



## Robin Class News

### Term 1



#### Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Robin Class and to Willow Park school community. We hope you have all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the exciting times ahead. It has been a privilege to visit you in your homes and we must thank you for making us feel so welcome. Thank you also for your support in helping to make the children's first few days at school so successful, the children have settled in beautifully to Robin Class. The children have spent this first week learning about each other and playing thoughtfully and cooperatively with their new friends.

We are very much looking forward to the year ahead and seeing where our partnerships with yourselves and the children's interests lead Robin Class's learning adventures. This term we will be focusing on getting used to being in school. As well as practicing the school value of 'Be the Light' through spotlighting the children's thoughtful interactions with their new friends.

At Willow Park we use an enquiry-based curriculum called Light up Learning. It focuses on people, places and stories which challenge the children with their learning in the local area. This term's enquiry question is Who are we? We will be focusing on getting to know each other and talking about ourselves and our families. Recognising how we are a community at Willow Park, one which values the importance of supporting one another and ensures children recognise positive attributes for all of their peers. To support the children with speaking about themselves and their families, please could you email a photo of your child with their family to the school office, [office@willowpark.org.uk](mailto:office@willowpark.org.uk)

We are looking forward to working alongside you and your child to ensure this year is a positive one in every regard. If you have any worries or concerns, please come and see us at the end of the day after all of the children from Robin Class have been dismissed.

Many thanks,

The Reception Team

#### Reception Team

Mrs Leaker  
Class Teacher



Mr Gavriel  
Class Teacher



Miss Bryant  
Teaching Assistant

### Housekeeping

Please ensure your child comes to school every day with their green book bag, a coat and a freshly filled water bottle. It is very important to ensure that everything your child brings into school is clearly named. As well as this, please check your child's book bag daily for letters, phonic sheets and art work. Reading books will also be kept in their book bags once your child is able to blend sounds, more information about this will be shared at the phonics workshop.

### Baseline Assessments

All Reception children will be undertaking a selection of play-based tasks as part of the statutory government baseline assessment throughout the first six weeks of starting school. The purpose of the assessment is to provide a starting point that will help parents understand how well schools support their pupils progress between Reception and Year 6. Further details can be found in the information leaflet sent out with this letter.

### After School Pick Ups

If your child is going to be collected by someone other than the pre-arranged adult, please ensure you phone the school office by 3pm. Otherwise, we will have to phone you before your child can be released. We are responsible for safeguarding your child and we know you will understand the importance with regard to this matter.

### Date for your diary

You are invited to Robin Class's Phonics Meeting on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 9 -10:30am in the school hall. Learning to read is vitally important for learning, communication, stimulating the imagination and expanding your child's knowledge and experience.

During the meeting we will share with you:

- Why and how we teach phonics
- When your child will start to receive reading books
- How we would like you to help your child by looking at books and listening to them read at home (this has been updated for September 2023 and is new to ALL parents in Willow Park)

Please come along, as it is vital to understand phonics and how it supports early reading and writing, two skills that we teach your child in Reception. A great deal of time, care and patience are given to teaching your child to read and we see this as a partnership with you. At school we teach phonics and at home you reinforce and practice what has been learned. Your contribution is essential to enable your child to progress and develop a love of reading.

### Tapestry

Whilst your child is in reception we share photographs and videos of your child's learning with you through an online platform called Tapestry. Please respond to the email Tapestry will be sending you in order to set up your Tapestry account and log in. Thank you.