

Y1 - Robins Summer 1st 2026



Dear Parents/Carers of ROBINS,

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a wonderful Easter break and enjoyed some well-deserved rest. We are so excited to welcome the children back for what is set to be a fantastic half term. Our new topic, 'Oh, I Do Like to Be Beside the Seaside!', is packed with exciting learning opportunities and I cannot wait to get started!

This Half-Term's Learning

This half term, history is at the heart of our learning as we discover what a trip to the beach looked like in the past and compare it to the seaside holidays we know today. In science, the children will explore living things, identifying and classifying animals, including carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. In English, we will be writing instructions, narratives and letters, continuing to develop our use of capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In Maths, we will be building on multiplication and division by counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, making arrays, exploring fractions and consolidating place value within 100. Our learning will be enriched further through making Punch and Judy-inspired puppets in DT, using our imaginations in music through the Charanga unit 'Your Imagination', and striking and fielding games in PE.

To 'hook' the children into our new topic, we will be creating a collage porthole scene of the seaside — we can't wait to see what the children come up with! At the end of the half term, we will be holding a **class assembly** to celebrate all of the wonderful learning the Robins have done. Families will be warmly invited — more details to follow on Class Dojo!

Changes to Robins Class

We would like to share some exciting news about the adults who will be working with the Robins class this half term. **Mrs Campling**, will be teaching on **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday**, and **Mrs Fasulo** will be teaching on **Thursday and Friday**. We are both delighted to be joining the Robins team and are looking forward to getting to know you and the children.

Mrs Cronin and Mrs Waterman will continue to be our fantastic support staff, as before. I am so grateful for their continued dedication and care for the children.

Home Learning

- To supplement your child's learning, they may like to complete some topic-based home learning. A copy of activities can be found on Class Dojo.

Reading:

- Children should bring their reading diary and reading book into school every day. Children will be expected to read to/with an adult at home at least 5 times a week. This is to be recorded in your diary, which will be checked and signed on a **Monday**.
- Our Read Write Inc. Phonics sessions will continue to take place every day. Your child will bring home a phonics reading book on **Wednesday**, which we would like them to read to you. RWI books include the specific sounds and words they will be learning during that week, so reading this book with you at home is paramount to their progress in phonics. Encourage children to use their "Fred Talk" when sounding out words. Please return this book on **Friday**.
- Children will also be given a levelled reading book which we will aim to change twice per week — on **Mondays and Fridays**. These books open your child to a wider range of vocabulary and enable them to put their phonics learning into practice. Aim to read these books more than once with your child over the week.
- Children will read daily to an adult during the RWI session and 1:1 with a teacher or teaching assistant as regularly as possible. In addition to this, children will have opportunities to listen to an adult read as well as reading to themselves.
- Regularly read to your child at bedtime — research proves that reading with an adult greatly benefits their literacy skills.

General:

- Our PE day is **Thursday** — we will be doing outdoor striking and fielding games. Please ensure children have the correct kit and footwear, and that all PE kit and school uniform is labelled clearly with your child's name. PE kits will need to be in school all the time and will be returned home at the end of the half term.
- **CHANGE OF DAY:** Our forest school day is **Tuesday**. Please ensure children have old clothes you do not mind getting dirty — a long sleeve top and trousers or leggings. As the weather warms up, please apply sun cream before school on forest school days and send in a sun hat. Children will need a thick pair of socks and wellies as the area can get muddy.
- No jewellery is to be worn for PE lessons. If your child cannot remove their earrings on their own, please remove these before school.
- Children may wear a watch and a pair of small silver/gold stud earrings — no bracelets or necklaces.
- No makeup (including tinted lip balm and nail varnish) is to be worn.
- Hair is to be tied up at all times during the school day.
- Your child will need a named water bottle filled with water every day. Please ensure bottles are an appropriate size (500ml) as space is limited.
- Children will come in and out of school via the blue gate. In the morning, please say goodbye at the gate and let your child walk independently to the door, which opens at **8.40am**. Registration is at **8.50am**.
- If you have a message for us, please inform the member of staff on the gate. At the end of the day (**3.15pm**) please wait by the gate where I will dismiss the children one by one. If someone different will be collecting your child, please inform the school office.
- Children should wear black school shoes or plain black trainers to school every day.
- As we move into the warmer months, please ensure your child has sun cream applied before school and that they have a sun hat in their bag on sunny days.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to write a note in your child's reading diary, send an email via the school office (office@downham-ceap.essex.sch.uk) or catch me at the end of the day once all children have been collected.

We are incredibly excited about the half-term ahead and all the wonderful learning opportunities it will bring. I look forward to working together with you to help the Robins soar to new heights!

Kind regards,

Mrs Campling & Mrs Fasulo