



# ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

*In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning*

Academic Year 2018-19

Issue 4 April 2019

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## From The Co-Headteachers

This half-term has once again been very busy at Roxeth. We started by thinking about how to stay safe and in particular the NSPCC PANTS rule. This was delivered in a light hearted way and as a follow up, the children have all designed and coloured paper pants that I hope you have seen on our ground floor display. Should parents wish to find out more about this topic, the following link is excellent and has some ideas as to how parents can broach this subject with children too. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/>



There have been lots of 'special days' this half term; on Shrove Tuesday, Mrs Afsari told us all about pancakes and why we make pancakes at this time of year. To the left we see Louling and Hugh trying out their cooking skills!

On World Book Day, 7<sup>th</sup> March, we held a celebration of books and reading. We shared our love of books by dressing up as our favourite book characters. Thank you to parents for all the effort you put in to make the children look so spectacular. See page 5 for more photos.



The highlight of the term, however, has to be our trip to Willows Farm, St Albans on the 28<sup>th</sup> March. This trip was the culmination of work done at school on animals, habitats and learning about food and where it comes from. The children met guinea pigs, goats and ducks in the farmyard pens plus bigger farmyard friends such as sheep, pigs and cows in the paddocks. The excitement on



the coach as we travelled there was so wonderful to witness. I hope your children told you all about it. See page 7 for more photos.



It was wonderful to receive this wonderful endorsement of our work recently from a parent... *"We are absolutely thrilled with Roxeth Mead where our son has settled in and blossomed beautifully since he started there last October. We feel that you are doing a terrific job with the school and the staff and values of the school are truly outstanding".* Thank you!

We wish you a wonderful Easter everyone and we look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Mackintosh

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Thank you to everyone for supporting our PTA day of Easter fun on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April, when we invited all the children to wear an Easter bonnet or hat that they have helped to make at home. During the day the children took part in a parade and then celebrated with an egg hunt in the afternoon - with The PTA hosting an afternoon tea with home baked goodies. Thank you to the parents who helped out and those who supported the event.

Neena Anand, PTA Chair



## News from the Baby Room

The babies and toddlers have settled in really well and adapted to the staff changes and their room environment. They are doing so well with the daily timetable and can now anticipate what is coming next. With lots of sensory play and discovery time they are having a wonderful time. I have really enjoyed getting to know all of your children and being part of such a lovely school family.  
Mrs Samson.





## News from Pre-School

I cannot believe we are now two thirds of the way through the school year - the time has flown and Pre-school has indeed been a busy (and, at times) a noisy place! Friendships have been cemented and I get so much satisfaction seeing the children now gain pleasure and joy from playing as a group - using their imagination and life experiences in their play. Without exception, their social skills have improved considerably and they generally play together without confrontation or fuss and have an awful lot of fun! I hope your child tells you all about what they do!

The children have continued to be eager and enthusiastic learners and produce work of a high standard. One of the favourite activities has been making and playing musical instruments, using a variety of ways to produce sounds. We have made number crowns, kites, puppets, sheep and masks and enjoyed our favourite books and stories during the week of World Book Day. The children's numeracy and literacy skills have improved and some children are now beginning to be independent workers, having listened to the instructions and now being able to complete the task in hand.

I would just like to say to all the pre-school parents that you should be very proud of your children. I often contemplate on how well-mannered they all are when they are sitting and eating their snacks. They know eating is a social occasion - when we take turns, listen to others and wait for others to finish - a quite exceptional skill at this age and it makes my job one of the most rewarding roles.

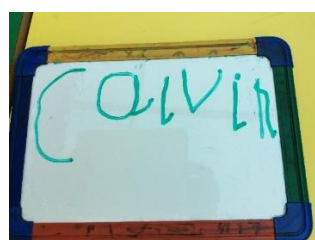
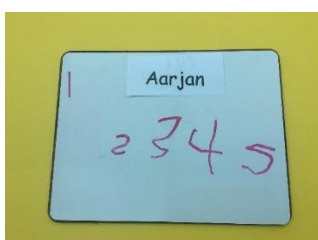
Mrs O'Neill



## News from Nursery Class

Oh my, how time flies! We have been very busy this half term in the Nursery Class. The children have enjoyed learning about our topics on Healthy Eating, Farm Animals, Spring and Easter. Be sure to test your children on healthy food and non-healthy food - I'm sure you'll be impressed at how much they know! The children had a fantastic day at Willows Farm and consolidated their learning about farm animals. We saw many animals that we had been learning about, such as cows, sheep, pigs, chickens and goats. In literacy, we have continued blending sounds and reading words. The children have had opportunities to read and match words with picture cards. We have also been learning to write our names independently, which has been a great achievement for the children.

In numeracy, we have been counting to sounds and objects and matching the correct number. We have also been learning to order the written numbers 11-20. The children are also practising to form the written numbers 1-10.

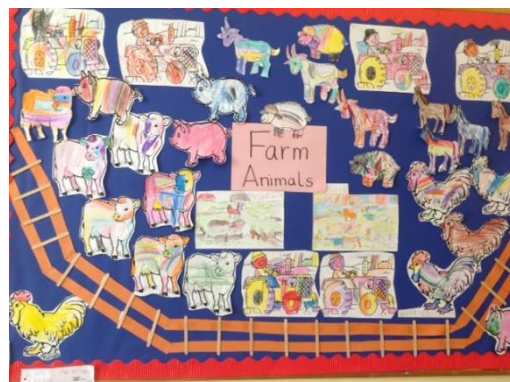


Mrs Afsari



## News from Reception Class

It has been a very busy second half of the Spring Term. The children in Reception Class have been extending their learning through the various topic related activities. The topic of Healthy Eating tested their chopping skills, when they prepared a fruit salad and the PE lesson emphasised the importance of exercise for keeping healthy. The topic of Weather saw the children sorting out the musical instruments that sounded like rain, hail stones, thunder and wind. The children dressed up for World Book day as their favourite character and raised money for Red Nose Day. The children could not contain their excitement about our trip to Willows Farm when we talked about Farm animals. They are looking forward to the Easter Egg hunt and the Easter Bonnet parade.



## News from Year 1

The last six weeks have been a whirlwind of activity and learning and Year 1 have shown some amazing progress. We have based a lot of our topic work around the inspirational book 'The Snail and the Whale', by Julia Donaldson and the children loved creating an underwater picture with many different sea creatures taken from the book. They worked as a team to make the final piece and it looks wonderful (photo to the right). Well done to all!



This also tied in with our geography work on the weather, where we looked at the different seasons and what to wear at these times, as well as learning the various weather symbols. The children loved doing our daily Year 1 weather report at registration - see Mayya presenting our weather report on our home made TV, left!





In Maths we have looked at Time, both analogue and digital and all children showed amazing understanding and progress throughout the unit. It is wonderful to see them all coming in with their watches since this time. We have also spent time learning about money and using the coin of greatest value first when making a total amount. The role play area now has a fruit and vegetable shop so children can practise these real life skills.

In Science we have been learning about plants and life cycles. The class loved their work based on the lifecycle of a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. We also had very interesting discussions during RE, recounting the Easter story and discussing concepts such as selflessness and forgiveness.



Thank you to all parents who have helped children with reading, handwriting and other work at home, which has really helped to consolidate our learning. It really has been a great term and I have felt privileged to have taught such a lovely, hard-working and thoughtful group of children. Have a wonderful holiday and I look forward to seeing you all in the Summer term.

Mrs Conway

## Photos From World Book Day





## Computing

During the past half-term our Pre-School and Nursery children have been working on a variety of sequencing activities – on the computer and unplugged too. World Book Day saw them listening to the story of 'Dear Zoo' before attempting to put pictures of the animals in the correct order to match the book. It was lovely to see them taking turns and helping each other with this task.



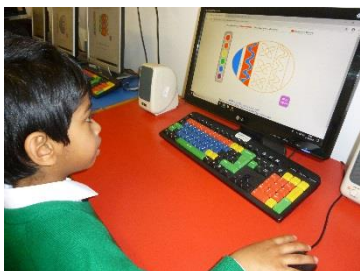
Our Reception and Year 1 children have been finding out about robots and how we can give them instructions to do things to help us. As well as using the floor robots to test out their programming skills, the children also had fun being real-life robots too.



The children in Year 1 have been using online resources to find out about recycling – I was really impressed with their understanding of this important topic. On a lighter note, Pancake Day gave them the chance to put together a real-life algorithm for making pancakes!



With Easter approaching, the children in our Reception class have been busy decorating eggs and using an alphabetical keyboard to type their names. The excitement as their creations emerge from the printer is always great to see and the display in their classroom was absolutely lovely.



Mrs Ellis



## Spring Term Trip to Willows Activity Farm

We had an amazing time at Willows Activity Farm, as these photos show. Thank you to Mrs Glynn for her fabulous photography!







## Parents' Information



### Leavers and Joiners

We are pleased to report that a number of our pupils have been offered places at Orley Farm, Quainton Hall and Northwood College for September. This is a testament to the wonderful work that our staff have done over the past months and years to prepare the pupils for these much larger schools.

This is a reminder, that if you have not already put in writing that your child will be leaving in July, please do so as soon as possible, in order to honour the term's notice as outlined in our Terms & Conditions. In addition, the earlier you let us know, the better, so that we can then allocate your child's space to others who are on our waiting list.

Many Thanks



## After School Clubs – Summer Term

We are pleased to be able to offer the following clubs in the Summer Term.

### Monday - Mother Nature Science Club

8 sessions - April 29<sup>th</sup>, May (BH on 6<sup>th</sup>), 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, (HT on 27<sup>th</sup>), June (inset day on 3<sup>rd</sup>), 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>

Club time: 3.00pm-4.00pm in the Hall

Age group: Age 4+

Price: £88.00 (£11 per session)

Pay Mother Nature directly

- To Book and Pay Online you will need to go to <https://www.mnature.co.uk/wp-login.php> and Login / Create an Account (always the blue button in top right of website).
- You will then be taken to the Booking Page where you can select Science Club; choose your School from the drop-down menu and add your registered children.
- First time booking online? You will need to click the Create My MNS Account button in the yellow login page – it takes 2mins and only needs to be done once.
- or call 020 8863 8832 to pay with card over the phone, for an additional £1 admin fee.

### Tuesdays - Yoga

10 sessions – April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, (HT on 28<sup>th</sup>) June 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>.

Club time: 3.00pm-4.00pm in the Hall

Age group: Age 3 and a half + - Please note age range lowered since our email

Price: £100 (£10 per session)

Pay Flying Yogis directly. Email [vanessa@flyingyogis.co.uk](mailto:vanessa@flyingyogis.co.uk)

### Wednesdays - Art & Crafts

10 sessions – April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22, (HT on 29<sup>th</sup>) June 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>.

No session July 3<sup>rd</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>.

Club time: 3.00pm-4.00pm in the Art Room

Age group: Age 3.5+

Price: £63 (£7 per session)

Pay Roxeth Mead School directly – Mrs Blunt will invoice you.

### Thursdays - Taekwondo

10 sessions – May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, (HT on 30<sup>th</sup>) June 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Club time: 3.00pm-4.00p in the Hall

Age group: Age 5+ (Children have to be 5 due to Instructor insurance)

Price: £130 (£13 per session).

Pay Roxeth Mead School directly – Mrs Blunt will invoice you.

All clubs are offered on a first come first served basis. We will not run the club if too few pupils sign up. If you have not already emailed Mrs Mackintosh to get your child's name on the list – please do so asap.

## Local Holiday Clubs

### Our sister school, The Hall School, Northwood, is offering a Holiday Club from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April

The fees are as follows:

1 year olds - £25.00 per morning or afternoon session, £50.00 daily 9-3pm

2 year olds - £20.00 per morning or afternoon session, £40.00 daily 9-3pm

3+ year olds - £15.00 per morning or afternoon session, £30.00 daily 9-3pm

Breakfast and afterschool club £10.00 per session, all ages

Please note that children staying for the whole day will require a packed lunch as there is no hot lunch provision during this time.

Please email Mrs Wilson at The Hall School on [info@thehallschool.com](mailto:info@thehallschool.com) to check availability and book a place.





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



### APRIL

Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	All day	Staff Training Day – no pupils in school
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	8.30am	Pupils return after Easter Holiday

### MAY

Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	3pm	Break up for half term
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### JUNE

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June		Staff Training Day – no pupils in school
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	8.30am	Pupils return after half-term
tbc	tbc	Summer Term Trip

### JULY

Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30 – 10.45am	Sports Morning – parents are invited to watch their child take part in sports events
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	3.00 – 6.00pm	Summer Fair
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	School breaks up for Summer Holidays

## TERM DATES 2019/2020

### Autumn Term 2019

Thursday 5th September- Thursday 12th December at 12 noon  
 Half Term: Monday 21st October - Friday 1st November  
 Staff Development Days: Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th September

### Spring Term 2020

Wednesday 8th January – Friday 3rd April at 12 noon  
 Half Term: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February  
 Staff Development Days: Tuesday 7th January

### Summer Term 2020

Wednesday 22nd April- Fri 3rd July at 12 noon  
 Half Term: Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May  
 Staff Development Days: Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st April