



# Robert Miles Infant School

## Newsletter 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### Staffing

We have a number of changes to our staffing team:

**Mrs DeRusett** leaves us on the 4<sup>th</sup> March when **Mrs Attwood** returns from her maternity leave to take over in Cedar class on the 7<sup>th</sup> March. We will really miss Mrs DeRusett, who has made a great addition to our team and we would like to thank her for all her hard work.

**Mrs Woodhouse** returns from her maternity leave on 23<sup>rd</sup> March and will share the teaching with Mrs Jacques in Beech class.

**Mrs Williams** starts as our new School Business Manager on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. She comes with a wealth of business experience and may well be known to some of you as her children were also Robert Miles pupils! Mrs Williams will work Tuesday to Friday. Thank you to Mrs Poyser and Mrs Cox who have kept our school running smoothly while we appointed.

**Mrs Gore** joins us as our new Forest School teacher. She will be with us every Monday and as well as teaching in the afternoon she will run an Eco-club during lunch time and an additional Forest School session at Kool Kidz on a Monday evening. Your teacher will send out further information about when their class session is.

**Mrs Axten** has taken over as the leader of Kool Kidz. The children have responded really positively to the changes she has made and are having a great time. So far this week they have had balloon modelling and sewing and I know she has planned many more fun activities for the coming weeks. Thank you to Mrs Merrin and the Kool Kidz staff who have kept our wraparound care going while we appointed.

### World Book Week

Next week is our world book week. Miss Justice has sent out all the information about our sponsored read. There will also be a strip of card for children to make their own book themed hat. I have seen past hats and the bar has been set high! I look forward to seeing your creations. Because we love reading so much here at Robert Miles we are introducing 'Reader of the Week' to our Friday Achievement Assembly. Children selected will have their photograph up on our special display board with the reason why their teacher has chosen them.

### School Council

Children in Year 2 have selected their school council representatives. These children had to make a presentation about why they wanted to join the school council and what qualities they would bring. They were voted in by their peers. They will be meeting with me regularly and are responsible for presenting the views of all our school. Look out for our first exciting project.

### Covid

As you will be aware, the government announced changes to Covid law on Monday. Our priority remains keeping our community safe so please be reassured that we will continue to expect any children testing positive for Covid to isolate for at least 5 days. We will also continue to monitor children and call parents/carers to collect children showing symptoms.

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Executive Head Teacher: **Helen Duffy** BA (Hons), QTS, NPQH | Head of School: **Sonja Adams** BA (Hons), PGCE, Fulbright 2005, NPQSL, NPQH

I am really hopeful that we are moving back to our new normal and that we can resume normal school activities again. We are going to restart our Friday Achievement Assembly for those children selected by their teachers and we are looking to plan some community events in the near future.

## **New Guidance:**

### ***Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts***

*From Thursday 24 February, the Government will remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. **Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.***

*In addition, the Government will:*

- *No longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.*
- *End routine contact tracing. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests. Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home.*

Anyone with symptoms should take a PCR test, stay at home and follow government guidance if positive. People who have tested positive will continue to be advised to stay at home for five full days and then receive two negative test results on consecutive days before returning to their workplace or setting. Staff and pupils who test positive should use any test kits they already have at home to undertake testing on days five and six, before returning to school if they test negative.

Thank you for your continued support in these challenging times. Our priority is to continue to provide face to face teaching for our children. Staff are working hard to cover absences and provide continuity. If you have any questions do please ask.

**Please note that we have a final Inset Day in school on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

Kind Regards,  
Mrs S Adams