

"We aim high and reach for the stars"



ROBIN HOOD ACADEMY

September 2019 Newsletter

LISTENING TO OUR PUPILS

Our pupils have asked for more clubs outside of the classroom. Please look out for a letter outlining the clubs for Autumn half term. They will run for 8 weeks and cover a wide variety of opportunities. Thank you to our team of dedicated staff who have volunteered their spare time to enable us to run these. More clubs are planned for the Spring and Summer term.

SPARE NOTE-CARDS

Miss Whitcombe would be grateful for any unused blank note cards and envelopes which could be used for positive well being messages. If you have any spare, please send them in with your child or pop them into the School Office. Thank you!

LEGO AND BOARD GAMES

As part of our lunchtime changes, we are now offering wellbeing rooms for KS2. We would welcome any donations of lego and board games to build up our resources in this area. Please drop any donations into the school office. These sessions are already very popular!

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

I wanted to start by welcoming our new families. I hope you are already feeling part of the Robin Hood family and have realised what a unique and valued community you have joined!

We are so proud of our Nursery and Reception children who have settled well and are exploring their new learning areas.

This year, we have exciting new curriculum topics across the school. Our teachers have been tasked with spilling the curriculum topics into the corridors to share our learning with all.

This term, Key Stage 1 are looking at "Memory Boxes" (y1) and "Street Detectives" (y2). Year 3 are embracing the "Tremors" topic and Year 4 are kicking the year off with "I am Warrior!"

You may have already seen the Mummy outside Year 5 - the Sarcophagus is part of University Challenge and will be joining it's owner soon! "The Pharaohs" is always a popular topic. As we head toward Winter, Year 6 are throwing themselves into "The Frozen Kingdom".

Each year group will now have a longer time to spend on each topic, enabling them to deepen the skills and knowledge through the learning and experiences offered.

Mr Holland and the lunch time team are working hard on the active opportunities our pupils have at lunchtimes and looking at new resources to encourage games and enjoyable leisure activities. 'The Robin Hood Mile' will

soon be marked on the playground so that our pupils can start walking or jogging their way to fitness and healthy lifestyles.

We have looked for more ways for our year 6 pupils to help in school this year. The standard of application was high this year and I want to thank each of the year 6 pupils for the effort they went to with outlining their skills set and even providing references. It was a very tough decision!

We have continued with the corridor prefects and librarians but we have now also recruited Communication Champions, who will work on providing information via the monitors in school corridors. We also have Radio DJs, who will be working with Mrs Starling to produce radio podcasts to be played at lunchtime and playing songs selected by the pupils. Our play leaders had their training this week and will be out at lunchtime supporting the growth mindset for sports and games and encouraging all children to join in. We also have Reading and Wellbeing Champions, IT ambassadors. and many more!

Congratulations to Morgan and Aman who are our new Head Girl and Head Boy. I am sure you will see them helping at Parents Evenings and around school as they support the teachers with events and activities.

So, a great start to the new academic year and lots to look forward to!

Mrs Downs

The Worlds Largest Lesson

On Monday 23rd September, we are taking part in the World's Largest Lesson. This is teaching the children

about elements of the 17 Global Goals. Last year 8 million children across the world joined in and this year, the aim is for even more children to be part of this.



PARKING

The school is now getting almost daily complaints about inconsiderate parking around school. It is essential that our families allow time to park considerately on the school run. Pitmaston Road is narrow for the amount of traffic and Parent Forum, alongside the School Leadership, have worked hard to alter bus routes and to look at ways to improve traffic congestion. One of the key causes of congestion unfortunately is poor parking and dropping off on the yellow zig zags. Residents often struggle to leave their own properties during the drop off/collection times, which understandably is frustrating for them and impacts upon their morning routines. There is plenty of free parking at Robin Hood pub, which is a short walk from the school. Members of the public can now photograph inconsiderate and illegal parking and self report. Forms can be collected from the office and sent to hallgreen@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk. They will also email forms if you contact them.

NO PHONE ZONE

Thank you to all of our families who have stopped using mobiles on our site following our campaign. Just a further reminder that the school is a NO PHONE ZONE. This is from the entrances to the school from Pitmaston Road onwards. We request that phone calls are made off site and phones are placed in pockets or bags once on the school site. This is part of our safeguarding of pupils and therefore, if you are using a device on school grounds, you will be approached by staff, or even pupils, to remind you of the rules. Team Protect placed signs around the site last year.

There are devices used across the school by teaching staff for a variety of reasons such as collating assessments and as part of teaching groups. Please be assured that these are overseen by the school and are linked to the e-safety monitoring systems we have in place.



MEDICAL TRACKER

Please remember that the ONLY communication of minor First Aid injuries will be via email. If you have not completed the Medical Tracker form to register your email address, please do so ASAP. This system allows school to have rigorous systems for monitoring first aid incidents to have a proactive approach to risk assessments.

Dates for the Diary!

Monday 7th October '19 - school closed for staff training

Monday 14th October '19 - Open day for new Reception 2020 intake 2pm

Tuesday 22nd October '19 - Open evening to look at books (3:30pm-4:30pm)

Wednesday 23rd October '19 - Parent's Evening (3:30pm - 7:00pm)

Week beginning 28th October '19 - Half term - school closed

Week beginning Monday 4th November '19 - Book fair begins

Friday 13th December '19 - Woolly Jumper Day

Friday 20th December '19 - school closes for end of term

Monday 6th January '19 - school closed for staff training

Tuesday 7th January '19 - school re-opens for all pupils

MEET THE TEACHER

Thank you to our families who attended the Meet the Teacher sessions. Please remember that our staff are happy to meet parents on an individual basis if you were unable to attend and there is a Parents Evening on Wednesday 24th October.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Please remember that applications for our Year 6 pupils are completed directly with the Local Authority and are now online. Click here for the link. The deadline is 31st October 2019 and late applications often lead to a limited choice of school and late confirmation of the school place allocated.

ALDI - KIT FOR SCHOOLS

We are pleased to announce that we are collecting stickers from Aldi's Kit for Schools programme! We need to collect 300 stickers between now and 6 November 2019 which can be gained by shopping at Aldi – one sticker for each £30 spend!

If we successfully collect 300 stickers, we can enter the competition for an amazing chance to win £20,000 for Robin Hood Academy towards sports equipment etc. All schools who collect 300 stickers will receive a superb sports kit anyway – so there's a great reason to help us collect stickers!

Please hand in stickers to in the School Office via class teachers – and tell your relatives, friends, neighbours we are collecting too – we need as much support as possible!

For more information please see <https://www.aldi.co.uk/kitforschools>

We would be so thrilled to reach 300 stickers and with your help we are sure we can make it together!



BE PREPARED

Just a reminder from the office please that we have had an increase in parents needing to bring forgotten items up to school in the day.

Whilst we know this sometimes happens, and we will always do our best to accommodate, we do ask that this is kept to a minimum. It can leave the office short staffed and they are increasingly making multiple trips to pass on musical instruments, lunches and water bottles and other similar things.

UNIFORM

In order to be environmentally friendly and also save our families some money, Mrs Phelan has kindly worked exceedingly hard and has washed all of the lost property left over from last year . It is now available to be redistributed to another home! If you are interested, please mention to Mrs Goodwin in the office the size item you would like and she can see if we have this in stock.

A contribution to School Fund is always appreciated but is not necessary as the aim of this scheme is to reuse the uniform and find a good home for it! Lost property will occasionally be put outside at drop off/collection times for parents/carers to look for missing items, so it is important that you promptly ask children to check lost property if an item is lost.



Chinese Choir



Well done to our Chinese Choir for a fantastic performance at the Mid Autumn Festival on the 15th September 2019 in Birmingham.

Thank you to Mrs Haughey, Miss Dooley and Miss McClelland who also attended. They were so proud of the wonderful ambassadors the children were for our school whilst also showcasing the strength of our Mandarin teaching.

UNICEF RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

We are proud to be UNICEF Rights Respecting School and have gained our Silver Award as we teach our pupils about rights and help to ensure the rights of others are protected. This is shown through out global, local and community work.

Please click [here](#) for an information leaflet which tells you more about UNICEF and the rights we teach.

Keep an eye out for our new Rights Robin around school. He has been designed by Mrs Davis and has 54 sections - one for each of the Articles - all of which are about protecting the rights of children.



SAFETY OF CHILDREN BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

To keep children safe, the playground equipment must not be used before school. Parents and Carers, please support us with this by ensuring you supervise your children before the doors open.
As such a large school, it is very busy on site at collection time particularly. Please do make sure younger children are closely supervised and that where possible, you have them holding your hand or close to you.

LIBRARY

At Robin Hood Academy we are looking forward to launching our brand new library! We would like to raise money to buy furniture and books to make this space the best it can possibly be!

We want to create an inviting space that promotes reading for enjoyment. Our new library will create confident, avid readers who will become life-long learners.

We understand that school libraries play a key part in a pupil's academic achievement across the curriculum and hope that we can raise enough money to reach our school target.

If you would like to make a donation for our new school library, visit the Literacy blog on the school website or <https://supportyourschool.org.uk/robinhoodacademy/robinhoodacademylibrary>

Attendance

We are thrilled that our school attendance figures are heading in the right direction. We do, however, remain slightly below our target of 97% as the school average.

97% attendance equates to 5 days absence and 25 lessons missed.

It is important that **leave in term time** is not taken.

Where a request is made, it must be authorised **BEFORE** the time is taken. The new DFE legislation does not permit the Head Teacher to retrospectively authorise an absence.

Last year, 19 families from our school were fined; a combined total of £2,280 went to the Local Authority,

0 days off school in a year 0 lessons missed	100%	Perfect attendance
2 days off school in a year 10 lessons missed	99%	Excellent attendance
5 days off school in a year 25 lessons missed	97%	Good attendance
10 days off school in a year 50 lessons missed	95%	Slightly below average attendance
14 days off school in a year 70 lessons missed	93%	Poor attendance
20 days off school in a year 100 lessons missed	90%	Very poor attendance

If you have concerns around lateness or attendance, please do speak to a member of staff as we are keen to support our families. Mrs Bracken is in school on a Tuesday and appointments can be requested through Mrs Goodwin in the office.

PARENT COFFEE MORNINGS

A couple of dates for the diary:

MacMillan Coffee Morning - 27th September 2019- more information to come shortly.

Parent Well-being Coffee morning
- Friday 25th October 2019



IDEAS FOR THE SCHOOL

If you have any ideas or comments which would be useful for the school to know, please do let a Parent Forum Rep know. We have the 'You Said, We Did' board by the exit doors by year 5. Please do have a look at the ideas we have listened to and made happen.

The school is a partnership and we are happy to listen to feedback.

Thank you to our dedicated reps who attend the meetings to make sure information is shared. They are a key communication link for our school.

parents
forum