



ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning

Academic Year 2019-20

Issue 2 December 2019

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From The Co-Headteachers

What a wonderful few months we have had in the lead up to the Christmas break.

At the beginning of November, we celebrated Diwali and Bonfire Night. The children in all year groups showed their interpretation of fireworks and produced some wonderful paintings. Then we thought about all those who fought for us in wars and why we buy and wear poppies. The hall was decorated with a poppy wreath made by the children in year 1&2 (to the right).



In Road Safety Week (18th – 24th), Mrs O'Neill reminded us of the Green Cross Code and how we need to Stop! Look! Listen! when crossing the road. We also discussed how to keep safe whilst scootering or cycling. We all agreed how important it is to wear a helmet; to wear something bright (preferably reflective) and to hold an adult's hand.

On Wednesday 14th December we had a very successful meeting to discuss, "Where does your child go next?" Think carefully, there is no rush. Roxeth Mead will always cater for children up to Year 2. Until this time, your child will receive a bespoke education which is only possible in a small school like Roxeth. All children are ability grouped for English and Maths and are therefore able to reach their full potential and make amazing progress. Please speak to us or to Mrs Isaacs when you are considering the next move for your child, as we all want to make the right choice for them.

As the term has drawn to a close, we have celebrated Christmas with a pantomime, "Oh no we didn't, oh yes we did!" A party, a visit from Santa and a heart-warming Nativity performance, which at the time of writing is still in its final rehearsal stages!



Finally, we say farewell to a well-loved member of staff. After 13 years at Roxeth Mead, Mrs Ellis is taking a step back from education whilst she focusses on her forthcoming knee operation and recuperation. Once she is well again, she will be returning from time to time to lead some computing workshops for us. We wish you well for your operation and thank you for all your wonderful work at Roxeth over many years, Mrs Ellis. We will miss you.

Merry Christmas everyone! See you again on 8th January. Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Mackintosh

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Roxeth Mead PTA

Thank you for all your offers of help for the gathering planned for the end of the Nativity. It will be a lovely way to end the term. Merry Christmas from the PTA. Mrs Anand

News from the Baby Room

The babies and toddlers have been very busy this half term. We have been engaging in lots of creative activities for our festivals and celebrations as well as our topics of the week such as Diwali and also Christmas. We have been learning about the Autumn where the children were able to learn about what happens to the trees and animals at this time of year. The children enjoyed creating a tree using tissue paper to create different coloured leaves.

We have also listened to the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and have learned about colours by looking at books with different coloured objects. The babies loved getting messy and creating hand prints for our 'colours' display board. We have also started basic phonics during our group time which the children really enjoy.

The children have been amazing during their nativity rehearsals with the rest of the school. They have been joining in during the rehearsals with actions and some have been singing the words too!

Lastly Mrs Sheikh and Ms Smith would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



News from Pre-School

I cannot believe we are in December and our Christmas preparations are well under way. It's hard to believe some of your children have been here for just a matter of weeks and all the children are settled and happy to join in with the exciting learning on offer.

Mrs Ghatora led our group during music week and she taught them some Bhangra, Dhandiya and English folk dancing. The children enjoyed making musical instruments and using them to accompany various genres of music.



For our Colours & Shapes topics, Mrs Patel made some fantastic Elmer Elephants with the children as you can see in the photographs and the children had great fun participating and experimenting mixing colours in the art room.



In phonics, most children are now confident with some of the set 1 sounds - m,a,s,d and t and some with the next set - i,n,p,g and o. Please practise these with your children at home e.g. 'm' monkey, mouse, monster, 'a' apple, alligator, ant etc... For more help for parents see the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQgizwvqNk>

All the children have made good progress in all areas of the curriculum and I am particularly proud of their enthusiasm and understanding of what is required of them in our nativity play. Without exception they all join in our rehearsals singing beautifully and trying so hard to remember where they should be on the 'stage'. I hope they perform as well on the 12th December as they have done in rehearsals!!

On behalf of everyone in Pre School we wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

Mrs O'Neil, Mrs Patel & Mrs Ghatora



News from Nursery Class

It's the most wonderful time of the year! We have been super busy this half term with our learning and our arts and crafts. Thank you all for your support and your lovely comments regarding the EY log. It's a great way to communicate with you and let you know how your children are learning and progressing in all areas of their development.

In Literacy the children have been working really hard learning the phonic sounds and are beginning to form the letters correctly. We are now on our way to blending and segmenting sounds and reading three letter CVC words.

Our numeracy lessons have included counting reliably objects to 10 and matching corresponding numbers. We have also worked on number formation and shapes and the children can recognise some 2D and 3D shapes.

Our creative lessons are always fun and full of learning. The children have covered topics on Diwali, Guy Fawkes, Music, Colours, Shapes and Christmas. They engaged with a variety of resources and worked with different forms of media. The children loved Music week as they had opportunities to try a variety of musical instruments. (Hope you saw the photos on the EY log).

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year, Mrs Afsari and Miss Turie



News from Reception Class



As we head towards the end of the Autumn Term the children have been very busy and brimming with excitement. They have all worked hard and their enthusiasm for learning is a joy to watch.

This half of the term, all the children started on the RWI books and are making great progress. They are very keen to read and write and often remind me that they haven't had their turn. They love listening to stories, learning songs, dancing and currently looking out for Rhyming Words. In our Phonics lessons the children are now beginning to learn the Set 2 speed sounds, tricky words and love adding new words to our Word Tree. They are gaining confidence in writing words independently.



Our topic work on Music, Fireworks, Diwali, Remembrance Day, Colours, Shapes and Christmas has given the children an opportunity to enhance their knowledge by engaging in art and craft activities, through music and movement, attending assemblies and sharing their experiences. Our topic work on Shapes got them making Tie and Dye prints, creating a book of shapes and making a cube. The topic of Music enabled them to have



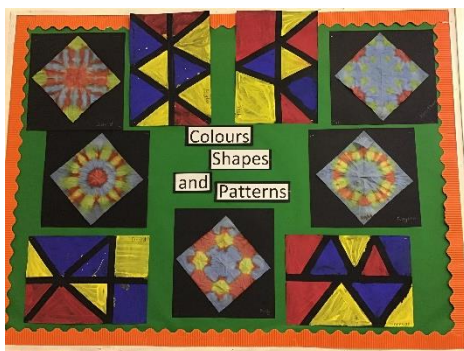
hands on experience of playing various musical instruments like the Violin, Guitar, Ukulele, Drums, Maracas, Bells and Triangles. They made Shakers and Castanets. They had an opportunity to listen to the piano and learn about high and low notes. To celebrate the festival of Diwali they listened to traditional music and learnt the stick dance.



In our Numeracy lessons the children have been consolidating number recognition to 100; addition and subtraction and learning to order by length and weight. In our practical sessions they had fun finding heavy and light objects around the classroom and then weighing them on the scales; building 3D shapes; learning about symmetry; looking at number bonds to 10 and finally, making a picture of a fox using 2D shapes.

The children have worked hard this term and made great progress in all the areas of the curriculum. They are looking forward to the Pantomime, Christmas party and performing our Nativity for their parents.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Mrs Kalsi.



News from Year 1 & 2

What a productive half term we have had in Year 1 and 2!

I have been so impressed with how the children have adapted to daily routines and they are gaining independence every day. This has been most apparent when they come in each morning, put their belongings away and get down to writing without delay. We will continue to work on self-regulation and management next term.

The topic of 'Toys' has provided so much scope for creative writing and role play, in addition to comprehension based on the book 'Lost in the Toy Museum' by David Lucas. It is amazing to see children's writing improve, including cursive joins, and see their wonderful ideas come to life.

A highlight to this half term has been our trip to Headstone Manor. Mrs Isaacs accompanied us on the day and was amazed by the impeccable behaviour and enthusiasm of every child in the class. We all had the opportunity to learn how toys have changed over time, to play with old toys and to explore the wonderful grounds of the museum. It was a fantastic outing and we hope your children enjoyed it.



In the lead up to the Nativity, each child has worked so hard to learn their lines and perform with confidence, clarity and expression. I hope that you can appreciate all the effort they have put in and that the final performance reflects this.

It is wonderful to see the progress Year 1 and 2 are making across the curriculum and seeing happy, smiling faces bounding into school each day. The weekly points prize-giving and Superhero certificates are encouraging children to shine and I look forward to many more opportunities to celebrate their success in the Spring term.

Have a wonderful festive break and see you in January.
Best wishes, Mrs Conway



Computing

This half term has whizzed by and the children have worked really hard to complete lots of exciting activities. Our Nursery children have been playing sequencing games based around Autumn to develop their understanding of 'algorithms'. They have also used a shapes and pattern computing activity to encourage anticipation of what should come next.



Christmas came early as they worked together to find the missing halves of the festive images...



Linking in with their EYFS topics of Diwali and fireworks, the children in our Reception class used a website to find out all about the festival before going on to create their own interactive fireworks sky. The results were beautiful.



After listening to an assembly about empathy, they considered which emojis they would use to express how they and their classmates might feel in different situations...



They also had great fun trying out a variety of commands to program their Beebots – it was really lovely to see them encouraging each other and beginning to 'debug' their commands when the Beebot went off in a slightly different direction than they had anticipated!

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children celebrated Diwali by using the 'fill' tool on a paint program to create stunning rangoli patterns which have been on display outside their classroom. This activity also taught them the importance of naming and saving their work as they went along!



They have been having a go at using an animation program – after they had worked on their creations, they watched in amazement as the characters began to dance around the screen!



They have also been using the Daisy the Dinosaur app on their iPad to work on not only basic coding but also more advanced coding using 'when' and 'repeat' commands.



I have so enjoyed teaching (and learning from!) your children – I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Mrs Ellis

Pantomime – The Wizard of Oz

On Thursday 5th December we were treated to a performance of The Wizard of Oz in our school hall by 'Panto in a Day'. The children and staff loved it. Obviously, there were lots of corny jokes, loads of audience participation and the obligatory cries of, "He's behind you!" Here are some photos.



Party and Santa Visit

On 10th December we held our Christmas Party, hosted by Froggle. We helped Froggle to do some magic tricks, we did some limbo and we danced in snow! Later Santa made a surprise visit to every classroom to give a present of a Christmas book to every child. Ho ho ho!



Parents' Information



Topics for Next Half Term - EYFS:

Our World	Topic	Date	Books	Notes
	Settling In / Winter	8 th January	Big Fuzzy / Snow Babies	Staff training-7 th , First day- 8 th
	Winter	13 th January	Little Seal Finds a Friend / Penguins /	
	Arctic Animals	20 th January	Perky Little Penguins / Swim Polar Bear Swim	Chinese New Year 25 th
	Chinese New Year	27 th January	Non fiction	
	People Who Help Us	3 rd February	Non fiction (ambulance police etc..)	
	Story Land Part 2	10 th February	Teacher's choice	Valentine's Day 14 th

Topics for Next Half Term - Year 1&2:

Rainforest	
CLASS TEXT	Michael Rosen poetry
Maths	Geometry: Shape
English	Poetry
Science	Plants
History	Significant historical events, people and places
Music	Exposure to different types of music
Art	Work of Van Gogh
PE	Games
PHSE	Turning over a new leaf / Fresh Starts / Second chances / Individual liberty

Parent and Carer Online Toolkit (Childnet)

The new non-statutory guidance published in the summer, [Teaching Online Safety \(2019, DfES\)](#), recommends that schools 'Proactively [engage] staff, pupils and parents/carers in school activities that promote the agreed principles of online safety' (see paragraph 42).

Childnet have updated their parent and carer toolkit that will help parents have conversations about online safety. Their booklet 'Let's talk about life online' includes ten key messages that should be shared with children:

1. "You can always come to me if you need help."
2. "What would you do if this happened...?"
3. "Remember that not everyone is who they say they are online."
4. "Keep your personal information safe, and other people's too."
5. "Be respectful to others online."
6. "Think before you post."
7. "Remember to ask if it's okay."
8. "Remember not everything is true online."
9. "The things other people post online might not always show what their life is really like."
10. "Recognise how going online makes you feel and take a break when you need to."

The Parent and Carer Toolkit can be found here: <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/parent-and-carer-toolkit>.

Car Safety

If your child is under 12 or less than 135cm tall, you MUST strap them into a car seat or booster seat. It is the law. Please ensure carers / grandparents know this too as we have witnessed some dangerous car use recently.

Message from the Harrow Immunisation Team

The Immunisation Team are having a WALK-IN FLU CATCH UP CLINIC for those children who have missed their flu vaccination for whatever reason, on 17th December 3.30pm to 4.45pm; 18th December 3.30pm to 4.45pm; 7th January 3:30pm to 4:45pm

Parents can contact us on:-

Mobile - 07814 253095

Office - 020 8102 6333

020 8102 6329

Clinic Address: Alexandra Health and Social Care Centre
275 Alexandra Avenue
Harrow, HA2 9DX

Allergies

We now have 2 pupils who are allergic to nuts. PLEASE do not send anything into school that contains nuts. Thank you.

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:
https://www.thepantrycatering.co.uk/school_meals/register.php
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.

Christmas mini Maths Makers

A unique multisensory
parent and toddler workshop to
explore maths through Christmas FUN!

Date: Saturday 14th December
Time: 10:30 - 11:15
Location:
The Doll's House on the Hill
44 High St, Harrow HA1 3LL
Fee: £15
Tea for adults and soft drink
for the children included.
Bookings:
We accept bookings via Hoop as
well as cash at drop in.
For bookings or any other
enquiries please contact
Panorea at 0759239 6344.
Teaching through movement.
Learning through fun!

<https://mathsdance.com/mini-maths-makers-harrow-on-the-hill>



Roxeth Clubs for Next Term

All clubs start week beginning 13th of January 2020 for 10 weeks (excluding half term). All clubs 3 – 4pm.
For children aged 3 and a half and above.

Monday	Work with Mrs Goodwin on English and Maths through games and puzzles.	£10.00 per session £100 per term	Pay Roxeth Mead directly
Tuesday YOGA Club	This club will help your child to: Develop body awareness; learn how to use their bodies in a healthy way; manage pressure through breathing, awareness, meditation and healthy movement; build concentration; increase their confidence and positive self-image; feel part of a healthy, non-competitive group. Watch the video for more information - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5v4_4bwjTA&t=7	£10.00 per session £100 per term	To sign up and pay email vanessa@flyingyogis.co.uk
Wednesday LEGO® Club	Lego® Club empowers children to explore Design techniques, Engineering principles and Physics – learning how things work. Children make-it and watch principles work in front of their eyes in real time. Each session new models will be built to demonstrate different concepts. Buildings, people, robots, cities, furniture and houses are just a few examples of what will be built. After the lesson children engage in storytelling about what they built, its functions and explain how it works.	£7.00 per session. £70 per term	Visit the link below to register and pay. If you have difficulties ring 0208 123 1013. https://clubs.school/roxeth-mead/
Wednesday	Work with Mrs Goodwin on English and Maths through games and puzzles.	£10.00 per session £100 per term	Pay Roxeth Mead directly
Thursday MESSY PLAY Club	Messy Play Club is a twist on the regular Arts & Crafts club as it is 100% hands on at all times. No week is the same and every session we will change the objective and style of art so that by the end of the session children would have learnt various new artistic skills. Projects Include: Pottery, Clay Volcano, Paper Mache Animal Kingdom, Fun Crafts, Slime Art, Stencil & Graffiti, Puppet Master, Jewellery...	£6.50 per session. £65.00 per term.	Visit the link below to register and pay. If you have difficulties ring 0208 123 1013. https://clubs.school/roxeth-mead/
Friday INDIAN VOCAL MUSIC Club	Explore the aesthetic of Indian Music, learn the art of singing consisting of Hindustani Classical, Semi Classical and much more. It boosts up creativity and imagination, helping children become happy and joyful with the art of singing. Builds self-confidence with performance opportunities and through accredited grade examinations.	£8.00 per session £80 per term	Contact Mrs. Dharmal Shah - Mobile : 07868050778 Email : info@aummusicacademy.co.uk Website : www.aummusicacademy.co.uk . If you are interested in enrolling your child for this club, please contact me to book the sessions

Please email me (info@roxethmead.com) AND the club provider, so I can keep a list of pupils.

Many Thanks Mrs Mackintosh



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



JANUARY 2020		
Tuesday 7 th		Staff Training Day.
Wednesday 8 th		Children back for new term
Tuesday 28 th	9 – 10am	Perform 4 Schools visiting
FEBRUARY		
Mon 17 th - Friday 21		Half Term
MARCH		
APRIL		
Friday 3 rd April	1pm	Break up for Easter
Monday 20 th		Staff Training Day
Tuesday 21 st		Staff Training Day
Wednesday 22 nd		Children back for new term
MAY		
Mon 25 th – Friday 29		Half Term
JUNE		
JULY		
Friday 3 rd July	12 noon	Break up for Summer Holiday

Make a Christmas Angel....

