Roxbourne Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th May 2023



Extra-Curricular Activities in HT5 and HT6 (it is going to be a super busy one)

Life at Roxbourne is always busy, however, the last two half-terms of the academic year will be particularly busy and very exciting! We have a lot planned in the coming weeks and our Newsletter is the place to read all our updates about:

- Educational Visits for each year group (usually linked to History, Geography or Science)
- Educational Visits for RE
- Educational Visits for PE (Y3 Y6 only)
- Residentials which include a school sleepover, camping and a four day visits to PGL Windmill Hill (Y3 Y6 only)
- Sports Day
- Our 2023 Roxbourne Summer Fair

Visit from DfE and Claire Cutinho, Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing

We have had some positive engagement and feedback from the Department for Education recently, this includes the congratulatory letter regarding our Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check results and a recent visit from Claire Cutinho, Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing. These letters and visits are testament to the great work we do here at Roxbourne.

During the Easter Holidays, we hosted Claire Cutinho (@ClaireCoutinho) at Roxbourne as she was keen to see what a DfE funded Holiday Camp looked like. The camps are currently delivered by the Magna Group on our site, and for some pupils, they are free due to low family income - it ensures disadvantaged pupils receive activities and a meal during school closure periods (half-terms, Christmas, Easter and Summer breaks). There are some pictures below as well as video links for you to enjoy!

- Claire Cutinho Video: Click here.
- Harrow Council Video: Click here.





Year Group Updates

Nursery Update

After our walk to the park and having seen builders last week, we decided to have a builders site. On Monday morning pupils were excited to see their new roleplay and have been extremely busy fixing and creating new buildings. This is where pupils make sense of their world and act out experiences and ideas. Our roleplay area is also supporting their imagination, language and creativity. It's also developing their numeracy skills as some were seen using tape measures and comparing the height of their buildings.

In Literacy, Nursery pupils have continued with Winnie the Witch adventures (Winnie and the flying carpet, Winnie in space, Winnie's midnight dragon etc). Pupils are busy making potions in our outdoor area and we have also made our own witch who is very kind and uses kind hands:).

In Maths we are learning to form numbers using various writing tools, such as chalks, crayons, finger paints etc.







Reception Update

This week the children took part in National numeracy day. We spoke about how maths is important to us and discussed how we use numbers in our daily lives. We were also lucky to have a visitor come and talk to us about their Job as a Mindfulness Trainer. The children learnt how important it is to know how to regulate emotions and use mindfulness to be calm.

In Writing this week, we introduced our new story Zog. The children have been busy learning the story by using actions to help write the story next week. Linked to literacy in our Humanities topic, we looked at dragon and discussed how they are mythical creatures.



In Maths, we revisited the unit about measure, specifically learning vocabulary of capacity. Children have been using this language in the water and sand areas. We also looked at the language used to describe and compare weight. Please take time to use this vocabulary with your children in your home routine.

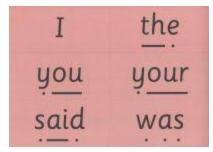


Bonds to Five.

Click the link to help your child learn their number bonds to 5.



In Phonics please ensure that your child knows the following 'special friends' (Digraphs)





Video link here

Video link here (watch up to 5m 18s)

Y1 Update

In Maths this week, we have been learning how to solve **word problems**. We know that there are four steps to solve a word problem. First, we need to **read** the problem. Then, we need to choose our operation (+ or -). Next, we need to write the **equation**. Finally, we shall **solve** our equation. In Writing, we have been learning about how to describe a setting. We know what the **features of setting description** are. Time of day, adjectives and using our senses. We were able to create a **box plan** of a setting description from the story '**Small Knight and George**'.

In Science this week, we have had lots of fun understanding what happens to plants and animals in the summer. We know that the warm **sunny** days of summer help plants to grow and flower. Many trees and plants produce fruit and vegetables during summer. We used our five **senses** to look at grapes, tomatoes and strawberries in greater detail. This week in Geography, we learnt what **England** is famous for. We know that England is the largest country in the United Kingdom, and London is the capital! We also know that the **rose** is the national flower of England. The flag of England is taken from **Saint George's Cross**. In Art this week, we have had lots of fun painting! We are looking at William Hogarth's picture '**The Graham Children'**. We had the opportunity to paint our own version of The Graham Children. We know the difference between **primary** and **secondary** colours, and how that will help our painting.

During this week, Y1 had a fantastic trip to **Westminster Abbey**. We were so excited to see The Abbey and all the historic artefacts such as **The Coronation Chair**. We even got a glimpse of **Big Ben** as we came out of the station. Why not have a look at some of the pictures we took during the day!









Please practise the sounds below with your child.

ea

oi

<u>а-е</u>

Learning to blend lesson 24

Y2 Update

This week Year 2 have completed their key stage 1 SATs. We are very proud of them, well done to each and every child! Alongside our SATs this week we had a super afternoon completing Maths activities for National Numeracy day. The children thought about what they would like to be when they're older and how Maths would help them in their desired job. We also saw some great dance moves from Year 2!

In Science we investigated how much water we waste while washing our teeth with the tap on. It was a great experiment for the children to understand the importance of saving water. We also looked at different areas of the school and thought about how we could recycle better. In Geography we continued to learn about Kenya, we were comparing the different lives of two children who live in rural and urban parts of Kenya.

Please continue to support your child by listening to them read every day for at least **15 minutes** and filling in their reading record with comments afterwards. Ensure CGP Maths books and English homework is completed to a high level.

Y3 Update

This week in Year 3 the children have been reading a fact file called 'Tree Families'. We focused on learning new key vocabulary: classify, adapt, and produce and we completed different activities to understand what the words mean. The children then applied retrieval and inference skills to answer questions about the text. It was fascinating to learn about how trees are classified and how the oldest, largest, and tallest living trees are all conifers.

In Writing, we began box planning our narrative based on the story 'The Great Kapok Tree'. The children recapped the key features and made sure to include these in their box plans.

In Maths, we have continued with our topic on fractions. In particular, we have been learning to compare fractions. We used our key vocabulary, denominator and numerator to compare fractions with the same denominator. The children also read word problems involving fractions and they made sure to follow the steps of success to solve these correctly.

In Geography, we continued with our topic on Climate Zones and Biomes. We looked at understanding what a biome means and how there are different biomes all over the world. In particular, we focused on 8 different biomes. We used a map to identify where these biomes are located. The children also looked at the characteristics of each biome, such as what the climate and seasons are like.

On Wednesday, Year 3 had a wonderful time visiting the Sealife Aquarium. It was great to see so many of the children excited and eager to learn about the different marine organisms. We also experienced the rainforest section of the aquarium and saw the climate conditions that penguins need to survive, which links to some of the biomes that we have explored in Geography lessons. Have a look at some of the incredible views below!

Please continue to support your child by listening to them read every day for at least **15 minutes** and filling in their reading record with comments afterwards. When they complete a book, they should also complete a quiz about the book on **Accelerated Reader**. Please also support your child in completing their weekly **Maths and Mental Maths booklets** with the daily activities, alongside the **Reading Comprehension booklet**. These should be signed and ready to be brought in on Friday.

Y4 Update

This week was an exciting week for Year 4! On Tuesday, we visited the Royal Albert Hall and were treated to a wonderful tour. We put our thinking caps on and investigated how sound travels within such a large space, just as we have been doing in our Science lessons. We also learnt some wonderful history about the venue, and even got to check out the box where the royal family sit! Check out photos of our trip on our social media platforms.

In Reading, we read an extract from the novel "The Middleworld: Jaguar Stones" by J&P Voelkel. In this exciting story about a Maya king who was sent an unthinkable nightmare, we have learnt the new vocabulary: **composed, machination, foreseen, astray, coveted** and **impending**.

In Writing, we continued to learn about narrative writing, and planned and wrote a narrative using the genre and grammar features that we learnt last week. Our plot follows a main character who unintentionally offends the Maya goddess Ix Chel, and has to work with the whole tribe to restore the stolen moon back into the night sky. Next week, we will be using all the skills we have learnt to write a similar Maya narrative independently.

In Maths, we have continued looking at Shape and Symmetry, and have recapped what acute, obtuse and right angles are and how to identify them. We have also started to observe angles within different types of shapes. We tested different mathematical statements related to angles and shapes, and used our reasoning skills to determine if they were always, sometimes, or never true.

In History, we moved on from Maya religion, and learnt about what the Maya people ate! We learnt that they obtained food through farming, foraging and hunting, and that the Maya innovatively found solutions to the difficulties they faced in finding food. In Science, we have started learning about amplitude, and the relationship between the volume of a sound and the vibrations being produced.

As our Multiplications Times Tables Check is approaching in June, <u>please ensure that children are practising on TTRS</u> <u>for 10-15 minutes to ensure they are prepared for the assessment</u>. Please continue to ensure children are reading for at least 15 minutes each day. Accelerated reader quizzes should be taken immediately after a book is completed, ideally every 2 weeks. Finally, please ensure that children are completing their Mathletics homework.

Y5 Update

We have had a busy week this week in Year 5! In Reading, we continued to read Chapter One of 'The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad' by Saviour Pirotta and deepened our understanding through comprehension questions. In Writing, we planned a narrative to retell the first part of Oranges in No Man's Land and wrote out our story using dialogue and description. In Science, we looked at sexual and asexual reproduction of plants and discussed differences between both. For History, we continued exploring information about the Middle East and Baghdad, comparing what life was like between there and London during this time. On Wednesday, we had a fun morning celebrating National Numeracy Day. Children began the day watching a live assembly where they did a dance warm-up and then had great fun creating their own rap linked to Maths! We then spoke about dream jobs and how they would use Maths in the future.

Following this, on Thursday, we had an informative trip to London Central Mosque! We took the tube to Regent's Park where children had fun playing in the park and eating their lunch before we visited the Mosque. Our lovely guide gave us a talk about Islam, as linked to our RE topic, and then took us through a mini exhibition to show us more facts about the

religion. We then sat in the prayer hall where we could ask questions about facts we wanted to learn. We had a sunny walk back to school!

Next Friday (26th May), we will be visiting the <u>V&A museum</u> as part of our History topic - Middle East: Baghdad. This will be a great opportunity for children to visit the Islamic Art and Design exhibition to enrich their knowledge. If you would like to volunteer, please click the link <u>here</u> to volunteer your time to support on the trip, we would love any extra help! Thank you.

Y6 Update

This week has been a refreshing one for Year 6! Another well done to all the children for their hard work and effort when completing their SATs last week. We now turn our attention towards the end of year production, where we have auditioned, allocated roles and had our first rehearsals in preparation for performing **The Lion King** in July! A massive thank you to everyone who auditioned for the main part. We saw how much practice and dedication you all put in, however, with only 16 main parts, it was very hard for the Year 6 team to narrow it down from all of the great auditions we saw. Every child has received a copy of the song lyrics for the show - please ensure the children are practicing each song as much as possible so that we can put on a great performance!

In Writing, we have gone all the way back to 1953, where the children have written their own newspaper articles about the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. We focused on ensuring we had a celebratory tone for the article as well as including lots of facts and statistics about the event. Next week, we come back to 2023, where we will be writing a newspaper article on the coronation of King Charles III, which happened just 2 weeks ago!

In Geography, we have introduced our new topic - Mapping the World. In this topic, the children will develop compass skills, as well as identifying the different maps that we have in the world today such as: political maps, physical maps, topographic maps, thematic maps and road, street and highway maps. Test the children's knowledge of these at home!

In Science, we have also introduced our new topic - **Electricity and Circuits**. In this topic, the children will learn what electricity is, as well as how it is formed. Next week, we will be doing some practical work involving making our own electrical circuits, using components such as: **batteries, wires, bulbs, buzzers, switches** and more!

Please ensure the children are engaging with **all** homework provision in Year 6. This includes **20 minutes** of reading **each** night, with their reading records signed daily, engagement with **TTRS** and **Accelerated Reader**, and weekly activities set for **English CGP** and **Mathletics**.

We are looking forward to seeing you all next Wednesday at 6pm, for the Y6 RSE Curriculum/PGL workshop. This workshop will be split in two parts. Part 1 (18:00-18:30) will be an information session detailing what the children in Year 6 will be learning as part of the RSE curriculum. Part 2 (18:30 - 19:00) will be based upon the upcoming residential to PGL. We expect all Year 6 parents to attend the first part of this workshop; the second half will only be relevant for the parents of children attending PGL.

Value of the Week: Aspirational

Class	This week's certificates go to		
R Oxford	Jahnava - for always trying her best in all aspects of learning! Reyansh - for always trying his best with excellent enthusiasm every day!		
R Southampton	Darius- for always trying his best in all aspects of learning. Asra- for showing great progress and confidence in her phonics lessons.		
1 Bath	Tudor - For his aspirational effort in Science this week. He used his senses to describe seasonal fruits and vegetables. Well done! George - For his aspirational effort across all subjects. Well done!		
1 Bristol	Kareem- For being aspirational in Maths, understanding how to solve a word problem. Keep it up! Adam- For being aspirational in Writing. Helping the class box plan a setting description. Well done!		
2 Cambridge	Whole class - for aspiring to complete their SATs to the best of their ability.		
2 Colchester	Kayla - For being aspirational in maths this week. Keep it up! Jerion - For being aspirational in reading, and making super progress. Well done!		
2 Norwich	Whole class - for being aspirational with their excellent effort during their SATs this week.		
3 Birmingham	Diana - For being aspirational in her learning by putting great effort during independent tasks and taking pride in the work she produces, ensuring that it is at a very high standard. Fantastic attitude! Keziah - for aspiring to become fluent in recalling the Times Tables by practising out loud daily. Great effort!		
3 Warwick	Aanaya - for always wanting to improve her work and putting a lot of effort into her homework and independent work at school Tia - for being aspirational in her learning. Putting in great effort during independent tasks, working well and taking pride in the presentation of her work.		
4 Sheffield	Yashi - for continuously aspiring to achieve excellence in her learning and putting great effort into all that she does. Keep it up! Shuban - for aspiring to progress in his writing, and taking ownership of his learning by asking about the necessary steps to improve Fantastic job!		
4 York	Octavian - for aspiring to achieve his pen licence, putting in great effort to work on his handwriting. Amazing! Avira - for aspiring to write an engaging and creative narrative, using vocabulary that we had learnt in class, and seeking to insert expanded noun phrases. Keep it up!		
5 Liverpool	Ananya - for her aspirational approach to editing and uplevelling her Writing work this week. Soliana - for her aspirational approach to problem solving in Mathematics this week.		
5 Manchester	Treshniyaa - for demonstrating aspirational behaviour in the classroom by remaining focused at all times and pushing herself to complete challenging tasks. Keep it up! Aathish - for demonstrating an aspirational attitude to learning in Reading and Writing by challenging himself to use trickier vocabulary. Good job!		
6 Cardiff	Adshajan - for being aspirational in his outstanding audition for a main role in our end of year show. Well done! Thomas - for an excellent performance in his audition and receiving a main speaking role in our end of year show! Great effort!		

Preet - for aspiring to learn the songs for our end of year show and always giving 100% when singing. Great effort!

Specialist Teacher Certificates

	Music Star of the Week Well done from Miss Hodges and Mr Palekar!	PE Star of the Week Well done from Mr Whittick and Mr Wilkins!	RE Star of the Week Well done from Mrs Illankovan!
Reception	Serena and Serien for their brilliant singing and great taking part.	Thisha - has shown good listening skill and understanding of what asked to do in Pe	
Year 1	Shreeya for her great input and contribution when composing our song about the Twits.	Lea - For great demonstrations when practising over and underarm throwing	Talitha- For explaining what tarteel means to muslims.
Year 2	Mathuran for remembering key definitions of musical words.	Biranesh - For always trying his best and being a great role model for the rest of the class.	Layla -For explaining and discussing the moral behind the story of The Prophet and the Ants.
Year 3	Sanya for her great contribution and brilliant singing when composing our own song.	Aayman for participating well with his partner and has improved on his forehand technique	Vitheesh -For a great explanation about The five pillars of Islam .
Year 4	Ayan for remembering key terms, putting in great effort and showing confidence.	Aaryan - for showing great technique when learning to overarm bowl in cricket.	Amir - for a great explanation about the key features of a mosque and the uses of these key features.
Year 5	Sabrina for sharing creative ideas and putting in great effort when composing a song about aspiration	Hashim - he is really keen on learning tennis and has shown excellent improvement form each lesson.	Shreya -For a great explanation about how muslims follow the Pillar of Zakah.
Year 6	Cristiana for showing enthusiasm and resilience when learning difficult songs from the Lion King.	Mustafa- He has a good attitude towards learning and he is always willing to help others	Arman -For a great discussion about the Hajj rituals.
Virtuoso Violinist Year 3	Alkadi for showing good effort and determination when starting to learn the violin.		
Virtuoso Violinist Year 4	Akshara for her determination and confidence when beginning to learn the violin.		

National Numeracy Day

On Wednesday, Roxbourne took part in National Numeracy Day. A day to celebrate the importance of numbers in everyday

life. The day consisted of taking part in lots of activities to build our confidence with numbers. We know that numbers can sometimes feel a little bit scary, so here are Rachel Riley's top tips on how to feel confident about Maths.

Tip 1 - Take your time

Tip 2 - Break it down

Tip 3 - Don't give up

Tip 4 - Believe in yourself



Number Hero's Competition Reminder

When you grow up, how will you use numbers in your life? Maybe you would love to do a cool job like a vet, teacher, engineer or footballer? Or do you dream of spending your days dancing, baking or saving the planet? Create a picture of your dream job or hobby and tell us how it uses numbers! **Deadline Wednesday 24th May 2023.**

TTRS

Individual Awards: TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars)



Yr 3 Leadership Board







Yr 5 Leadership Board



Yr 6 Leadership Board



Individual Awards: Accelerated Reader





= champion reader with the most words read in the school.





Next week - 3 new Millionaire club members!

- Where are we in the academic year? Topical item(s): This week's school value: Individual Awards: Value of the Week Individual Awards: Specialist
- Teacher Individual Awards: TTRS Individual Awards: Mathletics Individual Awards:

- Accelerated Reader Class Award: Attendance House Award: House Points

Year Group	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Year 2	Ashvikan 27,169	Anelise 11,717	Jaishwan 10,437
Year 3	Anvay 106,821	Divyani 40,324	Siana 33,628
Year 4	Mia G 222,326	Bella 195,027	Yashi 106,602
Year 5	Shreya 195,027	Haroun 106,821	Ananya 70,707
Year 6	Inoshan 100,152	Shreejan 97,478	Aksayaa 84,127

General Notices

Looking for a place to host your events?

Our school is available for private hire! If you are looking for a hall to host a birthday party, a wedding celebration, a karaoke party, looking to organise a business event and need a conference room or need a classroom for tuition, contact us via phone 020 8422 9207 or email office@roxbourneprimaryschool.co.uk to discuss your requirements and organise an onsite visit.

You can read our letting terms and conditions on our website.







Parking

Local residents have **again** expressed concerns about illegal and unsafe parking in roads around the school which has led them to be late for appointments or work or late to drive their children to school.

Please do not block driveways or side roads, double park, stop on the yellow markings or in front of the emergency barrier. Ongoing parking infringements are reported to the Harrow Council Parking authority who are then likely to enforce stricter parking rules and enforcement around the school which will not benefit anyone.

We call on our Roxbourne community to act immediately by not parking illegally and unsafely around the school. Thank you for your support.



School Meals

Please remember to **regularly** check your child's Meal account on the Arbor App or portal to clear any outstanding balance and ensure there is enough credit to pay for their school meals. If you have any questions or need assistance, our School Office team will be happy to help.

Paying for trips and educational visits



On Arbor, our parents have the flexibility to pay the way that suits them, in addition to paying by payment card, Arbor now includes Apple Pay and Google Pay:

- A new, simple way for parents to pay via the Arbor App
- No more re-entering card details every time

If you wish to pay via Google Pay, click <u>here</u> or via Apple Pay, click <u>here</u>.

Important Dates

Date	Time	Event
Monday 22nd May 2023	All Day	HT5 Year <u>6 Battle of Britain Bunker Educational Visit to the</u>
Wednesday 24th May 2023	18:00 - 19:00	Year 6 SRE and PGL Workshop for Parents
Wednesday 24th May 2023	All Day	Number Hero's Competition Deadline
Friday 26th May 2023	All Day	HT5 Year 2 Ealing Gurdwara Educational Visit
Friday 26th May 2023	All Day	Last day of Half Term 5
Monday 5th June 2023	All Day	First Day of HT6

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: It tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch - or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert—avoiding those cushion—hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstains. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.



Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and tradic, including on 88C Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the FTV News at Ten. He has two children and writes requiring vabout internet safety tesues.





