



ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning

Academic Year 2022-23

May 2023

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From The Co-Headteachers

We started this term frantically preparing the rooms following the very inconvenient flood caused by an unforeseen failure in the water tank. Apart from a few unsightly stains, there is now little sign of all the destruction. We have contractors booked for the summer holiday to remodel and repaint and we should be as good as new by September.

On 25th April, we were excited to have a visit from Kayleigh from ZooLab. She brought an array of small animals with her, much to the delight of the children (see page 2)

At the start of May, we joined the rest of the country in celebratory mood to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. Dressed in red, white and blue, and wearing amazing crowns that the pupils had made themselves, we had an outdoor picnic, dancing, fun and games.



The children made a card to send to the King, as seen here....



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Wishing you a lovely half term break, although we will see many of you at Holiday Club.

Best Wishes, Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Mackintosh

Zoolab Visit

On 25th April, we were excited to have a visit from Kayleigh from ZooLab. She took the children on an imaginary hunt based on the classic book “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt”, but they adapted this to, “We’re Going on an Animal Hunt”. Kayleigh took them through grass, a river, mud, a forest and a snowstorm before coming face to face with an array of amazing Zoolab animals! Using animals, song and rhymes we helped to promote language, physical, social and emotional development. The children loved it. They were not at all hesitant, even when she brought out a snake – unlike some of the staff!



News from Baby (Ladybird) Class

What an exciting term we have had, including welcoming Nathan into our class. It has been lovely seeing all the babies interact with each other and participate in the activities together - they are a delightful team.



This term we have started looking at the topic 'Spring'. The children were able to feel the different textures of the newly budded leaves and also create some lovely spring pictures. Then we looked at 'Healthy Eating'. The children were able to explore different fruit and vegetables created some colourful fruit prints and some healthy lunchboxes. The next topic was 'Mini-beasts and Life Cycles'. The children enjoyed creating mini-beast pictures and exploring mini-beasts in the Tuff Tray. We have also done lots of work around the story "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and talked about how a caterpillar changes into a butterfly.

We have enjoyed music week and used different musical instruments to create quite a cacophony of sounds! Lastly, I have to mention our amazing Coronation Party. The babies really enjoyed the garden party and loved taking part in some fun games and clapping along to the songs.

As the weather seems to be getting brighter, we are looking forward to spending more time outside in our lovely garden and beyond this, looking forward to a lovely fun filled final half term before we break up for the summer.

Mrs Sheikh & Miss Gabby



News from Toddler (Butterfly) Class



My first half term in toddler room has been nothing but enjoyable. I have found working with your lovely children has made it such fun and it has been good to establish relationships with you all as well as my lovely colleagues. Roxeth Mead is a very special place to work and I feel most fortunate. Noah, Olivia, Arabella, Aarin and Felix are without exception happy children who have accepted the routines of our room, including circle time, sitting well for stories, snack and are learning the 'boundaries' expected of them. This term has been busy with lots of different and fun activities including craft activities for our display boards. We have painted using various methods and stuck and have made blossom trees, butterflies, flowers, various insects and our room looks bright and colourful. We loved finding plastic insects in the spaghetti as well as digging in the garden. As the weather has improved we are spending lots of time in the lovely garden running, playing with balls, using the cars and bikes, climbing and using the sand tray. We look forward to another happy term and wish you all a lovely bank holiday weekend.

Miss N Gordon and Miss A Hayes



News From The Lower Pre-School (Parrot Class)



This term saw us welcome Mary, Ayana and Billy and we have enjoyed seeing them settle so well, as well as to see their families once again. It is a huge part of our lovely school to see families return again and again and, the longer I have been here, to see a couple of parents who attended Roxeth Mead and now bring their children!

This term started with us looking at the season Spring and the changes it brings (unfortunately not the warmer weather!) We painted beautiful blossom on trees, painted butterflies and flowers and enjoyed planting and watching our cress seeds grow. We went on a bug hunt in our garden and found a worm, spider and woodlouse! We also hunted through spaghetti for toy insects.

A highlight of the term has been a visit by a lovely lady from Zoolab who brought in various creatures for us to see including a cockroach, snake and giant frog. Even the youngest of children were totally absorbed in seeing the animals!

The entire school made a card to send to our new King and our class decorated the front cover. We are eagerly awaiting a reply from the Palace! The children helped put up bunting in the garden and made some super crowns. The sun shone for our coronation garden party and we had such fun playing games, dancing and chasing bubbles!

As I write this we are preparing for our music week where our class will be working around the book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We will be using various things to recreate the noises in the book such as blowing in plastic bottles to make the 'woo woo' sound of the wind, making drums to recreate 'stumble trip' through the forest, shaking water in bottles for the 'splash splash' of the river and making shakers to represent the sounds of 'swishy swishy' through the grass!

This group of children are a credit to you all. They are all firm friends and a delight to know. I am sure next term will be equally happy with lots of lovely things to look forward to.

Mrs L O'Neill, Mrs P Ghatora and Miss Pallavi





News From The Upper Pre-School Room (Squirrels)

We are fast approaching the end of the academic year and it's been so wonderful to see how the children have developed and progressed in so many ways.

I would like to welcome some children and their families who joined the Upper Preschool class after Easter. Elias, Shrey, Cameron, Olivia and Ayman. I wish you all a happy half term with us.



During our topic sessions we have been exploring Spring, Life Cycles, Mini beasts, Music and Dinosaurs.

The children were very active during our spring topic and engaged in various creative activities. We made butterflies, caterpillars, dragon flies, ladybirds, bumble bees and flowers using different forms of media.

We read the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar and acted out the story. The children learned the sequence of the life cycle of the butterfly.

During our topic on Music, the children had an opportunity to play a variety of musical instruments and learn their names. We played listening games and the children learned to recognise the instrument by closing their eyes and relating on their listening skills.

During Literacy the children are learning to recognise the sounds of the alphabet using synthetic phonics following the Read Write Inc programme. The children are always engaged during the activity and are progressing well. We are also developing comprehension skills by asking lots of questions relating to the text during story time.

In Numeracy, the children are focusing on recognising the written numerals 1-10 and counting objects to 10. we also reinforce this with singing number rhymes.

I wish you a very happy half term break. Kind regards, Mrs Afsari





News From The Nursery and Reception Room (Tigers)



The first half of the Summer term has been a busy one and we have managed to pack in a lot within these few weeks. Miss Gohil joined our class this term and we welcome her.

We had a visit from Zoo Lab and the children got to see and touch a variety of creatures from around the world. The children were fascinated and talked about this experience for weeks.

We got into our celebratory mode to celebrate King Charles's coronation with an outdoor picnic, dancing, fun and games. The children made a special card to congratulate the King by drawing pictures of him and dressed up in red, blue and white colours.

Our first topic was 'Spring, Life cycles and Minibeasts' and the children painted blossom, butterflies, Ladybirds in their art lessons. In order to have a good understanding of the life cycle of a plant they sowed Sunflower seeds, looked after them and watched their progress. They made a picture of the various stages of the lifecycle of a Butterfly and had a close look at the egg and chrysalis of an Atlas Moth. They did a picture sequencing activity to understand the life cycle of a Frog and labelled it.

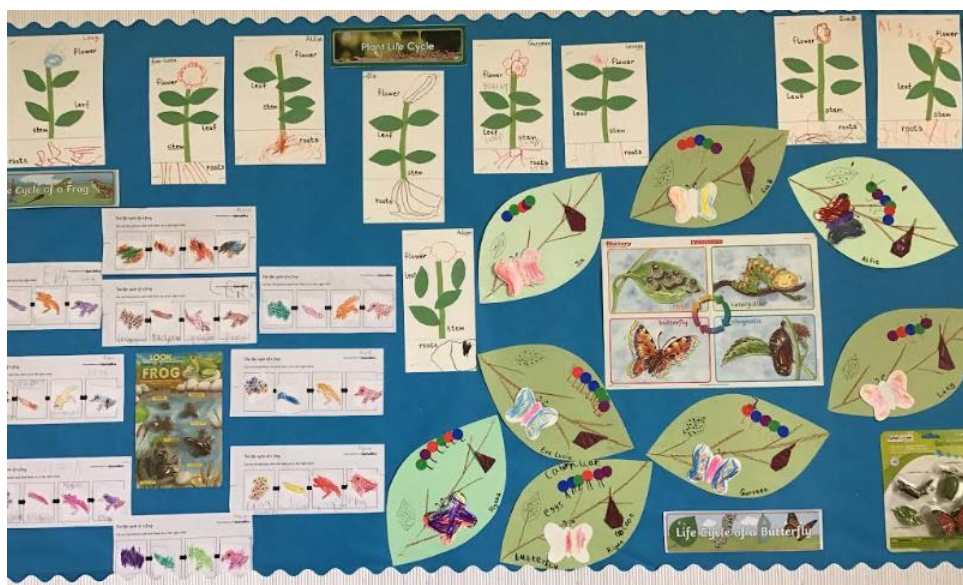
Our 'Music week' saw the children engage in playing musical instruments to music, while listening to a story, dancing and got to pluck the strings of a Ukulele and a Violin.

Our last topic helped us to delve into the fascinating world of Dinosaurs and everyone had some favourites. We read stories, looked at non-fiction books to find more information, sang action songs and made masks for role-play.

We have kept up with our Phonics work, reading and writing and the children have made great progress. Our Maths work has been consolidating the children's understanding of all the topics through practical work.

The children in Tiger class have worked hard and participated in all the activities with enthusiasm, and it is hard to believe that we only have another half term together before they leave in July and move on to new schools in September.

Wishing you all a restful half term. Mrs Kalsi, Mrs Ghatara & Miss Gohil.





Parents' Information



Topics for Next Half Term:

Animal World	Date	Topic	
	5 th June	All about Animals – to include: Farm Animals, Pets, Jungle Animals, Sea Creatures	15th June Visit to Willows Farm
	12 th June		Father's Day 18 th June
	19 th June		
	26 th June	Summer	
	3 rd July		Sports Day 4 th July
	10 th July		Break Up 12 th July

Fees Letter

I hope you saw our letter emailed to you on 12th May. If not, it is here again for you....

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that it is now five years since we bought Roxeth Mead School. We have always been determined to maintain the excellent provisions that Roxeth Mead had been known for and to continuously improve and update them. I hope you agree that we have done just that. Whilst the last 5 years have brought some challenges, not least the pandemic, we have continued to focus on what matters most - what is best for the children, offering high quality care and education.

When we took over in April 2018, we made the decision to not increase the fees and they have remained at 2018 levels ever since. However, we have now come to the difficult decision that we must increase our fees for the forthcoming academic year, so that we can continue to provide high-quality education and care to your children. I attach a copy of the new fee structure to this email. There are several reasons for this decision, including increased operating costs, rising salaries (we want to reward our staff fairly) and exorbitant energy costs. As you know, providing the best possible environment for your children is our top priority, and these changes are necessary to continue to do so.

We understand that an increase in fees might be difficult for some families, and we want to assure you that we have explored all possible options to keep the fee increase as minimal as possible. We are committed to maintaining our high standards of education and care for your children, and we believe that this increase is necessary to continue to provide the level of service you have come to expect from us. However, please come and speak to us if this increase results in significant financial difficulties for you.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we move forward with this change. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We value your feedback and look forward to continuing to work with you and your family.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Mackintosh, Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Blunt
Proprietors

Current Staffing - Summer Term

Due to an unexpected resignation during the Easter holidays, we had to make a quick change to the Toddler Room staffing for this term. We were very pleased that Miss Natalie Gordon, who helps at After School and Holiday Club, agreed to take on the role and is now the Key Worker for the toddlers.

We also welcome Miss Ambereen to our team this term, helping in Squirrels class.

There will be more staff changes in September because Mrs Afsari is leaving in the summer to take up a new post as a nursery manager elsewhere. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Willows Farm Trip



A reminder that we have organised a trip to Willows Activity Farm, near St Albans Farm on Thursday 15th June. This fits with our topic of Animals. Your child is invited, even if they do not normally attend on a Thursday. The children will be travelling by coach with their teachers and volunteer parent helpers. The coach will leave the Welsh Congregational Church, Lower Road, **promptly at 9.00am** thus all children must be in school by **8.30 am**. We will leave the farm at 2pm so hope to be back at the Church by 3.00pm, depending upon traffic. Please collect your child from the Welsh Congregational Church, not school, except if they are staying to after school club of course.

Children should wear their uniform so we can easily identify them on the trip. Please ensure they have a packed lunch in a bag that can be disposed of after lunch, and a re-sealable water bottle. Put this all in their green school rucksack. The children will need to carry their own rucksacks so please be mindful of packing light items. Please pack a raincoat if the forecast is for rain and pack a sunhat if it is sunny. If they are prone to accidents, please send your child with a change of clothes and underwear just in case. Please let us know if your child suffers with travel sickness.

Sports Day

We would like to invite you and your families to join us on Tuesday 4th July. Please arrive from 10.30a.m. ready for a 10.45 start. Please note that there are parking restrictions on Middle Road from 10am to 2pm, so ensure you leave enough time to find parking off The Hill.

We invite you to bring a picnic lunch for you and your child, and stay for lunch on the grass. No alcohol permitted. After lunch, at approximately 1' o clock you are free to take your child home or leave them with us until your normal collection time.

If your child does not normally attend on a Tuesday, you are more than welcome to bring them in for this whole school event.

The babies and toddlers (aged under 2 years) will not be participating in the sports events, but you are very welcome to come along to sit with your child to watch and then stay for the picnic.

Please ensure your child is wearing their sports uniform (shorts, t-shirt, trainers, green school jumper) suncream and sunhat on that day.



Summer Uniform & Be Sun Safe

We hope the weather will be warmer when we return after the May break. A reminder that the boys can wear grey or white shorts and the girls a green gingham dress if they like.

On sunny days please do not forget to apply sun cream before school and pack some in their bag for topping up through the day. A sun hat is also essential, these can be purchased from the school.



Parent / Teacher Meetings

We will be producing a report in the last week of June. This will be issued by via the EYLog for all classes except Tiger class. Tiger class's report will be emailed. Once you have your report, you are invited to make an appointment with the class teacher to discuss it if you wish.

French Club

If you want your child to learn French, you might like to explore this French weekend club. Have a look at <https://startmontessori.com/>

Disclaimer – we are advertising this on behalf of someone in our community. The quality of the club has not been checked by us. It is up to parents to check the credentials of the person running the club and that they are fully DBS checked.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



JUNE		
Monday 5 th		Children back following half term
Thursday 15 th	All Day	Summer outing to Willows Farm (not babies & toddlers). Leaving school at 8.45 arriving back to Welsh Congregational Church at 3pm. Pick up from The Church.
Monday 26 th		Summer Reports issued this week. Please book a convenient time with the teacher if you wish to discuss the report.
JULY		
Tuesday 4 th	10.30am – 1.00	Sports day and picnic lunch
Tuesday 11 th July	9.30 am	Nursery Class Leavers Assembly
Wednesday 12 th July	9.30 – 11.30	End of Year Class Parties
Wednesday 12 th	12 noon	Break up for Summer Holiday
Thursday 13 th to Friday	8am to 4pm	Holiday Club available. See Booking Sheet that has been emailed.

Summer Term 2023

Half Term:

Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Term Ends:

Wednesday 12th July at midday

Autumn Term 2023

Inset for Staff: Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September

Term Begins:

Wednesday 6th September

Half Term:

Monday 16th October – Friday 27th October

Term Ends:

Wednesday 13th December at midday after Christmas Nativity

Holiday Club - 14th and 15th December

School Closed 2 weeks over Christmas

Spring Term 2024

Inset for Staff: Monday 8th January

Term Begins:

Tuesday 9th January

Half Term:

Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

Term Ends:

Thursday 28th March at midday

Summer Term 2024

Inset for Staff: Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd April

Term Begins:

Wednesday 24th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

Half Term:

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Term Ends:

Friday 12th July at midday

ROXETH MEAD FEES FROM SEPTEMBER 2023

Baby & Toddlers (3 months - 2 years)		
3 sessions minimum	£ 2,160.00	per term
4 sessions	£ 2,500.00	per term
5 sessions	£ 2,790.00	per term
6 sessions	£ 3,055.00	per term
7 sessions	£ 3,320.00	per term
8 sessions	£ 3,585.00	per term
9 sessions	£ 3,850.00	per term
10 sessions Full Time	£ 4,100.00	per term
Pre-school (2-3 years)		
3 sessions minimum	£ 2,120.00	per term
4 sessions	£ 2,430.00	per term
5 sessions	£ 2,700.00	per term
6 sessions	£ 2,960.00	per term
7 sessions	£ 3,220.00	per term
8 sessions	£ 3,480.00	per term
9 sessions	£ 3,740.00	per term
10 sessions Full Time	£ 4,000.00	per term
Nursery (3-4 years)		
4 sessions minimum	£ 2,500.00	per term
5 sessions	£ 2,790.00	per term
6 sessions	£ 2,995.00	per term
7 sessions	£ 3,200.00	per term
8 sessions	£ 3,405.00	per term
9 sessions	£ 3,610.00	per term
10 sessions Full Time	£ 3,800.00	per term
Reception (4-5 years)		
Full Time only	£ 3,975.00	per term
Extra Ad Hoc Sessions		
Morning, £47.00	Extra half hour to 12.30, £5.50	Afternoon, £37.00
Clubs		
Breakfast, 2yrs & under, 8.00– 8.30am (ad hoc) (including breakfast)	£ 8.00	per session
Breakfast 8.00– 8.30am (ad hoc) (including breakfast)	£ 5.50	per session
After school Club to 4.00pm (ad hoc) babies & preschool	£ 13.20	per session
Afterschool club to 4.00pm (ad hoc)	£ 10.50	per session
Extended Afterschool Club 4.00pm – 5.00pm (ad hoc)	£ 10.50	per session
5 DAYS After school Club to 4.00pm (ad hoc) babies & preschool	£ 660.00	per term
5 DAYS Breakfast Club 8.00- 8.30am	£ 275.00	per term
5 DAYS After school Club 3.00 to 4.00pm	£ 525.00	per term
5 DAYS Extended Club 4.00 to 5.00pm	£ 525.00	per term
Holiday Club is available from 8am to 4pm in each holiday		
Age 1 = £ 30.00 per session	Age 2 -3 = £ 25.00 per session	Age 3 and above £20.00 per session (half day)
Sibling Discounts are as follows:- 1st child normal fees; 2nd child 5.0% discount; 3rd child 10% discount.		
Concessions are available for children of all employees of Harrow School and John Lyon School – please enquire		