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| St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, Year One – Robin ClassSpring 2016 |

Happy New Year. I hope you have had a good Christmas Holiday and feel ready to embrace the Spring term. Our topic will be called Superheroes. Our curriculum sheet will give you some information about what your child is learning at school this term.

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| **English**We will be reading the story Traction Man by Mini Grey and will learning about character, settings and plot in adventure fiction. We will also be looking at a non-fiction big book on road safety. After Half Term we will base our work around the rhyme The Owl and the Pussy Cat and the story The Naughty Bus. Phonics will continue every day where your child will learn alternative spelling patterns for sounds learnt. | **Mathematics**Children will learn to recite number names in order, read and write numerals from 0 to 50 and beyond, develop their understanding of addition and subtraction, solve problems and puzzles, locate a number on a number track, find 1 more and less, count on and back in twos from zero, doubling numbers and will use halves in context. | **RE**We will be exploring the topics of Christmas, Sacraments and Lent as well as other faiths. The children will be encouraged to reflect on how what they have learnt affects their lives. | **Science**Seasons and Everyday Materials are our topics.We will learn about the four seasons looking more closely at winter and spring. We will identify and name a variety of everyday materials and describe their properties. We will compare materials and their properties, asking questions and undertaking simple investigations. |
| **Computing**The children will be using the computers to draw pictures in art and input data from our Science lessons. We will also be giving Bee Bots instructions to move around an area as well as using cameras and learning about e-safety.  | **Humanities**In geography we will be looking at our local area and continue and continue to develop mapping skills. In History we will be learning about transport in the past.  | **Art & Design/Design and Technology** In our Art we will be practising colour mixing and using collage to make mixed media pictures of Traction Man. In DT we will be making junk modeling materials. | **Music**During our music we will learn simple songs and rhymes that help us develop a sense of pulse. We will learn to the names and how to play some of the percussion instruments. |
| **PSHE** In circle time we will be exploring medicines, who looks after us when we are ill, how we are special, growing and changing as well as setting personal goals and exploring feelings and how we express them. | **PE** In gymnastics we will be pushing and pulling, squatting and rolling and bending and stretching. In games we will be rolling and trapping, catching, striking and kicking, releasing and dribbling using a ball. |

**How you can help your child:**

**Reading**: Please encourage your child to read every day. Any reading to support their topic learning or our English units will give them a boost in our day to day classroom discussions.

**Writing**: Encouraging your child to draw pictures and write at home will make them more enthusiastic about writing. They could: label their pictures, write a shopping list, a menu, a simple letter, a story or anything that interests them. The children will be encouraged to bring in to school any writing they have done at home. They will be praised for this and invited to share their writing with the rest of the class.

**Phonics and Spelling**: The children will have phonics homework each week. Please practise reading an writing the word lists on the Robin’s news every day. Look for sounds in words found around the home, e.g. on cereal boxes, magazines, newspapers.

Visit www.phonicsplay.co.uk for interactive phonics games.

**Mathematics**

Mathematics is fun and is used in all areas of life. You can practice mathematics with your child anywhere; on a walk, in their bedroom, in the car, going shopping etc.

Key targets in mathematics for this term are to:

* Read and write numbers to at least 20.
* Put the numbers 0 to 50 in order on a number line or track
* Know by heart all pairs of numbers that make 10, e.g. 3 + 7, 8 + 2.
* Know by heart all the addition facts for totals to at least 5 and be able to work out the subtraction facts.
* Count at least 20 everyday objects.
* Count forwards and backwards in ones, starting from a small number.
* Count forwards and backwards in tens (zero, ten, twenty, thirty…)
* Use the words *first, second, third*...
* Given a number from 10 to 20, say the number that is 1 more, 1 less, 10 more, 10 less.
* Use the words *add, sum, total, take away, subtract, difference between*… in practical situations.
* Know how to write number sentences for addition and subtraction
* Compare two objects or containers, and say which is longer or shorter, or heavier or lighter, or which holds more.
* Name and describe simple flat and solid shapes, e.g. *It's got 3 corners.*

**Robin Bear**

Robin is our class bear and he will be coming home with you at least once during the school year to spend the weekend with you and your family.

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| **PE kit**: Children will need their PE kits in school on everyday. Kit should include a gold T shirt with the school logo, a pair of navy blue shorts, and trainers. Navy blue tracksuits can be worn for outside PE if the weather is cold. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure that earrings are removed or taped on these days. | **Homework:** Homework will be given out on a Friday and will need to be handed in on the following Wednesday. Please take the time to sit and help your child with their homework, it is important that they see you value what they do in school. |

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Rachel Burrough