



ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning

Academic Year 2021-22

December 2021

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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. To the left we see Mrs Kalsi leading our Diwali assembly, explaining that it is a festival of new beginnings, the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness, she also shared the story of Rama and Sita. The children in all year groups showed their interpretation of Diwali and bonfire night by producing some wonderful paintings.

Our assembly on Remembrance was a chance for us to understand why we buy and wear poppies. The children sat beautifully and listened to a story and joined in with a song about peace.

11 NOVEMBER
REMEMBRANCE DAY

Lest we forget



The topics of Transport and Autumn were well received – look at these lovely displays of the children's work.



As the term has drawn to a close, we have thought about winter and Christmas – with far too much glitter for the cleaner's liking! We welcomed "Panto in a Day" who performed Dick Whittington in our school hall, "Oh no we didn't, oh yes we did". The children loved the interactive nature of the performance. The following day we had a party and at the time of writing we are in the final rehearsal stages for our Nativity at the Church.

Sadly, last week we said goodbye to Miss Klaudia who has moved out of the area. We wish her all the very best in her new ventures. In her place we welcome Mrs Bayman to our team (her photo is to the right). In January we are pleased to welcome back Mrs Sheik following her maternity leave.



Thank you parents for all your support this term. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas. See you again on 10th January.

Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Mackintosh

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Baby & Toddler Class

What a lovely term we have had in the baby room. The babies have adapted well to the daily routine. They enjoy their day and have had lots of fun learning about nursery rhymes and stories. Circle time has been a great success - it is a great opportunity to count, sing and read stories. We have also had lots of fun doing different creative activities linking to the topics of the week such as Transport, Fireworks, Winter and Christmas.



News from Pre-School

At the time of writing this we are in the middle of our Christmas arts and crafts and glitter is abundant! This is always a wonderful time of the year and it is a privilege to work with young children at this happy time and observe their excitement and wonder at the forthcoming celebrations. This half term has seen us look at the changes in our natural world during the autumn time and there is no better place to do this but in our beautiful garden where we have noticed the changing colours of the leaves and tried to catch the falling ones (not an easy task, believe me). We enjoyed looking out from the conservatory seeing the squirrels gather nuts in preparation for winter time and I know the children were very interested in this topic.

We celebrated Diwali with a special assembly and made Diwali garlands as well as diva lamps. Transport was our next topic and we made our very own Thomas the Tank engine from a couple of boxes as well as making a bus in our role play area, making hot air balloons, boats and singing lots of songs related to this theme.

The children have really been amazing during rehearsals for our nativity play and we so hope they perform as well for you on the day! We are looking forward to our Christmas party and pantomime and it only remains for us to wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Mrs L O'Neill and Mrs P Patel





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 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 writing three letter CVC words. The children have also been learning to link letter sounds to familiar objects through our weekly letter sound hunt around the classroom and through card games.

Our numeracy lessons have included counting reliably objects to 10 and matching corresponding numbers and ordering the written numbers 1-10. Next term we will focus on forming the numbers 1-10.

Our creative lessons are always fun and full of learning. The children have covered topics on Diwali, Guy Fawkes, Transport, Christmas and Winter. They engaged with a variety of resources and worked with different forms of media.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Best wishes,
Mrs Afsari and Mrs Ghatora



News from Reception Class

As we are nearing the end of the Autumn Term the children are brimming with excitement, looking forward to the Pantomime, Christmas party and their Nativity performance. They have been busy rehearsing as well as keeping up with all the academic work. The children in Reception class have adapted to their new routine, have gelled well as a group and being more independent.

They have all worked hard and progressed well in Phonics. They have been practising their long and short vowel sounds, learning to form their letters correctly and working towards more independent reading and writing.

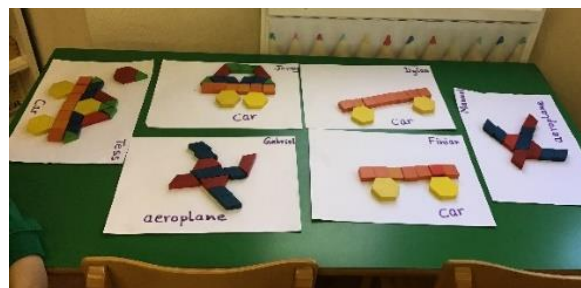
In Maths they have been consolidating their understanding of all the topics covered. As part of our topic work on 'Transport' they used 2D shapes to make cars, aeroplanes, rockets, trucks and boats. In their weekly cookery lessons with Mrs Ghatora they have learnt to weigh, measure, look at shape and size, learnt to halve, count the ingredients and develop fine motor skills while chopping, sieving, mixing and rolling the ingredients.

In our PE lessons the children have practised different ways of movement, throwing and catching a large ball, bean bags, balancing and climbing skills. They learnt about road safety when they took on the roles of car drivers, tricycle riders and pedestrians. They flew their paper planes outdoors and were quite competitive to see who could land it the furthest.

As part of our topic 'Autumn' they went on a leaf hunt in the garden and tried to collect different coloured leaves and enacted out the story 'We're Going on a LEAF HUNT' with enthusiasm. They celebrated the festival of Diwali by taking part in the assembly and making Diwali cards. They learnt about Guy Fawkes, made a Poppy and observed two minutes silence to pay respect to the soldiers on 'Remembrance Day'.

This half of the term has gone by very quickly and the children have been very busy. They have worked hard and risen to all the challenges set forth. I am so proud of all of them and would like to thank all the parents too, because without your support the progress they have made would not be possible.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.
Mrs Kalsi & Mrs Ghatora.





News from Year 1 & 2

It has been an interesting and busy Autumn half term in year 1&2. The children have done a fantastic job learning the songs and actions to our Christmas Nativity while the Narrators do an excellent job telling the story. I'm sure you all will enjoy watching the children perform on the day.

The children have also been busy working hard and learning different topics in maths such as, column adding, division, fractions and money etc.

In Literacy they have produced some great story writing 'All about Autumn' using their own experiences and also their imagination. They have been looking at a variety of rhyming words and how certain poems end with rhyming words. The children are learning how to spell days of the week and months of the year independently.

We have experimented and found out how important sun, water and soil are for the lifecycle of a plant in Science. The children have learnt all about germination and pollination. They have successfully completed the topic 'Plants' and have a very good knowledge and understanding of how plants grow and how important they are to humans and animals.

Well done year 1&2 for another successful half term. Have a wonderful holiday during this festive season. Stay safe. See you all in the new year.

Mrs Ranabahu & Miss Turei





Parents' Information



Forthcoming Topic

Our first topic after half term in EYFS will be "Marvellous Materials" – focusing on the book, "The Three Little Pigs". We will be doing some box modelling (making structures from boxes) so please send in shoe boxes, cereal boxes, clean yoghurt pots, toilet rolls etc... so your child can create a masterpiece for you!

How to Help Your Child at Home

How you can help at home

We greatly encourage and appreciate your involvement in your child's learning and you are always welcome to ask questions or seek advice on how you can support your child's learning at home. Here are a few ideas based around the EYFS areas

Personal Social & Emotional Development

- Give your child lots of opportunities to make decisions, give opinions and discuss their feelings e.g. what fruit shall we buy? How does that story make you feel? What did you like best?
- Encourage their attempts at independence and don't worry when they don't always get things right e.g. dressing themselves, doing up fastenings, tidying up.
- Show them how to resolve conflicts peacefully. For example, if they are upset because they don't want to do something, offer them some simple choices with the same outcome e.g. would you like this or that story before you go to bed?
- Value and praise their efforts, especially when trying something new.
- Take them to parks and places where they can spend time with other children.
- Play simple turn taking games.
- Talk to them about healthy food choices and why they are important.

Communication and language

- Make time for conversations with your child daily.
- Share and talk about stories and information in books..
- Play with them, commenting on what you are doing.
- Echo back what they say with new words added.
- Be aware of too much background noise e.g. tv, radio etc.
- Sing nursery rhymes.

Please speak to us if you have any concerns about your child's language development.



Physical Development

- Provide opportunities, such as visits to the park, to encourage your child to be physically active. Encourage and show them how to move in different ways, e.g. hopping, jumping, skipping.
- Sing action songs and rhymes and encourage them to dance along to music.
- Encourage mark making in lots of different ways e.g. using paints, pens, chalks on a pavement, sticks in mud etc.
- Play puzzle and threading activities to help develop hand-eye coordination.
- Show your child how to hold a pencil correctly between thumb and forefinger.
- Help your child to form letters correctly using the resources sent from school.
- Help them to practise learning to write their name, with a capital letter at the beginning and lower case letters after.

Mathematics

- Count everything with your child, from ducks on the pond to stairs up to bed.
- Sing counting songs and rhymes to help teach your child about numbers and order, as well as rhythm and rhyme e.g., 'Five Little Monkeys', 'Ten in the Bed'.
- Play counting-based games such as dominoes, ludo, snakes and ladders or number snap.
- Play 'spot the number'—focus on the numerals 0 to 9, and challenge your child to find them everywhere—on front doors, clocks, car registrations, birthday cards and more.
- Involve your child in everyday activities such as shopping and cooking to help them understand mathematical concepts such as weight, capacity, sharing and measuring.

Literacy

- Share stories and books daily with your child. Talk to them about what they have heard, drawing attention to the pictures and print.
- Visit the library to encourage and develop your child's interest and excitement in books and stories.
- Talk to them about the world around them and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together.
- Support your child's developing reading and writing skills by engaging with the resources and activities sent home from school. These will include story books to listen to and talk about, letters to practise sounding and, when ready, simple regular and irregular words to practise reading. When appropriate, simple books for your child to read will also be sent home for them to share.

Understanding the World

- Draw your child's attention to the world around them. Talk to them and encourage them to talk to you about things that they see, smell, hear and feel and the changes they notice throughout the year.
- Encourage their natural curiosity and support their ability to ask and answer questions by exploring changing materials such as freezing water or helping with simple cooking activities.
- Read and talk about information books based on their interests.
- Look at photos of family members and themselves when they were younger. Talk about the past from your own and their own personal experiences. Talk about what different people do at home, at school and in the wider community. Ask questions such as, 'what would you like to do when you grow up?'

Expressive Arts and Design

- Encourage them to draw, make pictures and models of what they are interested in, see or experience.
- Encourage them to build and create props for play using everyday junk materials e.g. turning an empty cardboard box into a castle for a toy.
- Keep a 'busy box' with things like string, tape, wrapping paper scraps, lolly sticks, stickers and straws that your child can use to make whatever they want. Ask them to talk about their creations.
- Use drama to act out things from daily life. It could be doctors, mothers, fathers, shopkeepers, firefighters – whatever your child likes. At story time, encourage your child to act out roles from a story with movements or sounds.
- Put on some favourite music to get them moving. Encourage them to march, roll, stamp, hop, slide and twirl. Point out sounds with steady beats, like a ticking clock or a dripping tap. Encourage your child to clap, tap, march or bang to the beat. Help them develop a sense of rhythm with songs, and rhymes like 'Incy wincy spider', 'Heads and shoulders', 'Five little monkeys' and 'Jack and Jill'.

Families Magazines

Read the North West London Families Magazine Autumn Issue here

https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/nw_london_Odd9661bf94586?fr=sZDMwYjQ0MTQxMjQ



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY 2022

Thursday 6 th & Friday 7 th		School closed for Staff Training
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Monday 10 th	8.30am	Children back for new term
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FEBRUARY

Mon 14 th - Friday 18 th		Half Term - Holiday Club available
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MARCH

Friday 25 th	12 noon	Break up for Easter - Holiday Club available
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APRIL

Monday 19 th		Deadline for giving written notice if your child is leaving in July
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Tuesday 19 th		Staff Training Day
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Wednesday 20 th		Children back for new term
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MAY

Mon 30 th – Friday 3 rd		Half Term - Holiday Club available
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June		
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JUNE

Monday 6 th		Children back following half term
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JULY

Thursday 7 th	12 noon	Break up for Summer Holiday – Holiday Club available
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