



Welcome to our first newsletter of this school year! We have been back in school for 2 weeks now and the children have all settled in really well to their new classes. Our 29 new Robins have started with us, they have stayed for lunch this week and we look forward to them spending their first full week with us from Monday.

All of our children are back to eating their lunches in the hall, we have held celebrations assemblies face to face with Miss Woodham and Breakfast and After School Club are back in the school house where the children have all been playing so nicely together.

Our newsletters will be sent out to you every other Friday and are full of information about what we have been up to and also informing you of events that are coming up so please take time to read through.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the form sent out earlier this week regarding the restarting of the walking bus. We had an overwhelming response from parents who said that they would like to see this service put back in place so with the help of our lovely volunteers will be restarting the walking bus from Monday (20th September.)

A member of staff and parent volunteer will meet down at the recreation ground car park at 8.40am, they will then wait there with the children until 8.45am when they will promptly leave to walk up the path to the back gate. If you are running late and the walking bus has already left then it is your responsibility to walk your child up the back path, do not allow them to run and catch up or walk on their own. Please do not leave your child at the car park before a member of staff arrives.

If you are walking your children up to the back gate the car park should be much quieter by 8.50am and we advise you to arrive after this time.



We have teamed up with Morrisons to take part in their 'It's good to grow' programme.

Until the 24th October for every £10 spent in store or online, you will get a grow token which we can redeem for a wide range of gardening and growing equipment.

All you need to do is download the 'My Morrisons' app to start collecting the tokens. Please select Stondon Lower from the drop down list and you can start donating your tokens.

Mrs Harrison and the school council have been working really hard to make our secret garden into a bio-diverse space and these tokens will really help us to continue with this project.

Thank you in advance for your help with this, please tell your friends, family and neighbours and ask them to donate their tokens to us. We will keep you updated with how we are getting on.



As you are aware the guidance around isolation has changed meaning that if a member of your household has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, you do not need to isolate if you are fully vaccinated or are under 18 years old.

If a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19 we would recommend (as per government guidelines) that your child takes a PCR test before they return to school even if they do not have symptoms.

Robins class news

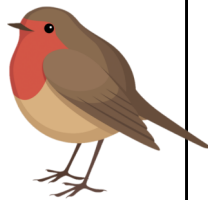
I am pleased to announce that all Robins got together this week following the phased start last week. We now have 29 Robins in our class. Everyone has settled in very well, is making new friends and is now exploring both inside and outside provisions.

Some of the very popular activities were building a house using various wooden blocks and large cardboard boxes as well as junk modelling. Quite a few Robins made binoculars using toilet roll tubes and shakers with empty milk bottles filled with grains and pulses. Digging was another enjoyable activity. The children did not mind getting muddy and carried on looking for 'dinosaur bones' in the garden. These are only a few examples of our many exciting activities. I hope we will have even more fun next week as more new activities are lined up.

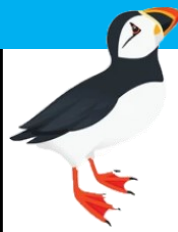
From next week we are also going to gradually introduce some structured lessons such as Phonics, Literacy and Maths. However, there will still be plenty of 'free choosing' activity time throughout the day.

We really appreciate all the support from parents and carers. Thank you.

Early Years Team



Puffins class news



It has been wonderful to see all the Puffins back in school. They have settled in beautifully and are already becoming familiar with the classroom rules and expectations. They have been busy familiarising themselves with the classroom and have shown good recall of the phonics they learnt in Robins.

We have been learning that science means the study of the world around us and have had great fun using equipment to observe, measure and ask questions.

This week we have started our project on seasons and have been discussing how the weather changes and the impact this has on our behaviour and the plants.

The children have also begun to explore the 2 times table and have enjoyed singing our class chant. We are very proud of the way the children have returned to school and are looking forward to an exciting year.

Kestrels class news



At long last the new academic year has started and we haven't wasted any time!

In Maths we have revised numbers to 100 and how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. Next week we will delve a bit deeper into comparison of numbers.

In English we have been enjoying Goldilocks and the three bears and we have play acted different parts and written our own rendition of the story.

We have discovered the names of the seven continents in Geography as well as discussed our observation of the Finding of Moses in Art.

The children have all settled in very well and were so happy to see each other again.



Toucans class news

The Toucans have had an amazing first two weeks back! They have come back ready to learn and to take on the new challenges of Year 3!

In English we have been looking at the book 'The Tin Forest'. We have been using noun phrases to describe two different settings and have used our understanding of recycling to create persuasive posters.



In maths we have been using our understanding of place value within 100 to help us understand numbers up to 1,000. We have used place value grids, base ten and counters to represent a range of numbers and have now started to use number lines.

In Geography we have started our topic of The Rainforest, which links with our English text. So far, we have found out where rainforests are located and have been using an atlas to help us find the countries. We have also looked at the climate of the rainforests and have found out that it's very hot and humid (and rains a lot!!!).

Hummingbirds class news

We have had a fantastic start to the year in Year 4 and got straight back into lots of new learning. In Maths, we have been learning about the place value of 4-digit numbers, representing them in different ways using the part whole model, bar models, place value grids and number sentences.

In English, we have been looking at the book Tar Beach. In the book they fly over the George Washington Bridge in New York, which we all found very impressive and we thought about bridges and why they are so important. We have also been using contractions to give advice and recapped noun phrases to describe what we might see, feel, hear, taste and smell if we flew over the bridge ourselves.

In computing, we have been developing our knowledge of coding and how we can use logical reasoning to help us debug a program and we have enjoyed using Scratch to help us with this.

We have also been doing some DT which is linked to our book in English as Tar Beach was originally a story quilt which you can see in the Guggenheim museum in New York. We are designing our own story quilt using the story of Beauty and the Beast!



This week all of the children in years 1-4 were given the chance to represent their class and join the school council.

Class elections are held every year so that different representatives from each class are given the opportunity.

This year are school council is made up of:

Year 1- Eliza and Bradley

Year 2- Lottie and Tristan

Year 3- Harriet and Hunter

Year 4- Amelia ~(Chair)

Kundi (Treasurer)

Sophie (Secretary)

Linnet (Vice Chair)

Breakfast and After School Club

Breakfast and After School club are now back in The School House which is located to the right of the front playground.

Mrs Davies and Mrs Parsons are there every morning from 7.50am and stay until 5.30pm Monday– Thursday and 4.30pm on Fridays.



If you would like your child to attend Breakfast or ASC then please contact the school office who will add you to the booking group. Bookings are made on Parent Mail where you can also pay for your sessions. We also accept child care vouchers and the tax free account scheme.

If you have any questions then please contact Mrs Greenman in the office.



Year 1-Eliza and Ruby

Year 2– Taylor and Hebe

Year 3– Hunter, Lyle and Betty

Year 4-Ella and Elizabeth



Year 1– Bradley and Piper

Year 2– Jack and Lottie

Year 3– Mae and Bella

Year 4– Jack, Laya and Linnet

TOP TIPS

Please remember to fill in the front section of your child's diary confirming who has authorisation to collect them from school. This makes life much easier for the classroom staff who are each ensuring that up to 30 children are going home with the correct grown up and means that no one is having to wait around while we get hold of you.

It is a good idea to send in some spare clothes for your child to keep on their peg incase they need them!

If you would like your child is in years 3 or 4 and you would like them to have a snack at break time please provide them with a fresh/dried piece of fruit or vegetable (raisins or apricots are ideal). We ask that you do not give the items such as Wingers, fruit bars or nuts.



We already have a number of **unnamed** items in our lost property box! Please make sure that all of your child's items are labelled– especially jumpers, coats and lunchboxes!

**Free
School
Meals**

Are you entitled?

Children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are automatically entitled to free school meals however schools receive extra funding called the pupil premium for children from families who receiving qualifying benefit for free school meals.

If you think you may qualify then please contact CBC on 0300 300 8306. If you would like some more information before calling then please contact Mrs Greenman in the school office

Diary Dates

22nd October	Crazy Halloween hair day
26th– 29th October	Half Term
15th November	Individual and sibling photos