**Link Up Robins’ Class – Spring Term 2019**

I hope you all had a magical Christmas and a good start to the New Year. The children have already settled back into school very quickly this term. We had a fantastic day to introduce our topic and the children have already started writing about their day!

Our topic for this half term is ‘Once Upon a Time’ and will be based in traditional stories, including, Sleeping Beauty, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Gingerbread Man, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and many more. We will be reading and writing lots of stories as well as using the tales as a platform for other subjects, such as design and technology. As the children will be hearing lots of traditional stories and new versions of old tales, it would be really lovely if you could share the traditional stories from your own childhood with your child over the next few weeks.

PE will continue to take place on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Therefore all the children need to have a PE kit in school on those days. The village hall can be quite chilly in cold weather so you may prefer to put a pair of tracksuit bottoms into you child’s PE bag. Please ensure that ***all*** items (including clothing, water bottles, and lunch boxes) that come to school with your child are clearly ***named*** to avoid loss. As part of our PE lessons we will be doing gymnastics and showing good control and coordination in our lessons.

During the colder months please ensure your child has a suitable water proof coat and appropriate shoes, as the outdoor area continues to be used as part of our learning environment. We also encourage the children to have regular water breaks during the day so a named water bottle for the classroom is needed. Forest Schools sessions will continue take place every Friday morning. The children will need to come to school dressed in warm clothing that is suitable for the session, I would recommend lots of layers, wellington boots and a change of coat or outer layer. We will get very muddy! Please send your child with their school uniform in a bag ready for getting changed at the end of the session. The children will develop in all areas of the curriculum during these sessions, particularly Communication and Language and Personal, Emotional and Social Development.

Thank you for supporting your child with their reading at home. The children really benefit from 5 to 10 minutes a day to sharing their book at home. A big thank you to all parents who are supporting their child with learning the key words at the back of their reading diaries, the progress made by those children has been fantastic.

Our PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional development) unit this half term is ‘Going for Goals’ and we will be asking the children to reflect on things that they have learned to do. The children will also be thinking about how they can be sensitive of others and be confident to speak in a group. During our topic and linking to our curriculum of Understanding the World we will be baking and growing our own beanstalks! This will be a great opportunity for our maths work too.

I’d like to take this opportunity to again mention our ‘Wow!’ cards, which are a valuable tool for communicating your child’s successes at home to us here at school. Although we spend lots of time making observations of your child’s learning and of course looking at the work they produce, it really helps our judgements of ‘where they are at’ if we can have information from home as well. If you’d like a reminder of the kinds of things we are looking for, please don’t hesitate to come and see me.

Finally, a quick plea! We are once again running low on materials for ‘junk modelling’, so if you can keep hold of any dry recycling (cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes, plastic bottles etc) and send it in with your child that would be fantastic and very much appreciated. We will be using our junk modelling resources to create our own fairy tale castles!

I am sure that this will be an exciting term for all the children, if you ever have any questions or concerns about your child’s time in school, please come and see me, write, call or email.

Kind regards,

Miss Angell