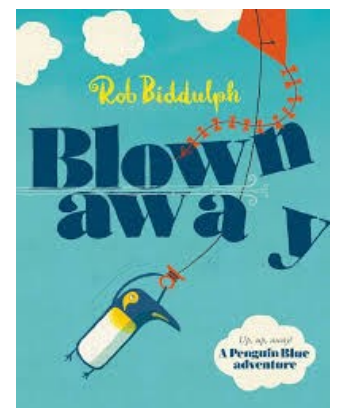


We will also try some apples dipped in honey. If you try something new at home let us know!

This is also a great opportunity to express likes, dislikes, and preferences as we establish communication boards with objects, photos, or other visuals.

### **'What Does It Do?'**

**It Changes – Weather and Seasons** Over the next weeks we will be exploring the weather as the seasons change. We will be reading 'Blown Away', a wonderful story about a little penguin who is blown from the arctic all the way to the hot jungle. This will give wonderful opportunities to dress up and try on hats or sunglasses for different environments. We



will explore small world arctic and jungle animals as well as sensory props such as water sprays, fans and ribbon sticks on windy days.

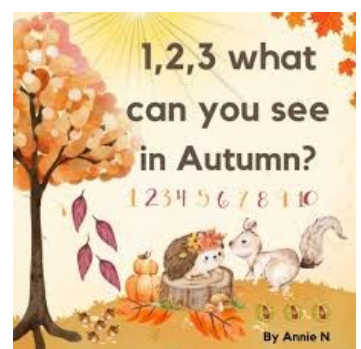
Additional stories and songs will include,

- What is the weather like today?
- Shark in the Park on a Windy Day
- Henry Hedgehog's First Autumn



Outside, as well as exploring windy and rainy days we will investigate scientific changes and explore what happens when different materials are mixed such as making sand foam, soap foam, cloud dough, kinetic sand and goop. This will be a great opportunity to develop our fine motor skills scooping, sieving, pouring and mixing as well as extending our vocabulary by describing new textures.

In maths we will be reading '1, 2, 3 What Can You see in Autumn'. We will continue counting and grouping items, practising our skills of one-to-one correspondence and representing numbers. We will match numerals to quantities and where appropriate, rehearse our subitising, addition and subtraction skills. We will also have lots of sensory mathematical exploration with a range of autumn treasures.



We will continue 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 continuing (or introducing) Story Massage and 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.

### **Important Information about Robins Class.**

**TOOTHBRUSHES AND HAIR BRUSHES** – We will be brushing hair and teeth daily this year. We will be doing this after lunch with music, as a whole class activity. Research shows that an extra toothbrush during the day makes a huge difference to young children’s dental health. Please send in toothbrush and toothpaste and a hair brush, all to remain in school as soon as possible. We will let you know when toothpaste needs replenishing.

**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 will aim to have one later this half term so parents can come in and meet our new team.

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

Jane and Robins Class Team 😊