



Woodpeckers and Robins EYFS News

Spring Term 4 2017



**Etwall Primary
School**

Welcome Back

We hope you have all had an exciting but also relaxing half term. We are looking forward to hearing all of the children's half term adventures and welcome any interesting show and tell pieces. If the children do bring anything in to discuss with the class please ensure these are not expensive or glass. Photographs, artifacts, drawing and visit leaflets are always welcome and offer a good discussion

Special points to remember:

- * PE kits need to be in school every day.
- * Reading Journals and books in school every day,
- * Read at least five times a week.
- * Phoneme/ Word keyrings are up-dated weekly. Practise daily
- * Swimming day is Tuesday.
- * Woodpeckers library day is Tuesday.
- * Help the children to keep our cloak-room tidy by using draw string bags



We have a very exciting and busy half term and we hope that the children are geared up for lots of exciting activities both indoors and outdoors. The Spring weather should hopefully offer us the opportunity to do more work outside and explore our surroundings and we hope that the children participate in some worthwhile and interesting activities in all subject areas.

British Values



We have been exploring the concept of democracy in Woodpeckers/Robins Reception. The children have been given different opportunities to make a choice and vote. The children are understanding that sometimes what choice they make is not what the majority have chosen and that it is ok. Examples are the children vote for activities, rewards and games. Also weekly the children can vote for the Friday story.

Children's Choice



Which story would you like to listen to today?



Please vote by placing a counter in front of the book of your choice.

Safeguarding: Safer Stranger, Safer Buildings

Kidscape is committed to keeping children safe. With the help of parents, carers, teachers, police and other caring professionals, children are taught ways to deal with: bullies; good sense; defence; approaches by strangers and even by known adults who may harm them.



Kidscape offers a Helpline for parents of children being bullied; publications; child safety training to prevent abuse and bullying; confidence building sessions and advice and information sharing with other caring organisations.

The Kidscape website offers extensive advice for children, parents and professionals.

www.kidscape.org.uk



- ☺ If you get lost, or feel unsafe, and there is no adult around that you know and trust, look for a safer stranger who you can ask for help. If you can't see a safer stranger outside, look for a safer building you can go in to, to ask for help from the people who work there.
- ☺ A safer stranger is a person who is working at their job which helps people. Safer strangers will usually be wearing a uniform. Safer strangers could be police officers, police community support officers, traffic wardens, shopkeepers, check-out assistants, paramedics and others.
- ☺ Safer buildings could be banks, post offices, libraries, medical centres, shops, supermarkets, leisure centres and others.
- ☺ Tell the safer stranger your name. Also, if you can, tell them the phone number of your parent or the person who looks after you.

Spring Term 4 Topic

We are learning about People who help us this half term. The children will take part in activities to explore all the people in our families, school and community that help us.

If you can help let us know. We are hoping to visit our local library too.

The children will also be basing some of their work around what times are special to them and talking about how we share special times as well. This is part of our RE this term, along with the Easter story. We look forward to seeing you at St. Helen's for our Easter Celebrations!

Reading at Home

Sharing books at home is a wonderful time to spend with your child. It is also fantastic for developing English skills. The Book Trust has many resources to help you make this time special. Follow this link to gain ideas to support your child. <http://files.server.booktrust.org.uk/>

usr/resources/351/reading-with-your-child-booklet-for-parents.pdf



Bug Club

Don't forget to log on to Bug Club for additional e books to read at home. Log ins are found in your child's reading journal. The children have access to a wide range of books at their level of reading. Also there are questions and activities to do.



Phonics



Visit Our Website



If you haven't already; please check out phonics play online: www.phonicsplay.co.uk is a great website that we have recently subscribed to and are beginning to use in school during our phonics lessons. There are some great activities and games on the website for children to play as part of their lessons and also independently on class computers and iPad. It is possible for you to access some of these games for your child to play with at home. Your child can then play phonics games that are related to the phase they are working through at school. Go to the website and click on 'Free Phonics Play'.

If you haven't already- make sure you visit our school website. Class pages are updated regularly to show you what we have been learning in and out of class. In addition to this we have our secure 'Learning Platform' for pupils to log into. The Learning Platform allows children to access relevant and educational resources and also create discussion blogs with their classmates. If your child has lost their login details then please ask us.

Mathematics



We are developing a daily quick mental maths activity to support the children in their maths skills. We will focus on counting forwards and backwards to 20. Recognising numerals and the equivalent quantity. We will be using the 100 square and number lines to encourage children to visualize numbers. Also we will look at 2D and 3D shapes. The activities are quick, fun and often include a song. To help at home use number cards to play games and make your own number line.

Golden Rules

This half term we are continuing to promote the Golden Rules. In Reception the children will meet different animals to help them learn about the Golden Rules. The animals are Elsa Elephant says



...You try hard Alfred Alligator says ... You are kind and helpful Zelda Zebra says ... You are gentle Louis Lion says ... You are honest Mona Monkey says ... You listen well Gino Giraffe says ... You look after things

What you can do at home

You can help your child in many ways:

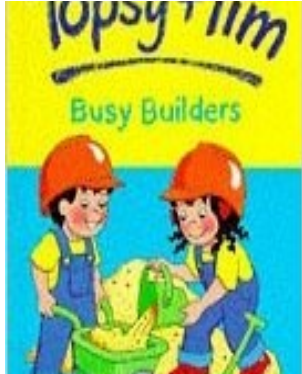
Talk about our topic about people who help us. Look out for people doing different jobs and talk about what the people do. Take part in any of the suggested home learning activities.

World Book Day—2nd March

We are celebrating our love of reading by taking part in an author visit. This year's author is Steve Smallman. He has written many books and will be sharing some with us. Hopefully we will be inspired to be authors too.

Recommended Reads

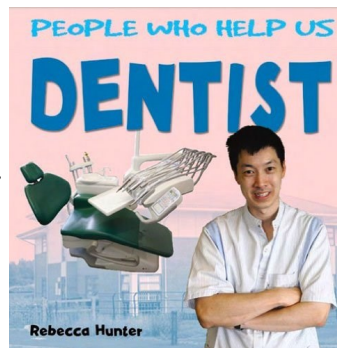
The Busy Builders (Ladybird Topsy & Tim Story-books) by Jean Adamson



There's a lot of excitement when a bulldozer arrives in next door's garden. It turns out that Mr Rupert is having a garage built. Topsy and Tim have a wonderful time joining in the fun and really do become busy builders.

Dentist (People Who Help Us) by Rebecca Hunter

Our Helpers is a wonderful new series of books explaining the roles of different people who help us everyday in the community. Each book is based on a real person as the reader follows them through a typical day at work, what they do, why, and what people they encounter. We find out the hours they work, what happens at lunchtime, the equipment they use, and what they like about their jobs.



Clothing



We are continuing to encourage children to be as independent as possible both in dressing themselves and also when tidying up after activity time. Please try to reinforce this at home as much as possible.

Now that the weather is a little chillier, please could you ensure that your child has a coat and a pair of gloves in school. Also a pair of wellies (in a bag) to enable us to keep on learning outside

Please make sure all your child's clothing is **named**. Unless told otherwise, children are asked not to wear nail polish to school.

MILK

Remember if you would like your child to continue having milk once they turn 5, please contact Cool Milk to arrange payment and delivery to school.

Key dates for your diary

Special points of interest:

- * 20th February Term starts
- * 21st February International Mother Language Day
- * 22nd February World Thinking Day
- * 27th-3rd March World Book Week
- * 28th February Pancake Day
- * 31st March Chocolate Bingo
- * 3rd April EYFS/KS1 Easter Church Celebration
- * 6th April Brain Blaster Workshop
- * 7th April Easter Holidays start