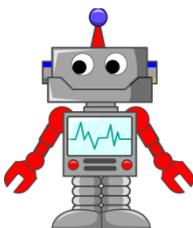


**NORTHSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL YEAR 4 - HALF TERMLY LETTER
SPRING 2017, SECOND HALF TERM**



Dear Parents/Carers,

Our topic for the next six weeks will be all about robots. We will be looking at the practical aspect of robots through our DT and science lessons with a focus on 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes followed by 'The Lost Thing' authored by Shaun Tan in Literacy lessons.

Literacy: The children will be working on their sentence structures through apostrophe work, punctuation skills and using a variety of adjectival phrases when writing character profiles and poetry. This will continue through less formal writing after looking at the language features used within 'The Lost Thing'. The children will develop their speaking and listening skills by presenting their work and working in groups to discuss the learning. This half term will also host Book Week where the children will be exposed to a huge range of exciting stories and writing by attending author and teacher led workshops with opportunities to create their own stories.

Numeracy: To begin with, we will be looking at mental multiplication and division in relation to recognizing effective mathematical strategies and recall of multiplication facts. We will move onto looking at recognizing place value within numbers and solving practical problems that involve increasingly large positive numbers. Written multiplication will be explored through a series of problem solving activities which will include both number and real life questions the following week will encompass position and direction through movement of specific points coupled with measuring, drawing and calculating area. Finishing off the term we will look at statistics comparing, estimating quantities of a variety of graphs and charts.

Additional subjects: The children will be learning about electricity by exploring how circuits are designed, work and created through constructing circuits with differing features such as lights, conductors and insulators. In DT lessons we will be looking at constructing functional toys within small engineering teams to design and create their own toy with the inclusion of circuits from their science work. In geography we will be exploring how to use Ordnance Survey maps and use fieldwork to observe, record and present the human and physical features within the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

Homework: Homework will be given out on a Fridays to be handed back in the following Wednesday. The children will receive spellings to learn each Friday in preparation for a test the following Friday.

As advised by the government, schools are now required to promote the following British values:

- Tolerance
- The Rule of Law
- Democracy
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect

The children will learn all about Mutual Respect in PSHE, through assemblies, in Literacy and throughout the school day.

To support your children's learning:

- Please take your child to the local library to encourage them in their reading of both fiction and non-fiction literature.
- PE kits must be in school all the time – black shorts, white t-shirt and plimsolls or trainers.

If you would like to know more about what we are doing, or you have any queries concerning your child, please make an appointment to see me after school.

Yours sincerely, Mr Tibbs, Year 4 class teacher