



# ROXETH MEAD NEWSLETTER

*In Discendo Gaudium – Joy of Learning*

Academic Year 2024-25

Edition 5 of 6 – Summer Term 1

May 2025

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## From The Headteacher

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter of the academic year! Although this half term was a short one at just five weeks, it certainly didn't stop us from packing in a wide range of exciting learning experiences. Our pupils have explored fascinating topics including *Transport*, *People Who Help Us*, and enjoyed vibrant *Music and Art Weeks*. With the glorious weather on our side, we've also been making full use of our beautiful garden — a perfect setting for outdoor learning and play. We're delighted to share some lovely photos capturing the joy and energy of our pupils enjoying their time outside.



Buckholt House  
25 Middle Road  
Harrow on the Hill  
HA2 0HW  
0208 422 2092  
[info@roxethmead.com](mailto:info@roxethmead.com)  
[www.roxethmead.com](http://www.roxethmead.com)

Wishing you a lovely half term break. Best Wishes, Mrs Mackintosh



## News from Baby (Ladybird) Class

Another joyful term has come to an end in the Baby Room! After a refreshing three-week Easter break, it was wonderful to welcome the children back, full of smiles and excitement to return to nursery.



We began the term with our engaging topic on Transport, which the children absolutely loved. They immersed themselves in a range of creative activities including painting boats, sticking shapes onto hot air balloons, and enjoying water play with floating boats. The lovely weather added to the fun, giving the children plenty of opportunities to explore the garden, enjoy their snacks outside, play hide and seek, crawl through tunnels, and take part in exciting parachute games.



Next, we moved on to the fascinating world of Music. The children had a fantastic time doing hand and foot printing, exploring our musical wall, and experimenting with different instruments. A particular highlight was filling bottles with colourful pasta to create their own shakers and discovering the different sounds they made. They also enjoyed listening to the guitar being played and singing along to various nursery rhymes, as well as sitting down to enjoy our story of the week, Clip Clop.

We wrapped up the half term with a bright and cheerful topic: Colours. The room was filled with joy as the children played with colourful balloons, practised counting with vibrant jars, and explored the beautiful world of rainbows through our story, The Rainbow Book.

We're also delighted to welcome two new friends to the Baby Room! Alba and Rudra will be joining us from June and have already begun settling in beautifully. They have made a wonderful start and are already making friends in the Ladybird Class. A big warm welcome to both of you!

Thank you for your continued support. We wish you all a restful and happy half-term break and look forward to welcoming you back in a week!

Warm regards, Miss Shaheen, Miss Pallavi and Miss Natalie





## News from Toddler (Butterfly) Class



This half term in Butterfly Class, we've had a fantastic time learning through play and exploring a wide range of exciting activities. It's been a joy getting to know all the children and planning fun, meaningful experiences for them to enjoy as they grow and learn together. We were delighted to welcome three new friends to our class: Laila, Sienna, and Noémie. It's been lovely getting to know them and seeing how well they've settled in.

Our topics this half term have given us plenty of opportunities to explore, be creative, and develop new skills and vocabulary. We began with the topic of **Transport**, where we talked about different modes of transport, how they move, and where we might find them. The children made traffic lights to play a stop-and-go game, and gave the Little Tikes cars a wash – a fun way to strengthen both fine and gross motor skills. There was also lots of mark making using paints and pens, with every child showing off their creativity.



Next, we explored the topic of **People Who Help Us**. Our topic table featured various emergency vehicles, and we focused on professions such as firefighters, police officers and doctors. The role-play area was transformed into a hospital, where children could extend their play and

work together to help make people better. A class favourite has been the nursery rhyme Miss Polly and the children especially loved pretending to be firefighters, using their fingers and hands to spray 'water' and put out fires. Alongside these activities, the children have engaged in play across our different learning areas – the maths table, literacy/fine motor station, construction zone, and small world play. Throughout the day, nursery rhymes and stories are always a firm favourite.

We then moved on to our **Music** topic. The children explored different musical instruments, discovering the wonderful sounds they make. They enjoyed dancing, creating their own movements, and even making their own instruments!



We've also introduced '**Special Time**', also known as Bucket Time with Miss Faye. This adult-led activity promotes listening and attention skills, turn-taking, and participation in interactive play.

Another new addition has been **Cooking Wednesdays**, where the children have practised their cutting and listening skills, followed

instructions, and made delicious treats like fruit kebabs, pizza, and salad. They've all worked incredibly hard and shown great enthusiasm.

In our final two weeks, we'll be focusing on **Colours, Shapes, and Numbers**. The children will be creating artwork using different materials and mark-making tools, experimenting with colour mixing, and taking part in lots of fun classroom activities.

It's been wonderful to see how well the children have adapted to new routines and challenges this half term. They've made fantastic progress, and we're so proud of each and every one of them.

We hope you all have a lovely break and look forward to welcoming you back for more fun and learning!

Miss Faye and Miss Gohil



## News From Pre-School (Parrot Class)

We can't believe how quickly this half term has flown by — time really does fly when you're having fun!

First of all, a warm welcome to **Avni**, who has joined our class and settled in beautifully. It's been such a joy to watch all the children grow, mature, and truly flourish across all areas of their development this term.



We began our journey this term with the exciting topic of **Transport**. The children had a fantastic time exploring different types of vehicles that travel by land, air, and water. We got creative making cars, hot air balloons, and boats using a variety of materials — the imagination was flowing! We also spoke about how the children travel to school and learned about traffic lights, including what red and green mean. The children enjoyed a fun role-play session where some children became traffic lights, while others drove around on trikes — it was a hit!

As we moved on to **People Who Help Us**, we explored the amazing jobs that everyday heroes like doctors, nurses, firefighters, and police officers do. The children impressed us by identifying their uniforms, vehicles, and the important roles they play in our community. We even made our own police cars and

fire engines in our creative area, and had lots of fun talking about the different siren sounds!

Next up was our lively **Music** topic. We explored a variety of musical instruments and their unique sounds, from guitars to homemade shakers! We listened to different music genres and discussed how each one made us feel. The children developed their listening skills by copying beats played by the teacher, and even got the chance to strum a real guitar! Music gave them a wonderful outlet to express their feelings and emotions — a truly joyful experience.

We're currently diving into the world of **Kandinsky Art**, where we've been admiring his colourful, expressive pieces. The children have been learning how Kandinsky was inspired by music and how different colours can represent different feelings. They've been creating their own Kandinsky-inspired masterpieces — using chalk, paintbrushes, and even shape printing to bring their creativity to life.

In **Phonics**, we've been introducing a range of letter sounds. The children have been brilliant at imitating the sounds and making early attempts at writing each letter. To keep phonics fun and engaging, we've used playdough, rice trays, and colouring sheets to support their learning through sensory play.

Thank you for your continued support — we've had a fantastic term and are so proud of all your children.

We wish you all a restful and happy half-term break!

Mrs Sheikh, Miss Layla, Mrs Burney & Miss Chrissy.









## News from Nursery (Tigers) Class



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.



After the Easter break, we carried on with the topic of 'Spring' and the children sowed Sunflower seeds, looked after them and learned about the lifecycle of a plant. They were aware that the seeds needed sunlight and water to germinate. They took their plants home and have kept us updated on how the plants are doing. We gathered more information about plants by looking at non-fiction books.

Our next topic 'People Who Help Us' got the children dressing up to

take on different roles ranging from policemen, fire fighters, doctors, shop keepers, customers, till manager, nurses. They helped to set up our Pudding Lane bakery, Pizza parlour, Café and a shop. They donned the chef's hat to cook delicious meals, sat with friends at the café to drink tea, scanned goods at the till, wrote a shopping list and paid for their shopping.



The 'Transport' topic got the children to sort out various modes of transport according to where they travel. They were quite taken aback to find out that in the past there were no cars, trains or aeroplanes and that people travelled by horse driven carriages. They used 2D shapes to make boats, lorries, aeroplanes, cars and many more types of transport. The children were fascinated by the Bee-bot and waited patiently for their turn. They learned to programme it to move from the starting point to a particular point on a grid-based road map, understanding the use of directional language and sequencing.



Our 'Music week' saw the children engage in playing musical instruments, sorting them, making shakers, learning to pluck the strings of a Ukulele and using a bow to play the Violin. They listened to the sounds of instruments from around the world like the Scottish bagpipes, Didgeridoo, Guitar, Harp and a Piano.



Andy Goldsworthy was our artist of the week and his nature inspired artwork, using natural resources got the children to be very imaginative. They created faces using materials like leaves, flowers, twigs, leaves, pinecones, pebbles, grass, shells and lavender.

They have particularly looked forward to their cookery lessons, always eager to find out what they'll be making next. Storytime, singing, and dancing, especially learning and remembering the sequences for the 'Stick Dance', have brought them great enjoyment.



They have stayed engaged with their Phonics work, making strong progress in both reading and writing. Their understanding of mathematical concepts has grown through practical, hands-on activities. The children have also created beautiful artwork, now proudly displayed on our boards.



Their enthusiasm and love of learning have been a joy to witness. They have developed a strong sense of independence, not only in their learning but also in looking after themselves. As a close-knit group, they enjoy playing together and have built strong, positive friendships.

Wishing you all a good half term.

Mrs Kalsi, Mrs Ghatora & Miss Renee.





# Parents' Information



## Topics for Next Half Term:

AMAZING ANIMALS	W/b	Babies & Toddlers	Pre-School	Nursery
	2 <sup>nd</sup> June TRIP TO FARM on 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Animal names and sounds Pets	Animal names, names of offspring. Farm Animals	Include names of offspring, habitats, what animals need to survive. Wild Animals <b>Tiger Who Came to Tea. The Jungle Run</b>
	9 <sup>th</sup>	Wild Animals	Pets <b>Where's Spot</b>	Farm Animals
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Farm Animals <b>Old Macdonald Had a Farm. Mary had a little lamb. Baa Baa Black sheep 1 2 2 3 4 5, This little Piggy Noisy Farm</b> Father's day Cards / Eid al-Adha	Wild Animals <b>Elmer Dear Zoo Animal Boogie</b> Father's day Cards / Eid al-Adha	Pets & Vets Father's day Cards Eid al-Adha
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Summer & Seaside	Under the Sea – Book : <b>Fidgety Fish Shark in the Park</b>	Under the Sea – <b>Tiddler Commotion in the Ocean Jolly Olly Octopus, Snail &amp; Whale</b>
	30 <sup>th</sup> June 7 <sup>th</sup> Break Up Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Under the Sea. Summer <b>Once I caught a fish alive</b>	Summer & Seaside	Summer & Seaside Keeping safe in the sun

## Willows Farm Visit

A reminder that we have organised a trip to Willows Activity Farm, near St Albans on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**. This fits with our topic of Animals. A list of attendees and has already been circulated by email. 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 if you have not already done so.



*\*We have a few of the lightweight green back packs in stock at school for £10 if you wish to purchase one. Email us.*

## Moving up Event Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June

An informal opportunity to pop in any time between 3 and 5pm to meet the Room Leader that will be teaching your child from September and to see their new classroom. Children are welcome to attend with parents.

## Sports Day & Picnic - 3<sup>rd</sup> July

We would like to invite parents and extended family members to join us on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July for Sports Day**. Please arrive from 10.30 a.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. Entrance will be via the Car Park gates and across the playground.

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.

All children, including our toddlers will be participating in the event, to varying degrees based on their age. Please ensure your child is wearing shorts, t-shirt, trainers and green school jumper, plus sun cream and sunhat.





## Summer Term Report

We will issue a report in the last week of June. This will be issued by via the EYLog for Babies, Toddlers and Pre-School and email for the Nursery Class. We hope the report will be self explanatory, but once you have your report, you are invited to make an appointment with the class teacher to discuss it if you wish.

## Our Uniform Provider

Our uniform is available online. Everything is made to order, so you need to allow 7-10 working days for the order to be ready. <https://www.aceclothing.co.uk/products-school/roxeth-mead/uniform-3/boys-girls>

## Online Profile

We are trying to raise the online profile of Roxeth Mead on Google and Bing. If you have a few moments, would you mind searching for Roxeth Mead Nursery on Google and Bing and posting a review for us? Your help would be very much appreciated.

## Hot Meals

A reminder that meals are available to book for £4.50. All meals are either Annabel Karmel or Little Dish Range. Both ranges promise 1 or more of your 5 a-day, low in salt, 100% natural ingredients and no added sugar. You can also book snacks for 50 pence each.

**\*\* We now offer salad OR vegetables with the main meals. Please email to let us know your preference.**

## Summer Uniform & Be Sun Safe

Now the weather is warmer, a reminder that the boys can wear 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.



## Childcare Funding

A reminder that we participate in the Government's Scheme offering your child subsidised childcare per week. The funding commences the term **after** your child becomes eligible. All working parents who earn less than £100,000 a year can apply for working parent funding from the term after your child turns 9 months old. All parents, irrespective of income, can get 15 subsidised hours **from the term after your child's 3rd birthday**, starting on 1 January, 1 April or 1 September. For more information on funding, consult the Child Care Choices website <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

**It is the parent's responsibility to get all the relevant codes and information to the Nursery in time, so that money can be claimed. If you do not submit this information, the Nursery cannot offer you the funding and you will be liable for the full fees.**

## Activities for Half Term

### 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 a simple, yet effective 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 Educational Websites:

<b>Storytelling – The Book Trust</b>	<a href="https://www.booktrust.org.uk/how-we-help/parents-families/">https://www.booktrust.org.uk/how-we-help/parents-families/</a>
<b>Fun Science at Home</b>	<a href="https://pstt.org.uk/resources/curriculum-materials/Science-Fun-at-Home">https://pstt.org.uk/resources/curriculum-materials/Science-Fun-at-Home</a>
<b>Art therapy ideas:</b>	<a href="https://intuitivecreativity.typepad.com/expressiveartinspirations/100-art-therapy-exercises.html">https://intuitivecreativity.typepad.com/expressiveartinspirations/100-art-therapy-exercises.html</a>
<b>BBC Tiny Happy People</b>	bbc.co.uk/tinyhappypeople Instagram @bbctinyhappypeople Email: tinyhappy.people@bbc.co.uk

## Dinosaur Event at Harrow Arts Centre, Saturday 31st May

<https://harrowarts.com/whats-on>



## National Smile Month

Between 13 May and 13 June 2024, the Oral Health Foundation will be raising awareness of important oral health issues with the theme: **Love Your Smile** and offering Ideas for getting children interested in their oral health.

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



## Families Magazine

Sign up at this link to get Families Magazine emailed directly to your inbox  
<https://www.familiesmag.co.uk/go>



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



MAY		
26 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup>		Half Term - Holiday Club available 27 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup>
JUNE		
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Children back following half term
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	All day	Trip to Willows Farm for children aged 2+
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>		End of year reports issued this week via email for Nursery class and via EYLog for other classes
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	3 to 5pm	Moving up Event. An informal opportunity to pop in any time between 3 and 5pm to meet the Room Leader that will be teaching your child next year and to see their new classroom. Children are welcome to attend with parents.
JULY		
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.45am	Sports Day & Picnic Lunch
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Nursery (Tigers) Class assembly to parents
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Break up for Summer Holiday



Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>		First day of holiday club
<b>AUGUST</b>		
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>		Last day of holiday club
19 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup>		School Closed
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> & Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Staff Training and settling of new pupils only (by invitation)
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>		New Term Starts 8am for all

## TERM DATES

### 2024-2025

**May Half Term 2025 :** Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May  
**Term Ends:** Friday 11th July at midday

### 2025-2026

#### AUTUMN TERM 2025

**Inset for Staff:** Monday 1st September & Tuesday 2nd September

**Term Begins:** Wednesday 3rd September

**Half Term:** Monday 20th October – Friday 31st October

**Term Ends:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at midday after the Nativity – NO afternoon provision  
 Holiday Club – available 12th to 19th December  
 School Closed 2 weeks over Christmas

#### SPRING TERM 2026

**Inset for Staff:** Monday 5th January

**Term Begins:** Tuesday 6th January

**Half Term:** Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February (holiday club available)

**Term Ends:** Friday 27th March

*Easter: Friday 3rd April – Monday 6th April*

#### SUMMER TERM 2026

**Inset for Staff:** Monday 20th April

**Term Begins:** Tuesday 21st April

Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May

**Half Term:** Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May (holiday club available)

**Term Ends: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July**