



ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning

Academic Year 2020 – 21

May 2021

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From The Co-Headteachers

During the Easter break, we were pleased to be able to offer our first Holiday Club. Here we see the children enjoying some of the range of activities that we offered. It was such a success that we will be continuing with the club in all subsequent holidays.



Now the cases of the virus are receding and restrictions slowly lifting (and bearing in mind our tiny class numbers) we have reinstated assemblies. The first coincided with Earth Day. Our planet is amazing and we want to look after it. Earth Day is a special time when people think about how to look after our planet. We learnt that some things are threatening to harm our planet, the biggest threat is plastic and we talked about how important it is to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The children made their own pledges as to how they were going to help the planet. Here we see the display in our downstairs corridor made from the work the children did.



We have also been 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 are now on display in our Hall (seen here). 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.

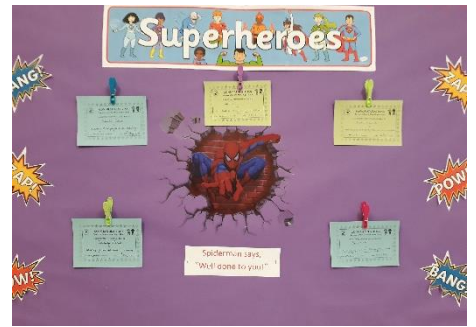
[https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/)

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From The Co-Headteachers cont...

We have also re-instated our Friday "Celebration Assemblies". To the right you can see the certificates on display in our hall. Congratulations to those children who have earned a certificate so far! Certificates can be awarded for lots of different reasons, with the reason written on each certificate so parents can share in the praise.



We reminded ourselves of our school rules which spell out STAR. These are:

Self-Control

Take responsibility for our actions

Always follow instructions

Respect

We spend some time focussing on RESPECT i.e. thinking about other people and their feelings and respecting our belongings and environment. We read the book "Gilbert the Goat learns Respect" and the scrapes that Gilbert got in to when he did not treat others well. Talk to your child to see what they remember from the assembly.

This week we talked about kindness. Three of our Nursery children took part in some role play showing acts of kindness – it was so touching! We then discussed keeping safe and what we would do if we had a fire in the school. We listened to the fire bell, so we were all familiar with the sound and then rehearsed an orderly exit from the building to our evacuation point under the willow tree. The children were beautifully behaved and we all safely evacuated in under 4 minutes.

Finally, we value feedback from our parents and recently sent out an online questionnaire. We have had 14 responses so far. If you have not yet responded to this, we would love to hear your views. Here is the link...

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RoxethMay2021>

We wish you an enjoyable half term and look forward to seeing you again on Tuesday 8th June for the final half term of the year (Monday 7th is a training day).

Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Mackintosh

News from Baby & Toddler Room

It has been a pleasure working with the babies and toddlers this term, seeing them become more confident and curious. These photos show the range of activities that they have engaged in.

Miss Elle





News from Pre-School

Well how lovely it is to be partly on our way out of COVID and to return to some sort of normality at school. We have welcomed Frank, Yuna and Alyssa into pre-school and they have blended in well to our happy class with the current children showing their kind natures and care and empathy to the less confident children.

As usual, our role play area has been popular and we have had a pizza parlour, hairdressers, a birthday party and currently a vet. Unfortunately the dog has 'a brain hurt' and has copious amounts of bandages on its head!



The topics we have looked at

include nursery rhymes

where the children coloured a Humpty Dumpty, cut him up and stuck him back together again. They also painted and made collages of a grandfather clock for the nursery rhyme 'Hickory Dickory Dock'.

Dinosaurs proved to be a popular topic with the children making dinosaur prints into playdough.

Music and songs played a large part of our work on space with the children singing and counting '5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer', 'Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, We're Going to the Moon' and other songs.

I think the theme of pirates has proved to be one of the most fun - we went on a treasure hunt having listened carefully to the clues and walked the plank jumping from a balancing beam onto a water themed mat. The children decorated pirate hats and telescopes.

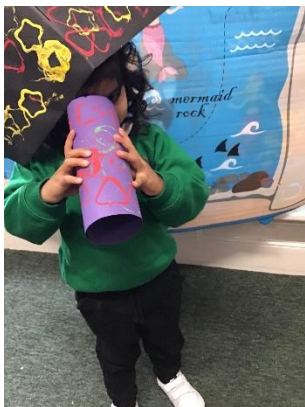
In art week and we painted a huge box on both sides and as yet have to decide what it will be! We have also looked a Lowry painting and made

our own stick people (see below).

As ever pre-school has been a happy and welcoming place for your children to thrive and learn and it is nothing but a pleasure to see them grow and develop.

Wishing you all a happy half term,
Mrs O'Neill and Mrs Ghatora





News from Nursery Class



We have come to the end of another busy half term as always! Firstly we would like to welcome all the new children that have moved up from Pre- school class, Aaren, Gabriel, Jonny, Anaisha and Tess. We would also like to welcome Manuel to Roxeth Mead who joined us from another nursery.

This half term the children have enjoyed learning about our topics which included Nursery Rhymes, Pirates, Dinosaurs, Space, Art and Music. The children demonstrated some remarkable knowledge on Space and Dinosaurs. They learned interesting facts about Dinosaurs like how some are plant eaters and some are meat eaters! The children showed great interest in finding out about the Planets, the Sun and the Moon! They had a lot of fun pretending to be Pirates too, learning to speak like a pirate, saying "Ahoy there"! The children loved Music Week as they had opportunities to try a variety of musical instruments.

In literacy, the children are progressing very well with phonics. The children are learning their sounds and beginning to link familiar objects to those sounds, such as 'c for cat' and 'm for mat'. We are also practising forming these letters as an extension to our learning. Some of our older children have moved on to blending sounds and reading CVC words.

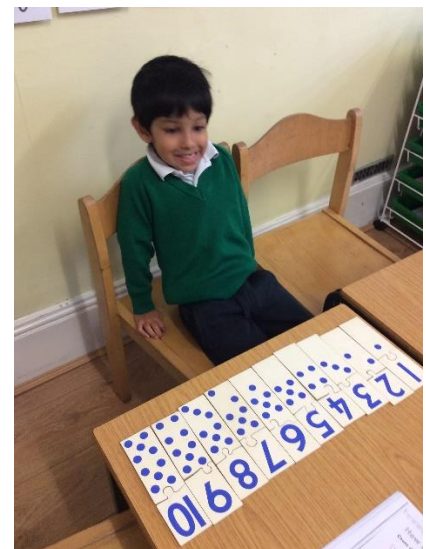
Our numeracy lessons have included counting reliably objects to 10 and matching corresponding numbers. We have also worked on number formation and shapes, particularly

focusing on number recognition.

This term the children have loved having the dressing up clothes in nursery class. They have engaged in a variety of creative and messy play activities as you must have seen from the photos on EYLog.

Wishing you all a lovely half term break!

From Mrs Afsari & Mrs Patel



Nursery cont...



News from Reception Class

The first half of the Summer term has been a very busy one and a bit more 'normal'. With restrictions slowly lifting and bearing in mind our tiny class numbers, the children have been able to have assemblies, have lunch together and play with the children from other classes. The children have carried on with Phonics, RWI, independent writing and their progress has been very impressive. In our Maths lessons the children have extended their learning and consolidated their understanding of all the topics covered.



Our topic related work has taken us on a journey of adventure, exploration, Art, Music and Nursery Rhymes. The children have been very enthusiastic and participated with excitement. For our topic of Nursery Rhymes the children took turns to take out objects from our 'Song Sack' and sang nursery rhymes related to that object, they painted Humpty Dumpty sitting on a wall and sang nursery rhymes with actions.



Next we had a visit from the Dinosaurs who left their footprints in our classroom. The children measured the footprints using cubes and a ruler in order to determine the size of the dinosaurs. We closely examined the skeleton of a Brachiosaurus and the children looked for information on their favourite dinosaur in a non-fiction book on Dinosaurs. We flew a Pterodactyl in the garden and the children waited very patiently for their turn.



Our next topic was 'Pirates' and the children took on the role with great enthusiasm. They made pirate hats, treasure maps, sang pirate action songs and went on a treasure hunt in the garden.

The topic of 'Space' caught the children's imagination and they learnt the planets songs, painted the planets, wrote about how they would look after the earth by saving water, recycling things, not wasting paper, putting rubbish in the bins and looking after the plants and animals. They

learnt about why we have a day and night on earth, about comets, meteorites and asteroids. They also wrote out a list of essential things to take for their trip to the Moon. They remembered that an asteroid had killed all the dinosaurs.



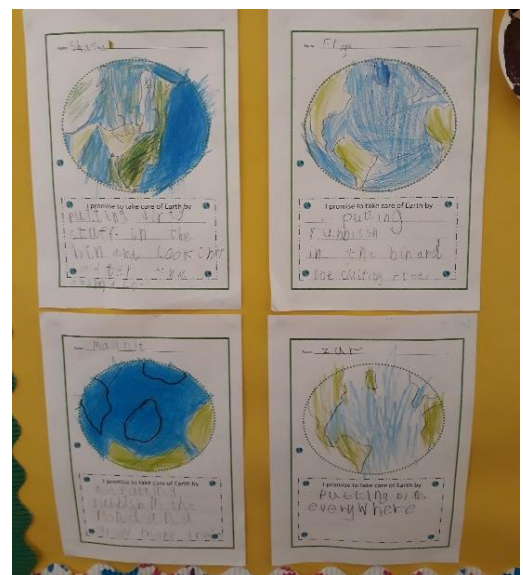
Our next topic was Art and we chose to study the paintings of 'Paul Klee'. The children drew and painted their own version of Paul Klee's 'Twittering Machine' and the results were spectacular. They learnt to draw his picture titled 'The Cat and the Bird' and their version was very close to the original. For the next pictures they used colourful shapes and created 'The sun and the Castle' and created a background with tissue paper to draw their portrait.



All the children have worked hard, shown a keen interest in all our topic work, have been so enthusiastic and it has been a pleasure to watch. I would like to thank all the parents for supporting their children in their learning.

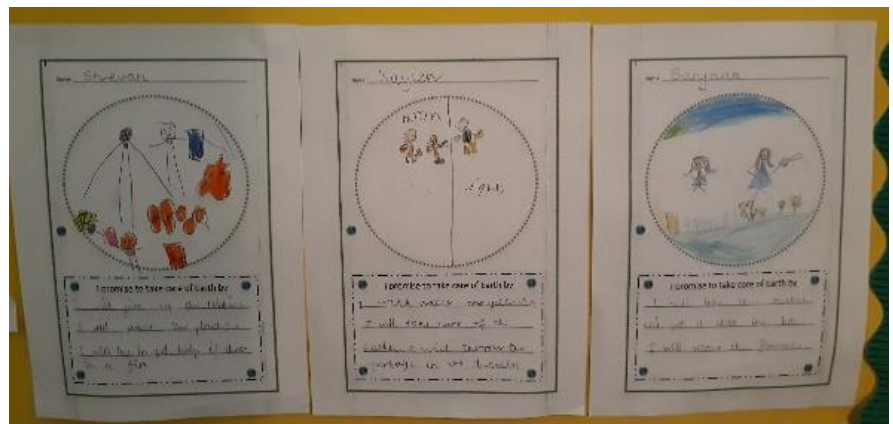
Wishing you all a restful half term.
Mrs Kalsi, Mrs Ghatora and Mrs Azar.

Reception cont...



News from Year 1

Now that we are heading towards the end of Year 1, the children have been working towards becoming completely independent workers; they check their own work and identify areas they feel could be improved. They have covered all of the curriculum and are now aiming for perfection. They have been given more responsibility and the chance to choose what work they would like to do. They have learnt how voting works in a democracy and they often take a class vote to decide what work they would like to do next. More time has been given to building those life-skills necessary to be successful in the next stage of their education. To build respect, resilience, and confidence and an understanding of the fundamental human values. The children are now well prepared for the next step in their next step in their educational journey. The photos below show the range of work we have been engaging in.





Parents' Information



Topics for Next Half Term (Summer 2 2021) EYFS:

Animal World	Pets - Please email us a photo of your pet.	7 th June	Staff Training 7 th June
	Jungle & Safari Animals	14 th June	Father's Day - 20th
	Sea Creatures	21 st June	
	Arctic/Desert Animals	28 th June	
	Summer	5 th July	Sports Day Tues 6 th pm End of term Thurs 8 th July

Topics for Next Half Term (Summer 2 2021) - Year 1:

Maths	Graphs, Data & Work books
English	Read Write Inc. Comprehension, Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar, Creative Writing
Science	Living Things and Their Habitats
Humanities	Geography The Americas
Music	Singing – School Song "Together"
Art	Link with Science – Drawing Living Things
PE	Athletics - preparation for sports day races
PSHE	Managing hurtful behaviour (bullying)

Wrap-around care

Our breakfast and after school clubs have started up again.

Breakfast – 8.00 – 8.30 - £5 per session. Cereal provided.

After School Care – 3.00 – 4.00 - £10 per session

- Monday – Arts & Crafts
- Tuesday – Science
- Wednesday – Board games, puzzles, Lego
- Thursday – Cookery
- Friday – Arts & Crafts

We will have care until 5pm available again in September. Please let us know if you will require this provision.



Activity Ideas for the Holiday

Science Brainteaser - Have a look at this zoomed in mystery image. Using working scientifically skills (pattern seeking, observing, identifying, and even classifying and grouping), we would like you to guess what this photo is. Answer on page 14.



Art Activities

Have a go at making your own Elmer. All you need is an empty plastic milk bottle, squares of coloured paper and some glue.



Or paint some toilet rolls to make animals....



Science Experiment

WHAT A GAS!

1 TRY THIS INDOORS

First, fill the bottle about one quarter full of vinegar. Then stretch the balloon by blowing it up and then letting the air out. Use a funnel to put 3 spoons of bicarbonate of soda into the balloon. If you don't have a funnel you can make one by rolling paper into a cone. Stretch the balloon over the top of the bottle, keeping the bicarbonate inside the balloon. When you are ready tip the balloon up so the bicarbonate of soda drops into the vinegar in the bottle.

WHAT DO YOU NOTICE?

Things to talk about ...

What happens when the bicarbonate of soda mixes with the vinegar? Why does the balloon blow-up? What are the bubbles that you can see? If you hold the bottle in your hand what can you feel? How could you make the balloon blow-up more? What if you added more or less bicarbonate of soda, or used lime or lemon juice instead of vinegar?

You will need

- * A small bottle
- * Balloon
- * Bicarbonate of soda (baking soda)
- * Funnel and spoon
- * Vinegar
- * Lemon/lime juice (optional)
- * Plastic cup
- * Small piece of card or plastic



Ideas to Keep Active



REMOTE CONTROL



Players must react quickly to the call given

1. Players start on their HOME spot (cushions work great)
2. Take turns as leader to call any command found on a remote control;

PLAY – begin walking around in any direction

FAST FORWARD – run to finish line

REWIND – move backwards

PAUSE – freeze

SLOW MOTION – move super slow

POWER OFF – lie flat on the floor

POWER ON – jump up

RECORD – find a partner and copy each other's actions

HOME – Go back to where you started

3. The last player to react or if someone makes a mistake they must do a short burst of activity, e.g. 10 jumping jacks, to re-enter the game
4. After 5 minutes introduce a 'challenge' for everyone, if the leader says a colour the players must touch something that matches that colour



BEANS



Become each type of bean by acting out each shape!

1. Players begin by jogging around the room in any direction
2. On each command listed, players carry out the appropriate action:

Jelly Bean – make your whole body wobble all around

Broad bean – arms out to the side with slow movements

Jumping Bean – jump up & down

Spicy Bean – walk around as if the floor is boiling hot

Runner Bean – running on spot

Baked Bean – lying on floor flat out

Butter Bean – skating and slipping about

Bean Pole – stretch arms up holding an invisible pole and look up

Chilli Bean – Shiver and shake

Kidney Bean – Bend over and touch your toes

Spring Bean – Start in crouched position and spring up suddenly



HEART SMART



Learn about the heart whilst keeping fit!

- Q : Where is the heart located? (A: towards left side of the chest)
- Q : What is its function? (A: to pump blood around the body)
- Q : What size is it? (A: the size of a fist)
- Q : What strengthens the heart? (A: jumping, swimming, jogging (ask children to act out their answer))

1. The leader will call out a habit/action, then the players will act it out. The leader will then ask whether the habit strengthens or weakens the heart
2. If the habit strengthens the heart, players will respond by jumping
3. If the habit weakens the heart, players will respond by falling/squatting

Example habits: Riding a bike, eating pizza, watching TV, dancing, skating, eating fruit/vegetables, taking a lift, using the stairs, crisps, swimming



WIGGLES



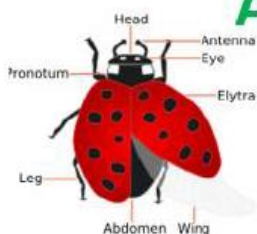
Jog on the spot or around room whilst doing the following actions

On the leader's signal, players begin to wiggle their fingers. Keep on wiggling fingers, then wrists;

- Move forearms up and down
- Move elbows side to side
- Move shoulders up and down
- Move belly side to side
- Wiggle bottom
- Wobble knees
- Shake head

As a 'challenge' repeat the instructions backwards

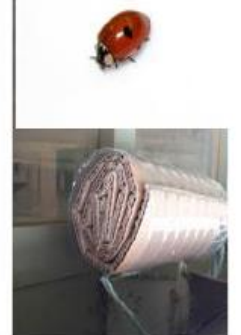
Why not build your own Ladybird House?



A plastic bottle Ladybird House

Ladybirds are very useful creatures in the garden, eating all sorts of pests, especially aphids and greenfly that like to munch on my roses!

You can make simple, yet effect home for Ladybirds with just an old plastic bottle, a bit of string and some corrugated cardboard. You can use other cardboard, corrugated is best as the gaps are good places for the Ladybirds to lay their eggs.



Great Resources for your Child



Rutendo Tavengerwei's reads her poem *The Store of Magical Things*

Go to: <https://youtu.be/bmcTNS1V-Jo>

The poem is in *The Book of Hopes* – free to read and with resources until December 21.

Go To: <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>



Please share this link with parent/carers for great resources

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/>

Excellent Websites to Encourage Learning at Home:

BBC Bitesize	Website: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
STEM.org.uk -Free home learning resources for all ages in science, technology, engineering and maths	Website: https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning
Storytelling for Younger Pupils	https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/
Fun Science at Home	https://pstt.org.uk/resources/curriculum-materials/Science-Fun-at-Home
Art therapy ideas:	https://intuitivecreativity.typepad.com/expressiveartinspirations/100-art-therapy-exercises.html

Families Magazine

If you want to read Families Magazine online, you can do so by copying this link into your internet browser.

https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/nw_london_9d8e40fcece864?fr=sYTI0MTMzNzU1ODU



Local Updates / Information



Bookings via...<https://www.perform.org.uk/classes-courses/holiday-courses/fe2021>

Covid Update

Update for NW London on the vaccine programme and new variants

Rise in new variants and the vaccine

Across all NW London boroughs (Brent, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster) we are seeing a rise in the rates of new Covid-19 variants.

There is no evidence to suggest the Covid-19 vaccine is not working in terms of providing protection against variants, but it has never been more important to come forward for your first vaccine and ensure you have your second for maximum protection.

All our large vaccination centres listed below will all be providing Pfizer vaccines from tomorrow.

Anyone over the age of 36 or can now book at www.nhs.uk or walk-in to one of our vaccination centres for a first dose of the vaccine. GPs are also sending invites so you can book in.

Walk-in availability varies, booking guarantees you a slot, services are open 9am-7pm.

Networking and wellbeing resources



Anna Freud
National Centre for
Children and Families

Please go to <https://www.annafreud.org/early-years/early-years-in-mind/> and join the free online network for support and resources.



Please go to <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/mental-wellbeing-tips/your-mind-plan-quiz/> and get some personalised support for your wellbeing.

Roxeth Mead Survey

Reminder – Please complete our online questionnaire. If you have not yet responded to this, we would love to hear your views.

Here is the link...

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RoxethMay2021>

Behaviour management – teaching children to regulate themselves

Make a calm down glitter jar!



There are lots of videos to help and inspire you:

https://www.google.com/search?q=calming+glitter+jar&rlz=1C1GCEB_enGB923GB923&source=lnms&tbn=vid&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewiZDow8nwAhUPExQKHeQYCZQQ_AUoAnoECAEQBA&biw=1098&bih=828&dpr=1.5

Making a calm down glitter jar with your child is a fun, simple and can help calm them down during emotional times.

National Smile Month is a charity campaign all about championing the benefits of having good oral health and promoting the value of a healthy smile.

Between 17 May and 17 June, the Oral Health Foundation will be raising awareness of important health issues and ready to put a smile on everybody's face.

<https://www.dentalhealth.org/national-smile-month>



Answer to the Science Brainteaser!

A blade of grass.



Joyful June 2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Decide to look for what's good every day this month	2 Say positive things in your conversations with others	3 Re-frame a worry and try to find a helpful way to think about it	4 Take a photo of something that brings you joy and share it	5 Think of 3 things you're grateful for and write them down	6 Get out into green space and feel the joy that nature brings	
7 Do something healthy which makes you feel good	8 Find joy in music: sing, play, dance, listen or share	9 Ask a friend what made them happy recently	10 Bring joy to others by doing something kind for them	11 Eat good food that makes you happy and really savour it	12 Write a gratitude letter to thank someone	13 Take a light-hearted approach. Choose to see the funny side
14 Share a happy memory with someone who means a lot to you	15 Look for something to be thankful for where you least expect it	16 Speak to others in a warm and friendly way	17 Take time to notice things that you find beautiful	18 Look for something good in a difficult situation	19 Get outside and find the joy in being active	20 Rediscover and enjoy a fun childhood activity
21 Send a positive note to a friend who needs encouragement	22 Watch something funny and enjoy how it feels to laugh	23 Create a playlist of uplifting songs to listen to	24 Bring to mind a favourite memory you feel grateful for	25 Show your appreciation to people who are helping others	26 Make time to do something playful, just for the fun of it	27 Be kind to you. Do something that brings you joy
28 Notice how positive emotions are contagious between people	29 Share a friendly smile with people you see today	30 Make a list of the joys in your life (and keep adding to it)				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



MAY		
Mon 31 st – Friday 4 th June		Half Term. Holiday Club Tuesday to Friday
JUNE		
Monday 7 th		Staff Training Day
Tuesday 8 th		Children back following half term
Thursday 24 th	6 to 7pm	Meet the New Teacher Evening (for all current parents with children staying next year and all new parents with children starting in September)
Friday 25 th		Reports Issued via EYLog or Email (Yr 1)
Mon 25 th onward		Opportunity to discuss Report with teacher. Email to make an appointment
JULY		
Tuesday 6 th	pm	Sports Day
Thursday 8 th	am	End of Year Parties. Party clothes permitted. Children who don't normally attend on a Thursday morning may do so.
Thursday 8 th	12 noon	Break up for Summer Holiday
Friday 9 th July to Friday 3 rd September		Holiday Club for pupils and siblings up to age 10

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

Holiday Club is still available

Parents,

If you fancy some time to yourself during half term, our holiday club is running. We have some availability, so, if you fancy a day to yourself, why not sign your little ones up?



Remember, we can take siblings too, up to the age of 10.

Email info@roxethmead.com if you want to book them in.

	Breakfast Club 8am - 9am £10.00	Morning Session 9am - 12pm	Afternoon Session 12pm - 3pm	After School Session 3- 4pm £10.00
Monday 31 st May	Not Available – Bank Holiday			
Tuesday 1 st June				
Wednesday 2 nd June				
Thursday 3 rd June				
Friday 4 th June				

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 bring a sun hat and apply 24 hour sunscreen before they arrive.