



ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning

Academic Year 2018-19

Issue 5 May 2019

In This Issue:

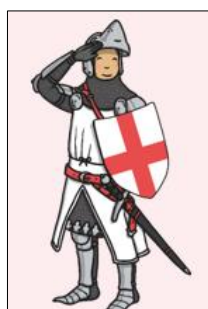
- From The Headteachers
- PTA News
- News from the Classes
- Computing
- Parent's Information
- Dates for Your Diary

From The Co-Headteachers

We have seen so much joy in learning this half-term, mostly related to insects! It has been a very exciting time in Early Years as the children have been learning about Minibeasts. They have been learning their names in English and French and looking at their body parts and where they live. The children have begun to understand the concept of a lifecycle, with a particular focus on the lifecycle of a butterfly. To help the children understand this, there have been real caterpillars in tubs in the classrooms. We have watched them grow steadily day by day. As we write, the caterpillars have wrapped themselves into cocoons, but after half term we hope to see them emerge and become beautiful butterflies, flying around their butterfly house.

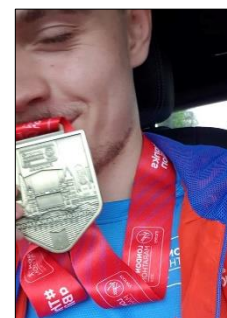


Now the weather is warmer, we have also been in the garden searching for other creatures as part of our mini-beasts topic. It has been joyous to see the children's faces light up with glee as they find various creepy-crawlies in the shrubs or under rocks.



In April, to mark Saint George's Day, we learnt about the legend of the brave knight George and his struggle to overcome a nasty dragon to free the princess. St. George is remembered as a brave, courageous, chivalrous, honest knight who protected people – honorable attributes that we can all aspire to today.

Matthew Goodwin visited our Friday Celebration Assembly at the end of April to talk about his attempt to run the London Marathon and his desire to raise as much money as possible for Myeloma Charity, a charity very close to our family's heart. He completed it in 4 hours and 9 minutes, a very respectable time for his first attempt. Well done Matthew and thank you to parents who donated to this very worthy cause, in total Matthew raised £2,000.



In other assemblies, we discussed good manners and respect – saying "please may I" or "please will you" and "thank you", sharing and taking turns and putting hands up rather than interrupting. We also discussed how to respect our environment too. Ask your child to sing you our "Please and Thank you Song" that we sing at every lunchtime.

Finally, we say goodbye to Mrs Ahmed who leaves this week, earlier than anticipated, to prepare for the birth of her twins. We wish her all the very best for the new arrivals and we can't wait to see a photo or two!

Have a lovely half term break everyone!

Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Mackintosh

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Roxeth Mead PTA

Our Sports Day will be held on the morning of Friday 5th July and the Summer Fair that afternoon. We have already got a number of exciting events planned for the fair including a bouncy castle, face painting, Bollywood dancing, cake decorating, art and craft activity tables, professional photography, nearly new book and toy sale and of course lots of food and drink!

If you have some ideas of other things we can do or if you can help, please let me know!

Neena Anand, PTA Chair



News from the Baby Room

The children in the Babies and Toddler room have been busy this half term with lots of fun activities. We have been supporting the children with their growing independence and self-help skills. The children have been strengthening their fine motor skills through different activities and have enjoyed our topic activities. We have also enjoyed watching our class caterpillars change and grow and we await their magical transformation into a beautiful butterfly.



News from Pre-School

Easter seems just a couple of weeks ago and I hope you enjoyed the long sunny weekend and now (finally!) the sun is out and we are able to enjoy our garden. The garden is such a valuable aid to learning and indeed, we have been using it to observe the changes in our garden as the weather gets warmer and have been on a mini beast hunt. The children found a bush covered in caterpillars as well as worms and woodlice.

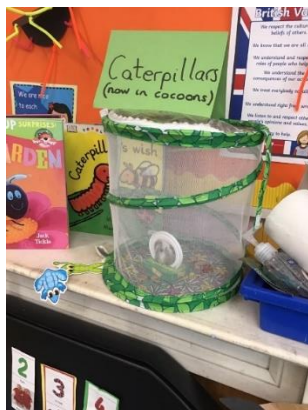
You may have heard on the news recently about playtimes being cut and, certainly with the younger children I absolutely believe the garden is a wonderful place for children to play with friends, sort out disputes, decision make, risk take and, of course, exercise. All these are a vital part of children's development.

The children have welcomed Aiden, Jemima and Shasvan into the class this term and their kindness has undoubtedly helped these children settle well.

We have been lucky to have some caterpillars in our classroom and they are currently in transition to becoming butterflies. The children have enjoyed observing the changes and are aware they are now in cocoons. The topics we have covered this half term which has largely been new life, animals and their habitats are always popular and we have been busy again painting, threading, mask making, colouring, sticking as well as singing, dancing and making music(!!!!!!!). I hope you enjoy the photographs.

If you do not regularly complete the scrapbook, the 'magic moment' slips are now available. Can I just reiterate how important these are as an aid to prompt your child to talk about their weekend or what has happened in their life outside of school. The children in my class often do not understand the concept of the past accurately and if I ask what they did at the weekend they often will reply with where they went on holiday recently. I cannot tell you how important it is for me to be able to help them speak about their recent experiences - it aids all aspects of language development and confidence speaking to a group. I look forward to seeing your "Magic Moments".

I wish you all a happy bank holiday weekend and a sunny half term, Mrs O'Neill



News from Nursery Class

The nursery class children have been super busy this half term! The children have enjoyed learning about our topics on life cycles, mini beasts and pets.

The children have had opportunities in our creative sessions to paint mini beasts independently, copying a sample. We have painted butterflies, caterpillars, ladybirds and bumblebees. The children were able to make ladybirds using their cutting skills by cutting around shapes.

In literacy, we have continued blending sounds in Circle Time with the help of Tom the Tiger. Tom is our little phonics puppet, Tom sounds out simple words and the children have opportunities to say what word he is sounding out. It is a fun way for the children to blend sounds.

In numeracy, we have been learning to recognise the written numerals to 100. The children have also been practising to form the written numbers 1-10. We have also been learning about 2D and 3D shapes.

The children have really enjoyed "Show and Tell". Thank you for all your support.

Kind regards, Ms Afsari



News from Reception Class

Just as the Summer term whizzes past, it has been a very busy time in Reception class. In the Maths lessons the children have been learning about Time, Shapes, Patterns, practising Addition, Subtraction and Money. They helped to fill a number grid to 100 with 1 pence coins, only to find out that it was just worth £1. They had fun counting in twos, fives and tens and learnt to buy toys of their choice from our makeshift shop using coins.



In our Literacy lessons they made an effort at independent writing after listening to the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar and The Bad tempered Ladybird.

Our PE lessons have been about preparing for Sports Day and practising racing, working in pairs to throw and catch a ball and learning to kick it.

As part of our topic work on Lifecycle of a plant, the children sowed a runner bean seed, nurtured it and were very excited to see it grow. The topic of Dinosaurs helped them to learn about the different types, their habitats, their food and why they became extinct. The volcano eruption experiment with Miss Turei caused amazement and excitement. In the art lessons the children worked with clay, playdough, made and painted Dinosaurs and experimented making new colours by mixing paints.

Mrs Kalsi and Miss Turei



News from Year 1

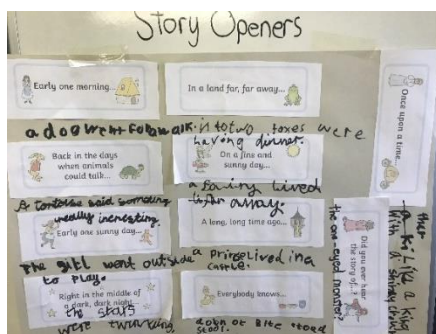
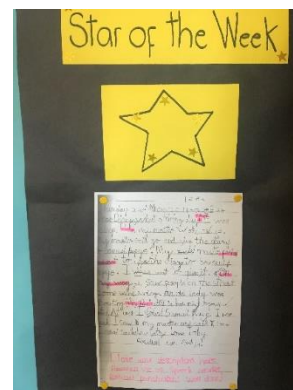
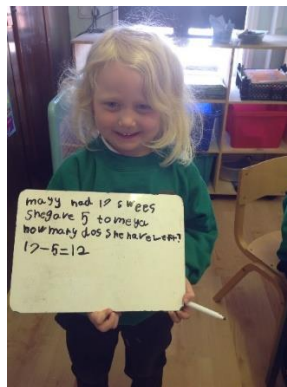
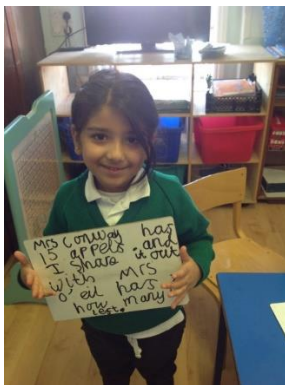
This half term has flown by and the children have produced some amazing work during this time. The children have absolutely loved learning about the Great Fire of London and can recall all key facts. They have been working on a diary entry from 1666 (see Star of the Week photo), as well as a news report from this period. We aptly named our paper 'The Pudding Lane Times' and had fun doing 'live' reports, as well as written ones. The whole class are trying so hard with their writing and it is paying off, as I find myself, marking work that is beautifully constructed and in flowing, joined up handwriting. It is a great pleasure to read!

In Maths, we have recently focused on addition and subtraction patterns. The children have loved learning our 'Hey 20' song to recall number facts to 20 and this has helped them a great deal in their learning. They have even begun to write their own word problems (see photo), as we spent time discussing the language used in association with each operation ($-$ $+$ \times \div).

In Science, we have been looking at forces and experimenting with pushes and pulls. This is a very hands-on topic, which the class have all clearly enjoyed. They have also been extremely enthusiastic about our Healthy Living topic, sharing ideas about how they might eat more healthily and other ways in which we can look after our bodies. It is wonderful to see the children beginning to make their own informed decisions.

It is lovely that we can have more of our PE lessons outside and the sunshine was a welcome visitor during this half term! We look forward to a sunny, happy and fulfilling rest of the summer term.

Have a lovely break! Mrs Conway



Computing

This half-term seems to have flown by! Our Nursery children helped to sequence the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and sorted out Ted's day too. These skills will help as they move on to putting instructions in the correct order to create algorithms. They have also been introduced to the Beebots...as you can probably imagine, those sessions were very lively!



The children in our Reception class enjoyed listening to and watching Eric Carle reading his book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' before creating pictograms to show just how much food the caterpillar had eaten. The following lesson they used the skills they had gained to show information about some teddy bears having a picnic – the display of their work in their classroom looked lovely. They have also used an interactive game to position 2D shapes to make a picture before using the 'paint brushes' to match the colours.

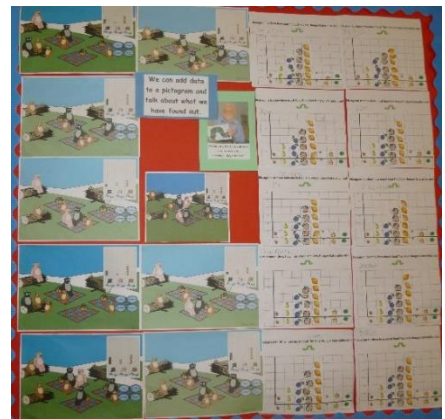
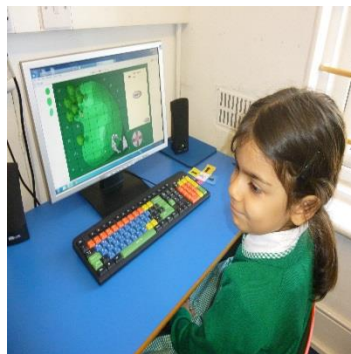
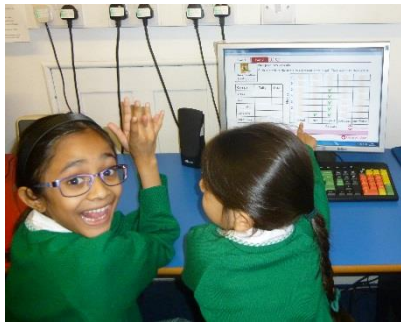


Our Year 1 children have been learning about emojis and using the symbols to crack codes.



They also used emojis to show how they might feel in certain situations – this was linked to the e-safety part of our curriculum.

Interactive activities have helped them to find out more about healthy living (to reinforce their classroom topic) and they carried out a survey to collect information about their favourite fruits, vegetables and cereals. They used the data collected to create tick charts on the computer. These were added to their 'Being Healthy' display. Our Treasure Hunt game gave them the chance to use their knowledge of position and movement as they followed instructions to hunt for the hidden treasure!



Mrs Ellis

Parents' Information



Summer Term Trip

A reminder that we are going to see "The Tiger Who Came to Tea" on Wednesday 26th June. The coach will leave the Welsh Congregational Church, Lower Road, promptly at 9.30am thus all children must be in school by 9.00am. The performance starts at 10.30am and is 55 minutes long with no interval. We aim to be back at school by 12.15pm

where we will all eat our lunch at a special "Tiger Party" including party games, with prizes. As it is a special day, we WILL allow the children to have some sweet treats in their lunch boxes. Feel free to pack crisps, biscuits or chocolate with their sandwich and fruit for this special occasion IF you wish.

Please send your child to school in normal school uniform, with a non-messy snack to eat when we arrive at the theatre and a drink of water in a re-sealable bottle in their green sports bag. The children's lunch boxes should remain at school ready for when we return for our lunch party. There will be no hot lunch from The Pantry available on that day; all children should bring a packed lunch. The party will end at 2pm. Children who only normally attend half day should be picked up then. If your child normally stays all day, you may pick them up at 2pm or at the usual time of 3pm.

OLIVIER AWARD NOMINEE

The Tiger Who Came to Tea



Survey

We hope you saw our recent email about our online survey. If you have not already done so, we would appreciate you spending a few moments to give us your views. Copy this into your internet browser, or use the QR code to access the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RMParentsMay2019>

Thank you!



Magic Moments

As we enter the final term of the academic year, the teachers are pulling together evidence for the childrens' end of year reports and The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) profiles. We want to include evidence from you, the parents, not just what we see at school. We will use anything relevant that you have already included in the scrapbook or the link book, but we really need much more evidence from home; for this reason we are introducing Magic Moments Slips. This is important because the EYFS profile and report is supposed to be a complete picture of your child's development, not just a snapshot of what happens at school. Sometimes, children might show skills at home that their teacher doesn't see – for instance, if your child is very shy at school, the teacher might think that they're not reaching the expected level for self-confidence and self-awareness, but at home, they might be outgoing and chatty. We look forward to receiving your Magic Moments.



End of Year Assemblies

To mark the end of the academic year, we would like to invite parents to watch an end of year assembly by each class. The assemblies will be on:

Pre-School – Thursday 4th July at 9am

Nursery - Monday 1st July at 9am

Reception – Wednesday 3rd July at 9am

Year One – Thursday 4th July at 2.30pm

After School Clubs - Summer Term

Clarification of remaining dates for clubs this term...

Monday - Mother Nature Science Club

June 10th, 17th, 24th, July 1st, 8th

Tuesdays - Yoga

June 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, July 2nd, 9th

Wednesdays - Art & Crafts

June 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, July 3rd.

Reminder - hot lunches are available

Our hot lunches are provided by The Pantry Catering Company. If you wish your child to have hot lunches....



- 1) Visit the website: www.thepantrycatering.co.uk/school_meals/login and register to create a new account
- 2) Fill in the details requested, choosing 'Roxeth Mead School' from the drop down box
- 3) Choose 'Person eating is in year'
- 4) Enter payments details (please note that no child in an Independent School is eligible for free school meals)
- 5) Select your option each day.
- 6) Follow steps to complete payment and booking.

Be Sun Safe

Please ensure your child has sun cream applied before coming to school and a sun hat for wearing when learning and playing outside. We have a number of second hand hats available for £4 each (£8 when bought new).



Local Holiday Clubs

Our sister school, The Hall School, Northwood, is offering a Holiday Club on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th May

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 to check availability and book a place.

Other Clubs:



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

Monday 3 rd June		Staff Training Day – no pupils in school
Tuesday 4 th June	8.30am	Pupils return after half-term
Wednesday 26 th June	All day	Summer Term Trip. Theatre trip to "Tiger Who Came to Tea" followed by a tiger's tea party at school with party games. Pick up from 2pm if you wish.

JULY

Monday 1 st July	This week	End of Year Reports sent home
Wednesday 3 rd July	9am	Reception End of Year Class Assembly
Monday 1 st July	9am	Nursery End of Year Class Assembly
Thursday 4 th July	9am	Pre-School End of Year Class Assembly
Thursday 4 th July	2.30pm	Year 1 End of Year Class Assembly
Friday 5 th July	9.30 – 10.45am	Sports Morning – parents are invited to watch their child take part in sporting events
Friday 5 th July	3.00 – 6.00pm	Summer Fair
Wednesday 10 th	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