



**GRETTON
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: Mr Adam Sallis MEd, NASEN, NPQH

Monday 13th April

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter and an enjoyable two weeks holiday. I can't quite believe that it is the Summer Term already! Below are some reminders and some new information for the term ahead.

Drop Off:

As we are now two thirds of the way through the Reception year, we kindly ask that the Robins children are dropped off at the gate like the rest of the school. If you need to pop in or if your child is requiring some support with drop off, you are more than welcome to still bring them round to the Robins classroom as needed.

Staffing:

Staffing this term will remain much the same. I will teach Robins on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Mrs Woolston will continue to be our Teaching Assistant in Robins every morning. On Thursday mornings, Mr Bridges will take Robins up to forest school and in the afternoon Mrs Claassens will teach in Robins. She will be teaching music every week as well as an Understanding the World lesson.

Forest School:

Our forest school sessions are on Thursday mornings with Mr Bridges and Mrs Woolston, both of whom are trained forest school instructors. Forest school will go ahead unless the weather is absolutely torrential or too hot so please ensure that your child is dressed suitably. As the weather gets warmer, the children still need to have long sleeved tops and trousers. Thin, cotton long sleeved t-shirts are ideal in warmer weather. If it is hot, please pack a sunhat and ensure sun cream has been applied prior to coming to school.

Class Dojo:

Class dojo is used in a number of different ways. It is where we post class updates, messages and photos and it is also used for us to give the children dojo points. The points go towards a weekly total for each house and the winning house is announced every week in celebration assembly. The children save their points until they reach at least 25 and would like to spend them in the dojo shop on a Friday afternoon.

There is a function to message me on class dojo. This is great for short messages, however if it is longer or of an important nature, please communicate via an email sent to the office. Mrs d'Arcy will ensure that the email is passed on to me. Please always report any absences to the office.

Website:

The website has lots of useful information on for families from our curriculum to school lunch menus. I have recently updated the website with our new Termly Overview for the Summer Term. Please visit: Gretton Primary School - Robins. This letter will also be uploaded there, should you need to refer back to it.

Little Wandle Phonics:

As you know, we teach Phonics at Gretton using the Little Wandle Systematic, Synthetic Phonics scheme. This will continue to be taught each morning. The Little Wandle website has some great tips for parents should you wish to learn more about the scheme. Your child should now have both the Autumn and Spring term tricky words (red and blue) and there is a great video on the website on how to support your children at home with them.

Summer Curriculum Web:

I have updated the website with our new Summer Term curriculum web. Please see this for further information on what we will be covering over the course of the term.

Reading and Reading Records:

It is extremely important children are reading books which are matched to their individual level of competency and, every Friday the children will come home with their Phonics Reading Book which is linked to their specific level. The children will have already read this during school time so should be able to read it with relative fluency by the time they bring it home. Please do take the time to read this book with your child and discuss the story/information with them, then record this in their reading record. Please do comment in their reading record, or simply initial, just so we know it has been read at home. In the past these books have had to be returned on a Monday, however I think it would be beneficial for the children to keep them until the Friday, when I will collect them in and they will bring home a new one. **Books must be returned the following Friday to enable a new book to be sent home.**

On Mondays the children select a sharing book from our classroom library. This is for you to enjoy together at home. **Please return this book the following Monday.**

PE:

PE will continue to be on a Friday in Robins. On this day, children should come dressed in their PE kit which they will wear all day. Please do however ensure they have a school / PE jumper and trousers for colder weather. On Wednesdays we will have a balance bike lesson to support gross motor development. Mrs Woolston trained in balance bike instruction earlier in the academic year and we are so lucky to have these sessions weekly. The children are able to do these lessons in their uniform, PE kit is not necessary.

Everyday Essentials:

Every day in school your child needs their book bag, water bottle, lunchbox (if not having hot dinners) and a coat. As the weather gets warmer please send your child to school with a sunhat and apply sun cream to your child before coming to school. If your child is able to apply sun cream independently (e.g. the roller ball ones or solar buddy), then they can keep some in their bags for the very warm days to reapply.

The children have been working hard on putting their own coats on. Please continue to work on this at home and also support them with doing zips, poppers and buttons independently. We will of course help them if needed.

Please also ensure they have a spare change of clothes in their bags in case of toileting accidents or if they get messy All children also need to have wellies in school every day as they wear them when working in our outdoor area.

Show and Tell:

We encourage the children to develop their speaking and listening skills by showing the class things they have made at school as well as talking about personal experiences and family news. If your child wants to bring something in from home that they would like to share, we will look after it until it is show and tell time.

Thank you for reading! As always, if you have any questions or you would like further information about anything, please don't hesitate to email the office or come and see me.

Warm regards,

Mrs Patterson