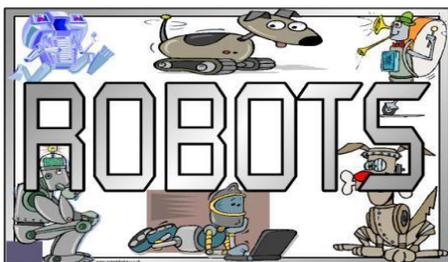




Dear Parents, Carers and Lower Dart Children,

Spring Term 2018

It's been a busy, but great start to the term and may it continue with lots of fun, exciting learning and growing brains! This term, Miss Mount will teach the children all week, except on Wednesday afternoons, when they will have Charlotte Bowen for PE and Tom Deam for Violin. We have the wonderful Debbie Dracup (Tues, Weds and Mondays or Thursdays), who will be supporting the whole class and some individual children with their studies, in and out of the classroom. We also have amazing Claire who is our 1:1 support, all week.



Topic: Our topic this term will be **ROBOTS**. The children have already shown lots of enthusiasm and have had lots of interesting discussions about the topic, which raised many questions. This theme will run through much of the children's studies, particularly within computing, maths, literacy, science and design. Children are welcome to bring in their robots for us to see on Tuesdays, when we have a topic focus.

Curriculum: The children will be developing their literacy skills and the Year 2s will continue to build on all the skills and knowledge that they will need for their SATs tests in May, with work linked to the above theme. All children continue to have four phonics/spelling sessions a week, including the test on Wednesdays. The children will have a maths lesson each day, focusing on a range of mental and written strategies. Children will then be able to move on to be able to use those skills in a variety of problem-solving situations. We will continue to encourage the children to learn their times tables at school (Times Table Towers!) and we need you to continue this at home, as well as practise written methods of calculations.

PE: Your children will need their PE kits in on Wednesdays and Thursdays. It is very important that they have kit in school for their PE sessions on these days especially in the colder weather. Gymnastics and (robot!) dance is our main focus and we hope to get as many children as possible to various festivals and competitions.



Homework: We will continue to send spellings home as from this week. Please make sure the children have a chance to practise them for the test on WEDNESDAYS. The class have had an input into their robot-themed homework tasks and one should be completed each week of their choice, to be handed in on THURSDAYS. The tasks are designed to be fun and some may be done on their own - some tasks will need your help, but they should be fun for you as well!



If would like to discuss any aspect of your child's school experience during the term, or if you have any concerns, please feel welcome to drop in to see us. We are also very happy if you would like to come into the classroom and see first hand, the sort of experience your child is having in Lower Dart.

We will be taking great care to ensure all members of the class are challenged in their work and enjoy all aspects of their learning. We have a continued emphasis on Building Learning Power, but we will also get the children to understand and reflect on the different learning styles that they all have. Thank you for helping us by encouraging your child to complete their homework and by having the right learning equipment (and PE kit) in school every day.

Sophie Mount, Debbie Dracup & Claire Hutchins.