



# Acorn, Maple,

# Chestnut & Rowan News

## This half term we are learning:

**Learning Challenge**– Early Years and the Robots

**Personal, Social and Emotional**- the children will be developing their communication skills by talking about how Robots have no feelings.

**Communication, Language and Literacy** – the children will be encouraged to extend and build on their vocabulary after listening to the story of Harry and the Robots by Whybrow and Adrian Reynolds. The children will be discussing different beginnings, middle and a different end to the story.

**Problem Solving, Reason and Maths**- the children will be finding out 1 more and 1 less to numbers to 10. The children will be using a variety of resources such as dinosaurs, numicon and transport.

**Knowledge and Understanding of the World**- the children will develop their research skills by finding out information about robots, looking at different materials for making a robot.

**Physical Development**- the children will be playing a variety of games and playing on the apparatus.

**Creative Development**- the children will be encouraged to use their imagination to design and make a robot using a variety of media e.g. cotton wool, silver paper, different shaped boxes and rolled tubes. They will be using different media to make robots such as painting, printing and drawing. The children will be listening to the Robot song in Music Express, they will be moving and talking like robots.

As the children have settled back into the school routine after Christmas, we would like to encourage the children to become more independent and come into school by themselves.

*This will start on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January.*

The children will be returning with

★ Super Learners certificates if they have achieved something special in the class.



**Pot of Gold**- We are introducing a new Behaviour System within Maple and Acorn Class, this is a continuation used throughout Watling Lower School. All children's names will be placed on the rainbow, but if they behave in an inappropriate manner their name will be moved down.

If they have achieved something special their name can be moved up towards the Pot of Gold.

**Our favourite learning has been** ... finding out different materials suitable for making Robots

**We are looking forward to:** seeing everyone on the Reading Afternoon – Tuesday at 2.50-3.20pm

Mrs Baldwin and Mrs Ramm made a robot for the children to find.



### Reminders:

Reading afternoon on Tuesday 2.50pm, starting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January;

Please bring in **Green Phonics** book for new sounds every **Friday**;

Acorn PE is on Tuesday and Thursday and Maple PE Wednesday;

To allow your children to become independent to come into school by themselves;

Every child to have wellington boots in school .

The children have been making robots using a variety of materials.



Our favourite learning in **CHESTNUT** has been:

*"I liked dressing up as a pirate," -Matthew*

*"My pirate costume was cool!" - Chanice*

We are looking forward to: Making treasure chests, maps and writing a pirate diary entry.



Arghhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

Give me your treasure!

**Reminders:**

Please remember children need water bottles in school every day.

## Our favourite learning in **ROWAN**

We have started our Theme about Pirates and Treasure. We have learnt what Pirates did, and we were surprised to know that pirates didn't really have wooden legs and eye patches or parrots! We liked learning about what life was like on board a pirate ship. Pirates had their own Code of Conduct, and could be punished if they didn't follow the rules!

### We are looking forward to:

Making our own treasure maps and treasure chests.



### This Weeks Reporter is: **Abigail**

To start our theme about Pirates and Treasure, Mr Little made a treasure hunt for us to follow. We started with one clue in the classroom and sent us to somewhere else in the school to find the next clue. Each clue had a letter on the back, which we had to make into a word. Once we had found all the clues and made the word, we won the treasure!

## Home Start

Support and friendship  
for families

Home-Start, the family support charity, are looking for caring local parents and grandparents to join their organisation.

Home-Start volunteers spare just a couple of hours a week to offer practical support and friendship to families with young children who are going through a difficult time. In today's society where families are often spread around the country there isn't the same support network that there was years ago. We recognise that neighbours count and everybody needs a friend.

What do Home-Start volunteers get back? If our volunteers are to be believed, then far more than they put in. Our volunteers talk about the personal satisfaction they get from supporting other parents. Many say what a big boost volunteering has given to their self-esteem and confidence.

Increasingly we find that volunteering for Home-Start enables people to get a foot on the career ladder particularly in jobs in health and social care.

We have a new volunteer Preparation Course beginning at the end of February. The course is accredited by the Open College Network and is informal, fun and informative. Training is free and all expenses while supporting families are paid for.

For more information ring 01525 374656 or email [office@home-startcentralbeds.org.uk](mailto:office@home-startcentralbeds.org.uk).

Website: [www.home-startcentralbeds.org.uk](http://www.home-startcentralbeds.org.uk)