



Tuesday 12th December

ROEBUCK ACADEMY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Visit our website
www.roebuck.herts.sch.uk

Welcome from the Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are into the last full week of the Autumn Term and have been wowed by the wonderful Christmas Productions and Carols from Nursery and KS1 Classes. This weeks sees Reception classes turn to perform their Christmas productions on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the term and at our most recent Christmas events. It has been lovely to see how excited the children have been when parents have attended the variety of parental events that we have held recently.

A big thank you to the RSA members who put on Fridays film night which was attended by nearly 200 Roebuck Pupils!

Christmas Dinner

Ordering for Christmas Dinner has closed. If you have not ordered a Christmas dinner for your child, please provide them with a packed lunch on Wednesday.

A letter outlining the arrangements up to the end of term was sent out last week. Please refer to this for the last weeks events.

Earlier in the term the children were encouraged to take part in the Youth Mayors Christmas card competition. We were notified last Friday that one pupil, Freya in Year 5, had come in third place. She was presented her prize of a voucher by the Youth Mayor. Well done Freya.



Nursery

Christmas has arrived in Nursery bringing our elves Pickles and Twinkle Toes! We have been exploring our new role play area, which has turned into Santa's workshop. We have been mark making letters to Santa, wrapping presents and using our busy fingers to decorate the tree. We are excited to see where the elves might appear next week!



Key Dates

18/12/23
Year 1 Christingle

19/12/23
Rock Steady
Concert

19/12/23
Christmas parties
Food lists up on
class doors.

20/12/23
Toy Day

20/12/23
End of Term

08/01/24
First Day of
Spring Term

Key Dates

11/12/23
Year 5 Books and
Breakfast

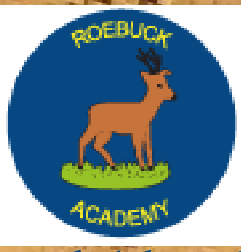
11/12/23
EYFS Christmas
Production 14.00

13/12/23
Year 3 and 4
Visit to St Peters
Church

12/12/23
EYFS Christmas
production 10.00

13/12/23
Christmas dinner/
Christmas jumpers
day.

14/12/23
Year 5 and 6
visit to St Peters
Church



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It is really important that each child reaches our school attendance target of 96%. Please make sure your child is in school and on time everyday!

Our whole school attendance figure for this week

93%

96%

Attendance percentage we aim for every week

Attendance Awards



Pine
95.7%



Cedar
95%



Sycamore
94.8%

The winning class(es) will receive an additional playtime this week as a reward. Well done to Pine Class who had 95.7% attendance!



Reception Oak and Willow

Our topic this half term is 'Delicious' and in our literacy lessons the children enjoyed looking at recipe books and learning about the features of non-fiction texts. We have been writing a set of instructions for a Chocolate Mug Cake and of course once we had done this, we had to make the Mug Cake! The children were fantastic at following a recipe and all agreed our cake was delicious! At Roebuck we are chefs!

Elm & Maple

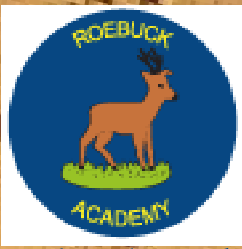


CHRISTMAS HAS ARRIVED! This week has been very exciting as we performed our Christmas concert to the rest of the school and to all of our wonderful parents. We had such a fabulous time singing all the songs and getting into the festive spirit!

As part of our Superhero topic, last week we were visited by the fire brigade and some police officers. We learned all about how they keep people safe and we asked them lots of interesting questions! We also celebrated our superhero topic with a dress up day and have been writing some fantastic sentences based on the story 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson.

In Year 1 we are... SUPER!





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KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE AT ROEBUCK ACADEMY IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY!



Birch & Pine

Year 2 had a fantastic trip to St Peter's Church last week to celebrate 'The Christmas Journey'. We learned about the nativity and took part in lots of activities around this. Thank you to all the parent helpers who joined us and to all the volunteers at St Peter's Church for making it a very special day!



Cherry & Pear

It's been a busy few weeks of learning in Year Three. We have been working hard on reproducing and creating our own abstract art pieces. We looked at work by Georgia O'Keefe and tested multiple mediums to create effective pieces.



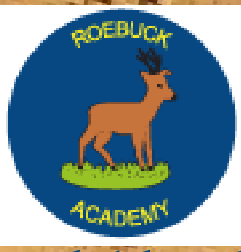
Cedar & Rowan

It has been another busy week in Year 4. We have started a new art unit and have enjoyed getting creative and setting up our sketch books. We have also experimented with creating tints and shades using water colour paints. We learnt that you add white to a colour to make a tint and black to a colour to make a shade.

In Literacy, we have finished our balanced argument unit where we wrote our own independent piece about school uniform. We have now started a poetry unit in which we are all enjoying writing about a small dragon that we have found in various different locations.

In science, we have been classifying different vertebrate. We got into home groups and then went off into our expert groups. Whilst in these expert groups, we learnt about the features of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish. Once we had learnt the facts, we then went back to our home groups and each expert taught their group. Then, we used this information to sort and classify different creatures according to their features. We really enjoyed learning in this way.





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Juniper & Sycamore

This week in Year 5 we have finished off our independent writing where we wrote diary entries from the viewpoints of the videographers who recorded the BBC Dynasty series in the Antarctic. Next week we are going to be performing some poetry to finish off the term!



This week we have also planned and given our arguments in a debate as to whether there should be a hydroelectric dam built in Stevenage. We looked at the positives and negatives of hydro electric dams and some very good points were made.

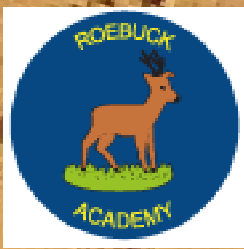
We look forward to our DT topic which we are completing in the next week all about electronic greeting cards which is perfect timing for a certain event coming up....



Ash and Elder

In Literacy, we have started a new unit all about the life of Sir David Attenborough. We have looked at some facts about his life, animals and plants that he has discovered and places he has visited. We are using our sentence stacking lessons to build our own biographies for this national treasure. In music, we put the finishing touches to our performance piece 'Don't Stop Believing' by Journey where we sung and performed using ukuleles. Also, this half term we have sat our end of term tests (how mean): completing arithmetic tests which we have been practising as part of our early morning work. We have also been creating some fantastic art inspired by Henry Fraser. We shared some of our work with him on X (formally known as Twitter) and we even got a response from him!





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Roebuck Sports Teams

This week we entered two teams into the sporting futures rowing event. Both teams worked incredibly hard and improved as the event went on.

Massive congratulations to Roebuck Team One who secured silver Medals missing out on gold by only 5 seconds!

We took a group of children to the KS1 balance festival. This was a lot of fun and the children have a chance to practice their Fundamental PE skills.

The girls Netball team played their 2nd game of the season winning 17-0 . The game was played in great spirits by both teams.

The school football teams have started well with the girls winning both their games 4-1 and the boys winning their first game and narrowly losing 3-2 on their 2nd game , but it was a battling performance for all involved!

This half term the year 5 and 6's have taken part in the Stevenage Sporting Futures Archery competition.

We have recorded our scores in PE lessons and sent these away. We also took a team to compete in the mixed Archery festival. After all the scores and completions were completed we received:

Bronze- In year 5 Boys Team, Year 6 Boys Individual, Year 6 girls individual, Year 5 Girls Individual and the Year 5 mixed team.

Silver- In Year 6 mixed team and the Year 6 Boys Team.

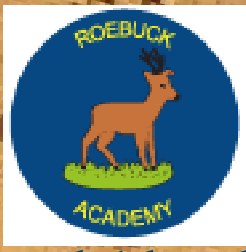
Gold- Year 5 girls team!

Amazing work from everyone. A big thankyou to Mr Kalaiarasu for organising all of the teams in their competitions.



As this is the last Newsletter of the Calendar Year we wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year from the staff and governing body at Roebuck.





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Please read the following from the Children's Commissioner for England who has written to all schools the following letter to include on their communications with parents.

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition .

It is really important that the pupils at Roebuck Academy have participated in The Big Ambition survey and had their say.

I want to ensure that the voices of the children in Hertfordshire are fairly represented in the findings so that I can share their views with the most senior members of the country.

I must reiterate that it is vital that all children have their voice heard through this survey because, as Children's Commissioner for England, I have a statutory duty to protect and promote the views and interests of children. The Big Ambition provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell political decision makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. I will be sharing their responses with Government to ensure that children's voices are heard.

Children can complete the survey in assemblies, form times, PSHE or in other lessons this term. The survey can also be done as homework and parents can assist children who cannot complete the survey themselves (children under 5 and children with Special Educational Needs). This is a great opportunity to teach children about politics and why it is important for them to use their voice!

Yours sincerely,

Dame Rachel De Souza

Children's Commissioner for England

Access can be gained using the QR code below or visiting the website mentioned above.

[Click here take the survey](#)

or scan the QR code to complete the survey by Friday 15th December
and make your voice heard!

