



ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning

Academic Year 2020 – 21

March 2021

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From The Co-Headteachers

This half term has just got better and better as more and more pupils returned, culminating on the 8th March with the return of all of our pupils. It is so lovely to now have everyone back. The weather is improving and it feels like spring, so we have been able to get into our wonderful grounds to play and learn in the fresh air. The children were delighted to find lots of bugs during their bug topic!



We marked World Book Day on 4th March by reading our favourite books. We hoped you liked the virtual library that we sent home via email to mark the day. Please look back to the email from us on 3rd March to find the link, should you have missed it.



It was a pleasure to see the pupils dressed up in red for Red Nose Day on 19 March. Here we see Reception Class getting into the spirit with their wonderful red clothes and deely-bopper headgear! We will be adding the money raised from this to our mufti money for the end of term to send a generous donation to Comic Relief.



Our Roxeth Mead family has grown this month. Mrs Conway gave birth to a wonderful, healthy baby boy earlier this month and Mrs Sheikh to a beautiful baby girl last week. Many congratulations to them both.

Have a lovely Easter break! We look forward to seeing some of you at Easter Club and everyone back for the Summer Term on Tuesday 20th April.

Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Mackintosh

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News from Pre-School

This half term has seen 3 new children join us and 2 return having chosen to be at home because of COVID. As I have said before, this particular group are remarkably mature and have superb social skills, enjoying playing imaginatively in the home /role play area which has been a hairdressers and now a pizza parlour where they have been constructing pizzas such as Margot's Mozzarella , Simran's Sausage, Darsh's Delight and Aaren's Amazing!



We have learnt the benefits of eating a diet that includes lots of fruit and vegetables and the things which (although taste nice) we should not eat too much of. We made 'healthy lunchboxes' and made a fruit salad, looking carefully at the fruit and observing the differences in texture. One of the children's favourite activities has been going on a mini beast hunt in our garden where they each had a magnifying glass and a trowel and they could dig, dig and dig! We found a ladybird, a worm and a woodlouse.

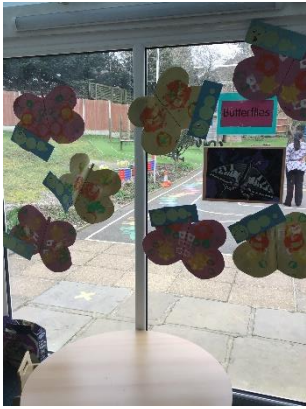
We are currently looking at farm animals and learning the names of their babies and homes. Let's hope next year we can visit a farm to consolidate their learning as well as have fun.

One of my thoughts in this weird time has been how much your lovely children have missed out on and it came to my notice when I was playing with them and asked 'how much is this?' The reply I would usually expect would be something to do with money such as one penny or two hundred pounds but the reply I got was "5 o'clock". I realised that many of the children (and quite rightly) have not visited a shop and witnessed transactions going on, due to the pandemic and I feel we maybe all need to take a step back once this is all over and look at those basic experiences the children have not had. I am sure life will return to normal soon and wish you all a happy and healthy Easter break and look forward to a sunny and sociable Summer term.

Mrs O'Neill and Ms Smith



Pre School cont...



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, The life cycle of the caterpillar, Mini beasts, Farm animals, Spring and Easter. Be sure to test your children on Mini beasts, I'm sure you'll be impressed at how much they know! They have learnt many facts about ladybirds, honey bees and the life cycle of the caterpillar. The children really enjoy our topic sessions and gain a lot of knowledge through books, picture cards and video clips. Please encourage your children to tell you what they have been learning about at school as it develops their language skills and their memory skills.

In literacy, we have continued learning our phonics and developing our sound recognition through letter worksheets. The children really enjoy free writing on the whiteboards and are beginning to form recognisable letters and CVC words.

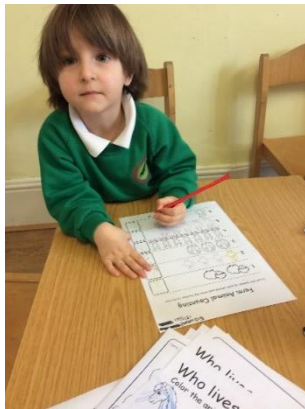
In numeracy, we have been counting objects relating to our topic and matching the correct number. We have also been learning to recognise the written numerals 1-10. We have also been practising forming familiar numbers.



In Circle Time on Mondays, we will begin to ask the children to engage in news time, which will be asking them what they did at the weekend. This will develop the children's confidence skills as they will stand in front of their peers and recall the events of the weekend.

Have a lovely Easter break, Mrs Afsari and Mrs Patel

Nursery Class cont...



News from Reception Class

As we head towards the end of the spring term I would like to say well done to all the children in Reception Class and thank the parents for their support. The children have worked very hard, made great all round progress and participated with enthusiasm in all the activities. In our Literacy lessons they have listened to stories, poems, recalled and retold them, learnt about the setting and characters in a story, learnt about Fiction and Non- Fiction books, created a 'Wanted' poster for a dragon, written out the ingredients for a fruit salad, used speech bubbles to write a conversation between two skeletons and the older children have kept a weekend diary. In our Phonics lessons they have been learning the Set 2&3 speed sounds.



In our Maths lessons the children have continued to consolidate their understanding of all the topics covered through practical and written work. Our topics have been: Time, Money, Measurement of height, Length, Weight, Distance, Shape & Pattern, Addition, Subtraction, Halving, Doubling, Sharing, Symmetry and 2 & 3D shapes. Our topic of Healthy Eating got the children thinking about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables, exercise and good sleep. Our Mini Beast hunt in the school garden turned out to be quite an exciting adventure where they spotted a spider, ants, bees, ladybird and a worm.

They learnt about the life cycle of a butterfly, frog and a plant. They showed great fascination when they got to have a close look at the various stages of an Atlas moth's life cycle. For the topic of Farm Animals they made masks and made the sounds of the animals to the song



'Old MacDonald'. They dressed up for 'Red Nose Day' raising money for charity. They are very excited and looking forward to the Easter egg hunt at the end of the term.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter break.

Mrs Kalsi & Mrs Ghatora.



News from Year 1

Year 1 have had an exciting Spring Term - as well as working very hard! They have often had the benefit of 4 teachers each sharing their own interests and specialisms with them. They rose to the challenge of tackling some very advanced mathematics and thoroughly enjoyed it. They also completed a creative writing piece complete with a draft 1 and 2, thus learning how the professionals do it. It is on display at the moment but will be sent home in due course. The children have produced some lovely Spring art work as seen here, on display in our Art Room.



We honed our British Values when they have had the opportunity of having a democratic choice of what work to do next, how to lay out the class and where to sit.

Just recently they have welcomed our visitor – a past pupil who in her own country has been learning all her subjects in French. Being fluent in both French and English, she has worthily contributed to the French lessons. The class were excited to hear about her joining us for a while and have made her very welcome.

All in all I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching each of them – they bring me great joy. They are all maturing into more independent and responsible children. I am very proud of them.

Mrs Goodwin



Parents' Information



Topics for Next Half Term (Summer 1 2021) EYFS:

Topic	Theme	Week Beginning	Supporting Books	Other Activities
Imaginary World	Nursery Rhymes	19th April	Nursery Rhymes	INSET - 19th St Georges Day 23rd
	Dinosaurs	26th April	How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight	
	Space	3rd May		Bank Holiday-3rd
	Pirates	10th May		Eid 12th
	Art Week	17th May		
	Music Week	24th May		

Topics for Next Half Term (Summer 1 2021) - Year 1:

Maths	Shape, Position & Direction & Work books
English	Read Write Inc. Comprehension, Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar, Creative Writing
Science	Animals including Humans
Humanities	History - Significant Events - Great Fire of London
Music	Recorders
Art	Self-Portraits (link to PSHE & Science) Kandinsky Shape Art (link to Maths – Shape) Great Fire of London Collages (cross curricular link to History)
PE	Team games / Athletics
Computing	Using WORD to type up work
PSHE	Building Relationships

Learning at Home – Suggested Holiday Activities

Visit the Oxford Owl website for e books that can be read at home <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

Free Interactive games to support blending skills

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2/buried-treasure> <https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/foamPhonemes/index.html>
<https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/helpAHedgehog/index.html>
<http://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/bingoOriginal/index.html>

Activities to support segmenting skills for writing

- Write shopping lists.
- Write what you find on a scavenger hunts for example, I found a rock, stick, ant etc...
- Write word to match to pictures.
- Find a word on a scavenger hunt. Read it – cover it and write it.
- Write a list of words with numbers 1-6 down the side. Roll a dice – write the word you landed on without peeking at the word on the list.
- Write a sentence/s about your favourite part of a story.
- Write a sentence about your day for example, 'I fed the goat at the farm'

Activities to support number skills

- Chalk numbers in order 0-20 on the pavement.
- Cut and stick numbers 0-20 on paper.
- Match an amount of objects to numbers 0-20 (numeral to quantity).
- Sing songs that take away or add things e.g. 10 green bottles, 1 man went to mow, 5 current buns.
- Exploit all counting opportunities – count stairs, count buttons, count lampposts on a walk, count 'red' cars on a journey etc.

- Commercial games such as snakes and ladders - these help with the counting on strategy.
- Throwing beanbags/balls at numbered targets and adding up scores – who scored the most? The least?
- Practice counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Ask questions like ‘if I took one away how many would I have left?’ or ‘if I add one how many have I got now?’
- Use magnetic numbers on the fridge or foam numbers for the bath. Put them in order. Miss one out of a sequence – which one is missing?
- Record using marks and make tally charts to represent number of cars, bugs, aeroplanes, leaves found during walks and on journeys out.
- Compare groups of objects using the language of ‘more and fewer’
- Play games that involve finding the total number of items in two groups. For example, throwing a ball at numbered targets. What is the total? You may need to use practical counting objects to help with this. Please find some more adding activities uploaded below, titled ‘Adding Challenges’

Free Interactive games to support number skills

<https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/index.html>

Activities to support shape, space and measure

Make repeated patterns using objects such as blocks, pegs, leaves, buttons, shapes etc...

3D shape hunts inside and outside – record what you find.

Junk modelling – discuss the 2D and 3D shapes you can see.

Select a shape from a box – how many objects of that shape can you find?

Draw round shapes or cut shapes out to make robots, houses, boats etc...

Use various sized pots and containers in sand and water, discuss and explore full, empty, half full, half empty etc...

Free Interactive games to support shape, space and measure

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/shapes>

Activities to support fine motor control

- Using a colander, thread pipe cleaners through the holes. How many can you thread in a minute?
- Use your thumb and finger to practise winding up toys. Watch them go, can you have a windup race?
- Use small building bricks to make a construction. Can you push the bricks together and then pull them apart?
- Use tweezers to see how many pieces of pasta, rice or pom-poms you can pick up.
- Can you make a chain of paper clips? Can you make a chain longer than a pencil, a ruler, a book or your table?
- How quickly can you do up buttons or zips on a jacket or coat?
- Trace around stencils with a pencil, felt tip, chalk or crayons.
- Use a sand tray and your finger, a feather, pipe cleaner, paint brush or spoon to make patterns, letters, numbers and shapes!
- Use pegs to hang out washing on a washing line. How many pieces can you hang out using two pegs?
- Use your thumbs and fingers to make a playdough meal! What other foods could you make?
- How many beads or buttons can you thread on a lace or string? Can you make a pattern using different colours?
- Use bubble wrap, how many bubbles can you pop with your fingers? Can you beat your score next time?

Other useful resources to support phonics

All Jolly Phonics sounds with songs - <https://vimeo.com/106231366>

Pronunciation of sounds - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc&app=desktop>

Tricky words song phase 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvMyssfAUx0>

Tricky word song phase 3 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R087lYrRpgY>

Science Learning at Home

Follow these recorded lessons to find out all about different materials. Suitable for Reception Year 1 and Year 2.

Lesson 1 – <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/what-is-a-material-74u30t>

Lesson 2 – <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/what-are-objects-made-from-61gp8d>

Lesson 3 – <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/how-can-i-describe-an-object-c9h38c>

Lesson 4 – <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/which-materials-float-and-sink-cdj66c>

Lesson 5 – <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/which-materials-are-absorbent-6tk3er>

Lesson 6 – <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/which-material-is-best-for-different-objects-60vkar>

Science Brainteaser

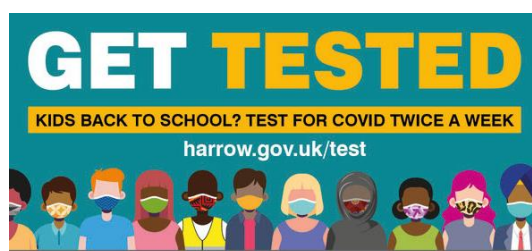
Have a look at these zoomed in mystery images. Using working scientifically skills (pattern seeking, observing, identifying, and even classifying and grouping), we would like you to guess what these photos are.

Answers on page 11.



COVID-19 Alert

Thank you for remaining alert and remembering to wear your mask and social distance at drop off and pick up. Our staff are now testing with Lateral Flow Tests twice a week to ensure they are not unwittingly carrying the virus with no symptoms. You can also get regularly tested if you wish, visit harrow.gov.uk/test.



Uniform Supplies

Billings & Edmonds our uniform supplier has launched their new website. Please use this to order uniform online as the shops are currently closed due to the pandemic. They are not classed as “essential retail”. You may also telephone them to order and collect. Harrow store - Tel 020 8442 1701 <https://www.billingsandedmonds.co.uk/our-schools/roxeth-mead-school>



Healthy Packed Lunches

I know it can sometimes be difficult to satisfy children’s taste buds, particularly if they are fussy eaters. However, pupils need a full stomach in order to concentrate and be active during the school day. We are a healthy school and aim to teach pupils to make choices that are beneficial to them. Do ensure pupils have a healthy snack at morning break time. When preparing a packed lunch please include

- savoury main course - (sandwiches, rolls, pitta pockets, etc.);
- salad / fruit - (vegetables sticks, grapes, banana, etc.);
- snack / dessert - (consider alternating items such as crisps/biscuits with a healthy option such as yoghurt, rice pudding, etc.);
- drink – water or carton juice (no fizzy drinks, please).

For more information on healthy packed lunches go to <http://www.nhs.uk/Change4Life/Pages/healthy-lunchbox-picnic.aspx>.



ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

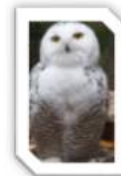
If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

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Answer to the Science Brainteaser!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



APRIL		
Monday 19 th		Deadline for giving written notice if your child is leaving in July
Monday 19 th		Staff Training Day
Tuesday 20 th		Children back for new term
MAY		
Mon 31 st – Friday 4 th June		Half Term
JUNE		
Monday 7 th		Staff Training Day
Tuesday 8 th		Children back following half term
JULY		
Thursday 8 th	12 noon	Break up for Summer Holiday

Term Dates 2021-22

Autumn Term 2021

Inset for Staff: Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th September

Term Begins:

Wednesday 8th September

Half Term:

Monday 18th October – Friday 29th October

Term Ends:

Tuesday 14th December after Christmas Nativity at midday

Spring Term 2022

Inset for Staff : Monday 10th & Tuesday 11th January

Term Begins:

Wednesday 12th January

Half Term:

Monday 14th – Friday 18th February

Term Ends:

Friday 25th March at midday

Summer Term 2022

Inset for Staff : Tuesday 19th April

Term Begins:

Wednesday 20th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May

Half Term:

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

Term Ends:

Thursday 7th July at midday



Easter Holiday Club at Roxeth Mead School



We are pleased to be able to offer a holiday club during the Easter break for our pupils and their siblings. We will organise a range of fun activities such as arts and crafts, cookery, board games, PE, bug hunts etc... and some learning, including phonics and numeracy (depending upon age). To keep everyone safe, we will be adhering to strict COVID safety measures including regular testing of staff and good hand and respiratory hygiene of everyone on site.

If you would like your child to attend, please select your preferred sessions from the table below. Spaces are allocated on a first come first served basis.

I would like to book the following dates for the holiday club for my child/children:

Name: Age : DOB:

Name: Age : DOB:

Name: Age : DOB:

	Breakfast Club 8am - 9am £10.00	Morning Session 9am - 12pm	Afternoon Session 12pm – 3pm	After School Session 3- 4pm £10.00
Monday 29 March				
Tuesday 30 March				
Wednesday 31 March				
Thursday 1 April				
Tuesday 6 April				
Wednesday 7 April				
Thursday 8 April				
Friday 9 April				
Monday 12 April				
Tuesday 13 April				
Wednesday 14 April				
Thursday 15 April				
Friday 16 April				

The fees are as follows:

- 1 year olds - £25.00 per morning or afternoon session, Breakfast/Afterschool £10.00 per session.
- 2 year olds - £20.00 per morning or afternoon session, Breakfast/Afterschool £10.00 per session.
- 3+ year olds - £15.00 per morning or afternoon session, Breakfast/Afterschool £10.00 per session.

Children need to bring a snack, packed lunch and water bottle and come in their own clothes, suitably dressed for a range of potentially messy activities including painting, climbing in the garden, PE etc...

Please return this form as soon as possible to secure your place in the holiday club, either by hand or by email to info@roxethmead.com.