

Roxbourne Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 26th May 2023



Half-term Holiday is Here

It has been yet another successful half-term at Roxbourne thanks to the hard work of staff, pupils and parents. We all deserve a restful and safe half-term break. Once again, a big thank you for your support over a fantastic HT5. We wish all a restful week and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 5th June 2023.

Year Group Updates

Nursery Update

What a busy and an exciting week Nursery pupils have had! On Thursday Nursery pupils enjoyed a trip to Neverland in a special drama workshop. They used their acting and performing skills to help Peter Pan save the day.

In Maths we have been practising simple addition and subtraction using concrete objects.

In Literacy we have been practising writing our own names using correct letter formation. In PSED we have talked about the importance of positive relationships - being friendly, sharing and using kind words.

Our next topic is 'At the beach'. It would be great if you could take your child to the seaside (Ruislip Lido is the nearest) during the holidays. Introduce them to new vocabulary and allow them to explore different materials, breath fresh air, roll in the sand, play in the water, and pick up rocks.

Finally, our afternoon pupils and the absentees from last time visited Roxbourne Park on Thursday afternoon. The weather was perfect and they had a lovely time.

We hope you have a restful break and we look forward to seeing you all in HT6.



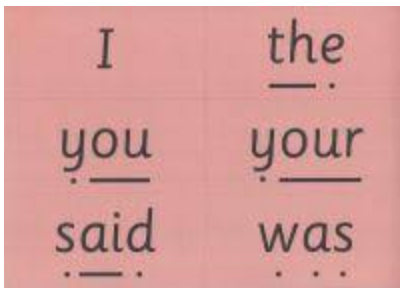
Reception Update

Last Friday Reception enjoyed a trip to Pinner Memorial park. It was a great opportunity for the children to explore our local area, travel on London public transport, visit a pond habitat and see the plants and animals we have been learning about. In Writing this week, the children have been retelling the story Zog and have been writing sentences in whole class writing sessions. In Humanities, we have looked at dragons and discussed how they are depicted in the East and West. In Maths, we are continuing our unit about measure, specifically learning vocabulary describing and comparing length. Next term, we will be setting a changing clothes challenge. Along with eating independently it is important that Reception children are able to dress themselves with limited or not adult support. Please take the time to help your child learn to how to change in and out of their school uniform and PE kits. Click here for [further guidance](#).

[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 red words.



[Video link here](#)

Y1 Update

In Maths this week we moved on the topic '**Money**'. We were able to identify the physical properties of coins. We know that coins have different colours (**copper, silver and gold**) and different shapes (**round & heptagonal**). We also learnt that the value of different coins- £2 is the greatest **value** coin and 1p is the least valued coin. This week in Writing, we were able to write a **setting description**! We know that our senses and adjectives are key features of writing a setting description. We also were able to **proofread** and **edit** our work- we know that this is important to make our work more effective! Finally, Year 1 were able to publish their write up in their publishing books.

In Science this week, we have been learning about how the changing **seasons** affect humans. We know that humans do different activities during different seasons. For example, gardening in the **spring** or having picnics in the **summer**. This week in Geography we have understanding of what the **Union Jack** is and what it represents. We know that each country in the United Kingdom has its own flags. The Union Jack is made up of the individual flags of **England, Scotland and Northern Ireland**. The Welsh flag is not included on the Union Jack.



Phonic revision

Click on the relevant sounds below and watch the videos with your child to practise each of the sounds. Please encourage them to join in with the video and pronounce the sounds correctly. These videos will be available until the 27th June 2023. If your

child has received their assessment sheet, revisit the sounds they are unsure of on their sheet. For all other children, please revisit the sounds in red below.

sh th ch qu ng nk ay ee igh ow (e.g. snow) oo (e.g. zoo) oo (e.g. book) ar or air ir ou oy ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw
are ur er ow (e.g. cow) ai oa ew ire ear ure au e-e ue ie

Y2 Update

This week in Year 2 we have been consolidating our Maths units. We have focused on time and fractions of an amount. In writing we have been writing our Geography essay 'How is living in Kenya similar and different to living in the UK?' The children have enjoyed comparing the two different places and finding a lot of similarities and differences between the two. In Science we have finished our unit of Protecting our Environment, the children have thought about many different ways they can protect and improve the world we live in.

The children had an excellent experience visiting the Ealing Gurdwara ahead of their new unit of Sikhism.

Please continue to read every night for a minimum 15 minutes and fill out their reading records accordingly and complete homework.

Thank you for your continued support

Y3 Update

This week in Reading, we have been looking at the story of 'The Little Fir Tree' written by Angela McAllister. The children enjoyed reading this short story, which also supported their writing. This week we continued to learn new vocabulary and practised using them in sentences. We answered retrieval and inference questions too and improved our skills. In Writing, we continued working on our narrative, which edited it and published our final version.

In Maths, we completed our topic on fractions. We learned how to find and represent equivalent fractions as well as adding fractions with the same denominator. We worked hard on using the correct mathematical vocabulary in order to explain our thinking.

In Geography we focused on biomes and learnt that there are many different biomes in the world but that similar biomes can be found in different parts of the world. We particularly looked at the Tundra, Boreal Forests, Deciduous Forests and Grasslands. We looked at the plants and animals that live there and how they are adapted to their environment.

In Science we continue to look at what plants need to grow into healthy plants. We have been measuring our sun flowers and observing what happens to the sunflowers that do not get enough sunlight. We also worked together in groups to conduct another investigation to see the effect of sunlight by planting cress seeds. We will record our results after the half-term to see what we notice about their growth. We also learned about the different parts of a flower and the pollination process.

Please continue to support your child by listening to them read every day for at least **15 minutes** and completing a quiz about the book on **Accelerated Reader** afterwards. Please also support your child in completing their **Maths and Mental Maths booklets** with the daily activities over the half-term, alongside the **Reading Comprehension booklet**. Pupils should also be engaging with **TTRS** every day to practise their times tables.

Y4 Update

This week in Reading, pupils continued reading 'The Jaguar Stones: Middleworld' by J&P Voekel. We continued to read about Lord 6-Dog and his dream of being a howler monkey. We were also able to meet his mother! Children learned new vocabulary and practised their inference and retrieval skills. In Writing, the children have written their independent narrative about offending the Mayan cacao god - Ek'Chuwah, including devices such as figurative language, direct speech, and short sentences for tension. They used the structure of a narrative which follows: opening, build up, problem and resolution to write their narratives.

In Maths, we have continued our topic on 2-D shapes. Children are classifying and comparing 2-D shapes into categories of quadrilaterals and triangles. We looked at the different triangles: scalene, isosceles, equilateral and right-angle triangle, identifying the key features of each. As we are nearing the official test date Multiplication Times Tables Check which has been set for **June 13th 2023**, the children also completed a mock MTC on the official Department for Education website this Thursday.

In History, the year 4s have continued to learn about the Maya civilization. We learned about the writing and number system of the Maya, and children even wrote their own names in glyphs! In Science, we learned about pitch in sound and the way this is represented in sound waves.

The Multiplication Times Tables Check will be taking place on **June 13th 2023**. To help the children reach high expectations and excel, **please ensure that children are practising on TTRS for 10-15 minutes over the half term to ensure they are prepared for the assessment.** 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

This week in Reading Year 5 have been Reading a National Geographic fact file about Iraq. We have been exploring interesting facts about Iraq's culture, history and government and wildlife. In Writing we have continued writing to entertain and we have written some exciting narratives based on Elizabeth Laird's Oranges In No-Man's Land. In Mathematics we have begun looking at our new unit of study, shape. We have had an exciting week exploring the properties of shapes. In Science we have been learning about the significance of Jane Goodall and David Attenborough and their contribution to the world of animals and plants. In History we have been learning about some of the factors which contributed to the fall of ancient Baghdad and the end of the Islamic empire.

Y6 Update

In Writing this week, Year 6 have written, edited and published their newspaper articles about the coronation of King Charles III. We spent time discussing how his coronation differs from his mother's - Queen Elizabeth II and included lots of facts and statistics about the event too. In Science, we learned what **simple** and **series** circuits are and we were able to make these ourselves using batteries, wiring, bulbs and buzzers. In Geography we learned about **Ordnance Survey maps** and how maps in Britain are created to allow ease of access for anybody who wants to read them. We also looked at how **grid references** are used to pinpoint specific symbols or areas on maps.

We have continued to work hard on our end of year show - The Lion King. Please ensure all of the children are practicing each song in preparation. Likewise with the main cast and their lines. After half term we expect all children to know the songs and their lines off by heart to ensure that our rehearsals can run as smoothly as possible.

On Monday, Year 6 went to visit the **Battle of Britain bunker** in Uxbridge to consolidate our learning from our previous topic '**Conflict and Resolution**'. During the trip, the children got a chance to visit the bunker and learn more in depth about the British tactics that eventually led to victory over the Luftwaffe - the German air force. Be sure to check our social media pages for pictures from the day!

Thank you to those of you who came to our parent workshop on Wednesday evening, focussing on RSE and PGL. To withdraw your child from the non-statutory RSE lessons, please complete this [google form](#). The outcomes that the children will be studying can be found on our school website.



Value of the Week: Collaborative

Class	This week's certificates go to...
R Oxford	Ella - for excellent collaboration with different members of the class during Busy Learning Serena - for working collaboratively with her talk partner during Writing this week
R Southampton	Kush - For working well with his peers in all aspects of busy learning. Menahil - For sharing resources and taking turns during busy learning
1 Bath	Riaan - For working collaboratively in Maths and identifying the value of different coins. Well done! Neev - For his consistent effort this week to work collaboratively with his peers. Well done!
1 Bristol	Carla - For working collaboratively in Maths when identifying coins based on their physical attributes. Well done! Shreeya - For collaboratively working in Maths during the talk task when grouping coins. Great job!
2 Cambridge	Melissa - for working collaboratively during talk tasks and discussions across all subjects. Well done! Iosif - for making a conscious effort to work collaboratively with his peers. Well done!
2 Colchester	Alicja - for collaborating well during our Maths lessons. Thushanie - for collaborating well during our Geography lessons.
2 Norwich	Josua - for making a conscious effort to work collaboratively with his peers. Well done Josua, keep up the hard work! Kayla - for working collaboratively during talk tasks and discussions across all subjects. Well done!
3 Birmingham	Mousa - for working collaboratively in Geography when identifying the fauna and flora in each biome. Great work! Shahzain - for working collaboratively with his table members to discuss the differences between each of the biomes in Geography. Well done!
3 Warwick	Denis - for working collaboratively with his talking partner and table team this week. Matteo - for working collaboratively with his talking partner this week and especially for working collaboratively with the children around him during our Lock Down Drill.
4 Sheffield	Mohammad - for working collaboratively during talk tasks and discussions across all subjects, making sure everyone's voice is heard. Well done! Amal - for collaboratively working together with your partner during talk tasks in Maths, following a step by step process to solve for the answer together. Fantastic job!
4 York	Razvan - for always working collaboratively with anyone he is sat beside. Keep it up! Shayni - for always looking out for her team and making sure they succeed with her. Bravo!
5 Liverpool	Samuel - for his collaborative approach to problem solving in Mathematics. Zaynab - for her excellent partner work this week.
5 Manchester	Arushi - for collaborating well with her partner during talk tasks in Maths. Tamilini - for collaborating well and demonstrating communication skills with her peers in a role play activity for Computing.
6 Cardiff	Ijas - for collaborating well with peers when creating series circuits in Science this week. Great work! Eisa - for working well with his group during our trip to the Battle of Britain Bunker trip. Well Done!
6 Edinburgh	Sameer - for collaborating well with his peers when creating series circuits in Science this week. Well Done! Thaarun - for collaborating well during our trip to the Battle of Britain bunker during our workshop! Keep it up!

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	Bryan for his confident and accurate singing!	David - has shown excellent coordination and agility to think and move quickly	
Year 1	Brandon for learning the Twits chant in one lesson!	Tudor - For excellent technique when working on hitting a ball to a partner in tennis.	Sarah -For a great discussion about what church bells mean to Christians.
Year 2	Lakshana for her positive attitude, creative ideas and great contribution.	Hayden - For excellent work when practising all the skills we've worked on in athletics	Hayden -For a great explanation about the key principal belief of Islam.
Year 3	Adib for his great answers about composing songs.	Anvay - For good technique when working on overarm bowling.	Maja - for a great explanation about the five pillars of Islam.
Year 4	Rana for her great attitude to learning and good explanations of key terms in music.	Snehaan - For always having great behaviour and trying his hardest in every lesson.	Zara K -for a great discussion about other ways mosques and other places of worship are used by the community.
Year 5	Kiirthick for being able to define a chorus and identify the main features of one.	Sharujan - he is always happy and excited to take part in Pe and has improved over the weeks	Soliana -for a great explanation about how Muslims follow the principle of Zakah and Sadaqah
Year 6	Abrar for showing great determination when rehearsing for the Year 6 production!	Navya -she is always well behaved and works well in a team	Iannis -For a detailed explanation about the pilgrimage to Mecca and the Hajj rituals.
Virtuoso Violinist Year 3	Levi for his great techniques in violin.		
Virtuoso Violinist Year 4	Prajeeta for her noticeable improvement in her violin playing.		

TTRS

Individual Awards: TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars)



Individual Awards: Accelerated Reader



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



Accelerated Reader®



Next week – 3 new Millionaire club members!

1. Where are we in the academic year?
2. Topical item(s):
3. This week's school value:
4. Individual Awards: Value of the Week
5. Individual Awards: Specialist Teacher
6. Individual Awards: TTRS
7. Individual Awards: Mathematics
8. Individual Awards: Accelerated Reader
9. Class Award: Attendance
10. House Award: House Points

Year Group	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Year 2	Ashvikan 45,625	Avnika 14,479	Melissa 10,139
Year 3	Adam 44,402	Vitheesh 44,235	Medha Sri 34,249
Year 4	Yashi 247,851 ★	Tasnim 84,799	Aaryan 64,536
Year 5	Zoya 80,088	Zaynab 62,281	Ananya 43,333
Year 6	Parnika 131,791	Aksayaa 101,177	David A 43,617

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

Following concerns raised by our local residents to the Harrow council about illegal and unsafe parking in roads around the school, we had the visit of **Councillor Krishna Suresh** yesterday accompanied by the Harrow Road Safety team to assess both our entrances (Waverley/Yeading and Torbay roads). These assessments will support recommendations to enforce stricter parking rules and encourage our community to be more considerate when parking in the area. We will keep you posted on the next steps.

In the meantime, **please do not block** driveways or side roads, double park, stop on the yellow markings or in front of the emergency barrier. 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 [here](#) or via Apple Pay, click [here](#).

Dressing up clothes

If you have any **children's dressing up clothes** that you no longer need, please donate them to us! We would love to find good homes for them in our early years play areas and role play areas around the school. **Thank you!**



Important Dates

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday 24th May 2023	18:00 - 19:00	Year 6 SRE and PGL Workshop for Parents
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
Wednesday 7th June 2023	08;50 or 18:00	Residentials Parents Information Session
Friday 9th June 2023 at 08:40 - Monday 12th June 2023 at 15:25		Y6 Residential: PGL, Windmill Hill, East Sussex (three nights)
Friday 16th June 2023 15:25 - Saturday 17th June 2023 at 10:30		Y5 Residential: Camping at Roxbourne (one night)
Friday 23rd June 2023 - Saturday 24th June 2023		Y4 Residential: Sleepover at Roxbourne (one night)
Friday 30th June 2023 - Saturday 1st July 2023		Y3 Residential: Sleepover at Roxbourne (one night)
Monday 3rd July	All Day	National Oral Hygiene Day (year 6)
Thursday 6th July	17:30 - 23:30	Year 6 Lion King Theatre Trip
Tuesday 11th July	All Day	Year 3 and 4 Strings Rehearsal and Concert
Tuesday 11th July	All Day	Year 2 Kew Gardens Trip
Wednesday 12th July	18:00 - 20:00	Lion King Production
Thursday 13th July	18:00 - 20:00	Lion King Production
Monday 17th July 2023	09:00 - 12:00	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Sports Day
Monday 17th July 2023	12:30 - 15:15	Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 Sports Day
Thursday 20th July 2023	17:30	Year 6 Graduation
Friday 21st July 2023	14:00	Last Day of HT6 (and early dismissal)
Wednesday 6th September 2023	08:40	First Day of HT1 (2023/24 academic year)

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.

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.

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.

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 downstairs. 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 radio, including on *BBC Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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#WakeUpWednesday