

BODSHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

ROBINS CLASS ORIENTATION AND NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN TERM 2020

Dear Parents

We are pleased to have the school fully open again after such a long absence, and are delighted to welcome back our children and families. We will not be able to hold our usual orientation meetings this year, so we are sharing all the information you will need in this letter.

Welcoming the children back

We will be offering a curriculum that ensures children are given time to adjust to school life after their long absence, while also helping them to catch up and move forward in their learning. We will be spending the first few weeks settling the children in, getting used to routines, playing alongside their friends and assessing the children's learning. We will be creating a curriculum that is appropriate for their social and emotional needs as well as their academic needs. There will be a strong focus on PSHE around valuing children's time away from school, building relationships, and developing self-confidence. We will build in a short, dedicated time each day to focus on specific skills that the children may need, such as handwriting or maths skills. This will be a temporary adjustment to our curriculum and will be reviewed regularly.

Staff

These are the staff who will be teaching in the Robins class this year

Teachers	TA Support
Mrs Rushton Mon/Tues	Mrs Wenham Monday and Wednesday morning
Mrs Stephen Weds/Thurs/ Fri	
PPA (1 day per fortnight)	
Miss Carter Mrs Selby	

What to bring to School

Children will be provided with all the stationery and resources needed for their day to day learning.

Children must have a Bodsham book bag (available here <https://www.springersonline.co.uk/bodsham-c-of-e-school>).

They will be given a reading record and books to read at home which will need to be in their book bag daily along with their family learning book.

They will need a named water bottle (preferably with a sports cap) which they can keep on their desks.

All children in Years R, 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal. If they are not having school dinners they will need to bring their packed lunch in a named lunch bag.

A daily fruit snack will be provided for all children in KS1. Children may bring their own piece of fruit to school if they prefer it.

How we will keep everyone safe

Hopefully you will have read the letter from Mr Newton at the end of the summer term letting you know the measures we have put in place in order to keep everyone safe and reduce the spread of Covid-19 in accordance with government guidance. These measures will include continuing to wash hands frequently, ensuring we have plenty of ventilation, maintaining small groups (bubbles), and placing tables to ensure children are not sitting opposite each other. We have built in more time for outside learning so as the weather gets cooler, please ensure the children have a warm coat/hats and wellie boots so that we can use the outdoor space every day.

Our weekly timetable

		8.50	8.55	9.20	10.05	10.20	10.40	11.30	11.50	1.00	1.20	2.05	2.50	3.20		
	Mon	Registration/Handwriting		Phonics/Spelling	Worship	Break	Maths	Guided Reading	Lunch	Catch-up Session	Topic History - Transport	Learning Independently Time (LIT)	PSHE/Circle Time	Home		
	Tues										Literacy	Maths			RE Creation	LIT
	Weds										Literacy/ Art (PPA)	Maths/ Art (PPA)			Music Hey You - Exploring pulse and rhythm (PPA)	LIT
	Thur										Literacy	Maths			ICT	PE
	Fri										Literacy	Maths			Science Animals Including Humans	Science Animals Including Humans

Learning Independently Time (LIT)

This year we are introducing Learning Independently Time, a dedicated time for the children to try a range of challenges. Our sunshine room and outdoor areas are set up with a range of resources and activities that will allow the children to explore our topics independently, whilst being guided and challenged by the adults. This is similar to the approach taken in Reception, but with challenges and resources designed to extend them in the KS1 curriculum.

Worship

We will have dedicated worship time in class every day, including our gold book celebration on a Friday. We will celebrate what we have been successful with over the week, and hear about children in other classes and their successes too, helping to maintain our community feel.

PE

This year we will be asking for children to come to school dressed for PE on a **Thursday**, including trainers (no plimsolls please). PE kits will not be kept in school. PE will be led by Elite coaching and accompanied by the class teacher. The children will have lots of other outdoor learning opportunities as part of our Learning Independently Time.

Reading

We will have guided reading sessions every day. These will either be whole class sessions where the teacher will read a text to the class, or small group reading appropriate to their level. We will hear children read one-to-one fortnightly. Reading should also be done at home daily, and there will be time during each day for children to change their reading books. Children are asked to choose their own books in year 1 and 2 with support.

Handwriting

With many of our children having been out of school for a long time, they may find writing difficult and strange. We will do daily practise with a focus on letter families; long ladder letters, curly letters, and zig-zag letters. As the children gain handwriting confidence throughout year 1 and into year 2, we begin basic joins, ready for moving into KS2. If you would like to have a copy of the letter families, do let us know.

Phonics/Spelling

In KS1 we work through the Letters and Sounds programme for phonics and spelling. This is pure phonics in Year 1, moving onto spelling rules in year 2. This year we will ensure that all children have covered the phonics they may have missed during their time away from school, both in our regular phonics session, and as part of our catch-up time. Children in year 2 will have missed the phonics check due to lockdown, but we will continually assess their stage of phonic development and focus on the sounds they need.

Home learning

Children will be given a menu of tasks to do, linked to our termly topic. As well as this they will be expected to read daily, complete spelling tasks when they are sent home, and do a My Maths task. Home learning will be sent home on a Friday, to be completed and returned by the following Wednesday. More details will be given in the home learning books sent out on 18th September.

Parent/Carers Consultations

We will hold telephone consultations during term 1, look out for details in the weekly newsletters.

Communicating with Mrs Stephen and Mrs Rushton

Our main concern is of course that the children are happy and secure at school, and we will work to ensure they settle back into school life with confidence. If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to let us know. The best way to communicate with us is via email to the office, and we will call you as soon as we are available.

We are so excited to be back to school, and are really happy to see the children. We look forward to all the playing and learning together this year in a safe and happy environment, and to working with you as parents and carers. Welcome back everyone!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Stephen and Mrs Rushton
Robins Class Teachers