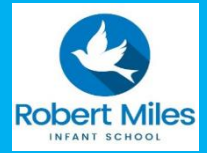


Robert  
Miles  
Infant  
School



February 2018

## Welcome to our new look newsletter

Instead of having a weekly newsletter, we will be sending out a newsletter at the end of each half term to let you know what we have been doing and what will be coming up in the next half term. We will still be celebrating those children who have received certificates for hard work during each week, but they will go on to the website instead. If anything comes up between newsletters we will either send a text message or add it to the latest news section of our website.

## Our new website

This week sees the launch of our new website. It has lots of essential information and over the next few weeks you will see the staff and children adding lots more. The children will have time every week to add to their class pages so remember to check in to see what they have been up to.

## Attendance

As we are at the half way point in the year we are sending out an attendance report so you can see how your child is doing. There have been a lot of nasty bugs around during December and January and we do understand that many children have been poorly. We very much appreciate that many parents have improved their attendance since the last period, and it is also pleasing to note that in the last period there were an increasing number of children with 100% attendance.

## Parents' evening

Children will bring a letter home straight after half term regarding Parents' evening. There is a slight change to the date previously given. They will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Please return the slips promptly to your child's class teacher.

## Little visitors

We have had several cases of head lice in different classes in the last week. Over half term please could you all have a check in your children's hair.



## End of the day

We aim to ensure that each child is only dismissed at the end of the day when the class teacher sees the child's adult. Please can we ask Year 1 parents to keep further back from the door and wait for their child to be sent to them to give the teachers a good view of all the parents.

# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS HALF TERM?

## Reception

As part of our traditional tales topic this half term we read 'The Gingerbread Man'.

To bring the story to life the children made gingerbread men and looked at the changes that occurred when the ingredients were mixed into a dough and then baked as gingerbread men. We talked about how to weigh ingredients and used our senses to describe the smell and feel of the dough as we baked. The children had a brilliant time and tell me the gingerbread men were delicious.



### Stay and Play Sessions

Due to decreasing attendance and changes to our timetable, we have decided to make a change to the Friday morning Stay and Play sessions. After half term, we will run a Stay and Play session once every half term but will increase the length of the session so that you have longer to spend with your children. We will also try to vary the days and times each half term to give more parents and carers the chance to attend.

### Show and Tell

After half term, we will be starting weekly 'Show and Tell' sessions where a small number of children from each class will be invited to bring in something special from home to show to the class. We know the children are always really keen to bring in their own toys from home but we are having an increasing number of children becoming upset when their things become broken or lost. Please can we ask that all toys stay at home unless it is their turn?

## Year 1- Partake theatre

In Year 1 children had an exciting visit from Partake Theatre. They had a fantastic time acting out a pirate adventure story. They dressed up as pirates, visited different islands on the high seas and eventually found the long lost treasure! We went on to use this experience to retell the adventure and practise our sentence writing skills.



### Our next topic

Next half term our topic will change to 'Nature Detectives'. The first day back after half term is a 'Dig and Grow' day where the children will be planting seeds. Please can the children bring their wellies.



### Reading Rainbows

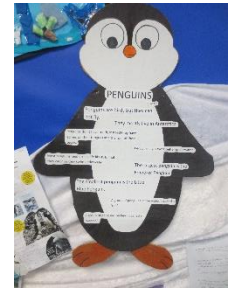
Thank you to all the children and families who have been using their reading rainbows. It has really encouraged some children to read more at home. Keep up the good work.

## Year 2

The Year 2 children have loved the 'Frozen Planet' topic. They made some beautiful collages and have learned all about the effects of climate change. The range of homework produced was superb and the children enjoyed sharing their work with the rest of the class.

Our next topic is 'Africa', where we will learn about the effects of a different climate. We will be learning about African folk tales and will learn a song in Swahili.

Camp: Camp has been booked for the Year 2s Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at Perlethorpe. More details will follow straight after half term and we will hold a parent's meeting to give you all the information.



## The Big Bird Watch

Our school took part in The RSPB Big School's Bird Watch again this year. We watched the birds from our bird hides and saw lots of different species. We uploaded our results to the RSPB website. Thanks to Mrs. Lowings for organising the event.



## Eco news

In January Mrs Lowings and Mrs Eadie took the Eco Warriors to Sainsburys to recycle our donated Christmas Cards. They have decided to reinstate the weekly feather duster awards and have been doing spot checks of classrooms to see who has been tidy and can be the proud winners of the trophies.



## Bookworms

We have been looking at our 'Bookworms' scheme to see how many children are using it and how we could improve the choice of books for the children. We have decided to stop the 'Bookworms' scheme which was available to Year 2 only and use the Scholastic scheme instead. This will give the children a wider choice of books, as the school do not need to purchase them before hand and means we can open the scheme up to all year groups. If any child in year 2 has been saving up for a book we will return any money due. Details of the Scholastic book scheme will follow next term. We would like to thank Molly from Toothill School for her time in running 'Bookworms' last half term.



## Friends of Robert Miles

Cake sale – many thanks to all who kindly donated cakes and biscuits to our recent cake sale. You helped to raise a fantastic £182 for the school.

Social event – it was lovely to see so many come along to the social event on 9<sup>th</sup> February. We will let you know when the next event is planned.

Friends of the School meeting – the next meeting date is set for Thursday 8th March at 8pm upstairs at the Horse and Plough pub. All welcome.

## Dates.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February School reopens

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March World book day

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>/Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March  
Reception height and weight checks

Week of 12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March Signs and Symbols week

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March Parents evening

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March Year 2 group  
visiting Toot Hill library

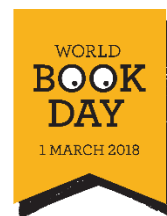
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March Parents evening

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Year 2 group  
visiting Toot Hill library

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March Break up

## World Book Day – Thursday 1st March 2018

Children are to dress up as ANY book character. These do not need to be purchased; home-made costumes often look the best.



Parents will be invited to come into school at 2:50 -3:15pm on World Book Day to share a story with their child.

This year we will be getting involved with 'Share a Story', a nationwide campaign to encourage families to share a story at any time of the day for 10 minutes. We will be introducing this on World Book Day. Children will receive a challenge card that will stuck in their diaries.



At the end of spring term children who have completed the 'Share a Story' challenge card will be celebrated in assembly with a certificate and mentioned on our website.

## Dinner menus: Spring term/Summer term 2018

The new menus are available to view on our new website and are beginning on the 26<sup>th</sup> February.

## Language Lead

Our Language Lead, Miss Wallis, will still be finding songs for us related to our new topics. These will be advertised on the website.

Week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> March will be a 'Signs and Symbols' week in school. We will be encouraging children to sign as much as possible and will be refreshing our use of signs to show respect, thank you, please, how are you? etc... Hopefully your children can teach you at home.