



# Robert Le Kyng Primary School

Newsletter Date – 11th January 2019

## Happy New Year!

Welcome back to school - I hope that you had a relaxing break and that the children are ready for the challenges of the New Year. We have a couple of staffing changes to let you know about. Firstly, we have two new teaching assistants starting in the school - Mrs Merkens-Dow, who will be working mostly in Year 4, and Mrs Copeland who will be based for most of her time in Year 2.

Mrs Benn has now returned properly from maternity leave and will take over from Mrs Mackinnon as the class teacher for class 4 on a Monday and Tuesday. She will also work alongside Mrs Sparks on Wednesdays, with Mrs Sparks continuing as class teacher on a Thursday and Friday. As Mrs Benn was able to work for some time before Christmas, there has been an excellent handover, and Mrs Mackinnon will also stay in touch with the class over the coming term.

Please do not hesitate to talk to the class teachers if there is anything that you need to know.

Mrs Smith

## Change of date for the Year 1 Play

Please be advised that the date for the Year 1 Play has changed from Thursday 14th February to Wednesday 3rd April

## IMPORTANT

School Census day is next week, Thursday 17th January. On this day the number of children choosing to take their free school meal option (those in Reception, KS1 and those entitled to a free school meal in KS2) will determine how much money the school receives.

We would urge as many children as possible to choose a hot meal option as this will impact on the overall economy of the school. Bookings must be made before midnight on 15th January. The children who have booked a hot school meal are able to create their own ice cream for dessert.

Please see the attached flyer for all the exciting toppings available.



## Safety Procedures

We are planning to practise our lock-down procedure this term. We have no information regarding any heightened risk, we regularly do fire evacuation tests and will now be testing our lock-down procedure regularly too.



# Robert Le Kyng Primary School

Newsletter Date – 11th January 2019

## Book Banding for KS2

First of all, I would like to start with an enormous thank you to all parents and carers of children in the school for your support in helping your child to achieve their 5 reads a week. We see how much the children value this and the percentage of children achieving their reads each week is now consistently high. So that we can celebrate more children's achievements, we have bought new reading cups and have split Key Stage 2 into "upper" and "lower" Key Stage 2.

Our next challenge is to make sure that all children are reading books that are at the right level of challenge for them. In the past, when children have completed "lime" books, they have become a "free-reader". While this gives children the chance to choose a book that interests them from a wide range of fiction, this does mean that some children choose a book that is too difficult for them, meaning that they struggle with the content or vocabulary and can be put off of reading altogether. Also, some of our older children will only choose books that are in their comfort zone and are reluctant to push themselves on to new authors and harder texts.

Therefore, we have decided to introduce book bands into KS2 to ensure children are reading books at the right level of challenge. To keep things simple(ish) there are less bands at KS2, which does mean that there is still a wide range of book within each band. Children are likely therefore to move through the bands at a slower pace. Please read the leaflet attached which will give you a little more information about all of the book bands we use (please note, we are calling burgundy "dark red").

Over the next couple of weeks, your child will be told which book band to select their books from and will come home with a banded book. We also understand that children will want to revisit old favourites and to read books from home that may not be in the book bands or are at a different level. This is great as it shows that they are keen to read and are making conscious choices in the texts that they wish to read. However, over time, we would expect them also to try a range of books from their book band and we will be encouraging them to select the majority of their reading from their book band. As I said before, there is a huge range in each band. Books in the school library, in classrooms and in corridors will all be banded so that there should be no lack of choice!

Mrs Beale will be in the library after school on Fridays if you would like to find out more about the book banding.

Once again, thank you for all your help – it really does make a difference to your child's reading!

Mrs Fisher



# Robert Le Kyng Primary School

Newsletter Date – 11th January 2019

## Letters Sent Home

21.12.18 Corinium Museum trip Year 3



21.12.18 Wyvern Dance Festival (specific pupils)

9.1.19 Maidenhead Aquatics photograph permission (Class 8)

9.1.19 Change of date for Year 1 play (Year 1)

## Breakfast Club

We currently have spaces at Breakfast club for term 3.

Please contact the office on 01793 523119 if you are interested in your child attending the Breakfast Club.



## Upcoming events in 2019

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 15th January    | - closing date for Primary School applications |
| Tuesday 5th February    | - Year 3 swimming ends                         |
| Tuesday 12th February   | - Parents' Evening 15:30—17:30                 |
| Wednesday 13th February | - Parents' Evening 15:30—19:00                 |
| Friday 15th February    | - School closed at 15:15—end of Term 3         |
| Monday 25th February    | - Teacher development day (T D Day 4)          |
| Tuesday 26th February   | - School opens at 8.45 for Term 4              |

