



# Roebuck Academy



Welcome to the September 2019 edition of the Roebuck Academy Newsletter.

## HEADTEACHER COMMENTS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year! I hope you all had a lovely summer and that there was plenty of time to relax and enjoy being with your children, family and friends. Talking to the children on the first few days back at school, they were excited to share their stories, experiences and challenges that they have completed over the summer. It was also great to hear how much they've all been looking forward coming back to school and being with their new teacher and friends.

Having visited all classrooms around the school, I am very proud of how well the children have all settled in and the amazing approach and attitude towards their learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer a special welcome to all our new families joining Roebuck Academy. I am sure your involvement with the school will prove to be rewarding, not only to your children, but to yourselves as parents.

The teachers have also been very busy over the summer and have been working together in their key stage teams to ensure that there is a real sense of continuity and consistency for your children. The classrooms are looking amazing and are focused on a child-centred approach to learning and immersion in our new topics. I know that the children have been impressed and how much more settled it has made them feel coming back to school.

Thank you for your continued support at Roebuck and making such a good start to the new school year.

Kind regards  
Lynsey Young



### IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

*SEND Morning: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
September 2019 in Buccaneers*

*MacMillan Coffee Morning: Friday 27<sup>th</sup>  
September 2019*

*RSA BIG TOP CIRCUS: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>  
September 2019*

## UNIFORM

At Roebuck Academy we are so impressed with how smart the children look. It is essential that we maintain this for the rest of the year as it gives the children pride, a sense of belonging, it raises self-esteem and it helps children to feel valued. Please ensure that you continue to support our school by ensuring that your child is always wearing correct school uniform. If your child is not wearing the correct uniform, we will lend them a replacement from our lost property collection. Please remember that shoes must be black and if your child wears black trainers, these must be all black in colour. Any families whose child/ren are not wearing correct school shoes will receive a phone call asking for a parent to bring in correct footwear. Our strict policy on school uniform is in place because we want the very best for every child and we want them to always feel proud. Please ensure all clothing is named.

<http://www.roebuck.herts.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=5201&type=pdf>



## SCHOOL PE KIT

It is **compulsory** that all children have the correct PE kits in school. We do encourage children to bring them in for the half term and take them home over the holidays to be washed. Earrings must be removed for PE. If your child usually wears earrings, please remove the earrings on PE days. Again, please ensure that all PE kit is clearly named.

## WELCOME!

A warm welcome to the new teaching staff and families who have joined Roebuck this September! We would like to welcome Miss O'Reilly to Year 4 as well as Mr Alden to Year 6. I am sure everybody will make them feel at home!

We are delighted to welcome all the children and families who are also new to Roebuck Academy this September. We have had a number of new starters in some of the year groups, but mostly new to Reception and Nursery, all of whom seem to have settled in very well this week.

## WATER BOTTLES



As part of school uniform and equipment needed, we do request that your child has their own water bottle in school and that this is taken home every evening to be cleaned. We can offer the purchase of a water bottle through the main school office at the price of £1. Alternatively, you are welcome to buy one of your own choosing. Children need water bottles in school to ensure that they remain hydrated throughout the day. This will become increasingly important as the summer months approach and the temperature rises inside school.

## DROPPING OFF AND COLLECTING CHILDREN

All children must be accompanied by an adult and dropped off safely into their classroom in the morning unless the children are in Years 5 or 6 and parental permission has been given for them to come to school alone. Please do not drop children off at the school gates by themselves. The same rules also apply when collecting children at the end of the school day. Please ensure that adults collect children from Year Reception to Year Four. This may be something new to you but I can assure you that this is necessary in helping the school to keep your children safe. .

<http://www.roebuck.herts.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=5202&type=pdf>

## PACKED LUNCHES

All packed lunch boxes need to be clearly labelled with the name of your child and their class. If your child has a packed lunch, please provide them with a healthy lunch. I would like to remind families that as a school we have Healthy School status. Therefore sweets, chocolate bars and fizzy drinks are not allowed in lunches.

A reminder that we do encourage your child to eat as much of their lunch as possible and bring home what they have not eaten. We do remind children not to share their lunch with anyone else.

Can we also remind you that we are a **nut free** school. Please do not place items in a child's lunch box that may contain any nuts. Thank you.



## RSA MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Members of the RSA will be holding a coffee morning on Friday 27th September at 9:00am in Buccaneers. All money raised will be donated to MacMillan. Further details shall be sent home shortly as well as being advertised on the RSA Website. Please come along and support this event.



## NURSERY & RECEPTION 2019/2020 TOURS

If your child is due to start Nursery or Reception class in September 2020? If so, we are currently offering guided tours of the school including our early years setting. Ensure you look for dates advertised on our school website.

***Please see EYFS flyer included at the end of the newsletter.***

## HOLIDAYS

A reminder that no holiday should be taken during term time. As you are all aware, the current law does not permit for children to be taken on holiday during term time. Any absence, as a rule, will not be authorised. We appreciate that holidays are more expensive during school holidays but think of the time as well as the learning that your child misses when they are away from school. Your child will never have this time again and will have to catch up. Thank you for your support.

## CAR PARK SAFETY

I would like to remind all parents and carers that the school car park is for STAFF ONLY, unless you have a disabled badge (please provide evidence of your disabled badge to the school office as we shall be updating records.) Please do not park on the school roundabout or paved areas. Please also ensure that you DO NOT park your car in

the car park entrance in front of the car park gates. Not only is this dangerous for staff gaining access to the school but this is also a fire entrance and exit and is to be kept fully clear at all times for emergency access.

Please be extremely careful when dropping your children off and picking up from school. Do not stop to drop off your child in front of the school, the dropped kerbs or on the yellow zig zag lines, as this can be very dangerous and can obstruct other traffic, especially at busy times.

We have contacted our local PSCO who will be on patrol to try and minimise any disruption caused by illegal parking and heavy traffic.

We do advise that parents make use of areas around the school to park their cars before dropping off or collecting children. Fairlands Valley has significant car parking spaces and is available for use every day. We also have areas by the local shops which may also provide spaces. We understand parent frustrations around car parking but we are unable to do anything to avoid an increase in population and significant increase in the use of cars on the road.

We have been asked by a few members of our community to open up the additional land at the side of the school.

Unfortunately, we are unable to do so as this does not belong to the school. This land belongs to Stevenage Council and we have been politely reminded that we are not allowed to use this.

## **SCHOOL CLUBS - AUTUMN TERM**

Many thanks for the club reply slips sent back already. Clubs will start week beginning Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019. **Once you have signed up to Gateway your place will be confirmed.** We will not need to send a slip home to confirm places. Please find a link to Clubs on offer this term:

<http://www.roebuck.herts.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=5222&type=pdf>

## **HOMEWORK**

Homework will begin next week, week beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Please look in the front of your child's homework book for the homework contract which has been included inside. This page outlines how school and parents can work together to support children reading their full potential. Please discuss this with your child and sign to say that you have read it. Homework will always be purposeful to help consolidate children's understanding of the work that they have completed in class which will help them to become independent learners. Remember that we are always here to help. A homework club is provided to assist children who may find it difficult to focus at home. Please help us by ensuring you reinforce the importance of children completing their homework on time each week and to take pride in the work that they do.

<http://www.roebuck.herts.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=5211&type=pdf>

## **YEAR SIX SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS**

Open evenings are taking place over the next few weeks at Stevenage secondary schools. Year 6 parents can now apply on-line at [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions) for their child's Secondary School place. The closing date for applications is **Thursday 31st October**. Please contact the school office if you need help with your application, or do not have a computer.

## **E-SAFETY**

Please spend some time looking at the Autumn term e-safety flyer produced by Herts for Learning as it provides you with information about e-safety and current issues with children's use of ICT at home and school. A copy of this can be found on the school website. When the children participate in ICT sessions at school they are encouraged to stay safe online and ensure that they are not doing anything that could make them vulnerable or put themselves at risk.

<http://www.roebuck.herts.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=5213&type=pdf>

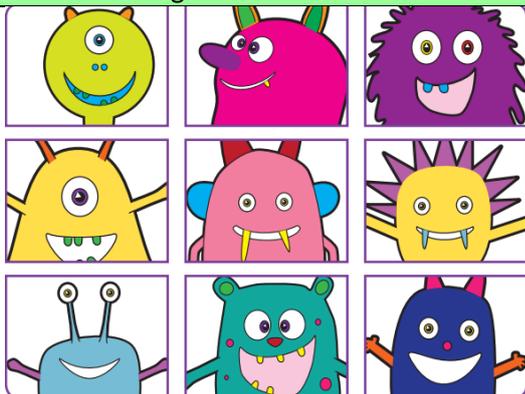
## LET'S CELEBRATE SUCCESS:OUTSIDE ACHIEVEMENTS

We would like to continue to celebrate your child's outside school achievement in school. If you would like your child's outside achievements celebrated and recognised by the school, please email details, with photos if possible, to our Office staff, Janet, Jade and Vikki on the admin account at: [admin@roebuck.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@roebuck.herts.sch.uk). Alternatively, it is always nice to see children's achievements first-hand. Children are allowed to bring certificate, badges and photographs into school to share with me, the teaching staff and their friends. We would like to celebrate all achievements, no success is too small.

## OPEN DOOR POLICY

Please remember that here at Roebuck Academy we operate an 'Open-Door Policy'. If parents or carers have any concerns, worries or a positive comment to discuss with a teacher, please make an appointment after school to speak to your child's class teacher. Mornings are always busy times for teaching staff. The end of the school day is more convenient to meet as we have the time and space in which to give your concerns or suggestions the time that they really need. We can also provide you with the confidentiality in which issues deserve. Please bear this in mind when dropping off children in the morning.

If you are unable to speak to your child's class teacher or feel an issue is more important you can then request to speak to your child's key stage leader. These are: EYFS – Mrs Prosser, KS1 – Mrs Herbaut, KS2 – Miss Smith. This is in accordance to our behaviour policy and code of conduct for parents and carers. Please make all requests for appointments through the school office.



## EYFS AND YEAR 1 PHONICS MEETING

Calling all parents and carers... With a new approach to Reading launched this year by the DFE, we would like to invite you to our Early years and Year One parents evening on Wednesday 18th September at 5:30pm. We will look at phonics explicitly and what fluency should look like in reading.

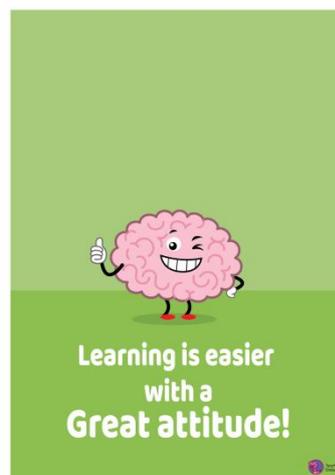
## SAFEGUARDING AT ROEBUCK

All staff at Roebuck have a responsibility to safeguard children. If you ever have a concern about a child or a member of staff then please contact one of our designated safeguarding leads: Ms Young, Mr Mari, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Fisher and Mrs McGregor.

Safeguarding posters can be located around the school as well being placed prominently on classroom doors.

We also encourage you to phone 0300 123 4043 if you have a concern about a child or anyone else outside school. Do not wait or try to pass this on to another agency.

## MINDSET MOMENT



**LET'S CELEBRATE SUCCESS – ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL**



Well done Freya for donating 7 inches of your hair to the Little Princess trust charity. We are incredibly proud of you!

## AUTUMN TERM 2019

### September 2019

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
9	10	11	12	13
Homework will be sent home this week	Rock Steady begins			Swimming begins for Y4 Rowan Class  Guitar begins

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
16	17	18	19	20
Clubs begin – see letter sent home – please book through Gateway to confirm places		Year 6 Crucial Crew  Year 3 Celtic Harmony  Warriorz begins – see flyer sent home – book through Warriorz  EYFS & KS1 Phonics Evening – letter to follow  <b>Buccaneers CLOSED from 3:15pm</b>	Year 6 Parents evening – SATs and Reminders for Kingswood at 5:30pm – letter to follow	Nursery stay and play – all nursery parents welcome 9:00am    RSA circus tomorrow!

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
23	24	25	26	27
Fit Kidz Begins – see flyer sent home – book through Fit Kidz			GB Athlete Dreamcatcher	9:00am MacMillan Coffee Morning and Whole School Bake off – details to follow!  No Birthday Assembly today

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
30 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> October	2 <sup>nd</sup> October	3 <sup>rd</sup> October	4 <sup>th</sup> October
Nursery applications accepted from 9:00am  Year 5 Parents evening for KINGSWOOD 2020 5pm – letter to follow  Parents booking system for Parents Evening opens at 5pm.	Year 2 Fantastic Finish 2pm	Year 1 Fantastic Finish 2pm	Year 3 Fantastic Finish 2pm	



# Early Years Open Mornings

Dream - Believe - Achieve

Roebuck Academy... a truly great school!

Children at the heart of everything we do.



## Is your child due to start Nursery or Reception in September 2020?

If so, come along to one of our open events to find out more about our Amazing school. You will be met by our Early Years Leader, Mrs. Sue Prosser and the rest of the early years team. You will also have the opportunity to see our pupils in action as well as to see our lovely new school building. The school does offer 30 hours nursery entitlement - this will either be free or paid dependent upon your entitlement.

**To secure a place on an open day, please contact the school office on 01438 311937.**

Spaces are filling quickly so please book early. Dates are as follows and will start at 10am and can last for an hour:

<b>Wed 5th Jun</b>	<b>Wed 25th Sep</b>	<b>Wed 20th Nov</b>	<b>Wed 22nd Jan</b>
<b>Wed 19th Jun</b>	<b>Wed 9th Oct</b>	<b>Wed 4th Dec</b>	<b>Wed 5th Feb</b>
<b>Wed 10th Jul</b>	<b>Wed 23rd Oct</b>	<b>Wed 18th Dec</b>	<b>Wed 19th Feb</b>
<b>Wed 11th Sep</b>	<b>Wed 6th Nov</b>	<b>Wed 8th Jan</b>	<b>Wed 4th Mar</b>

If you are unable to attend any of these meetings, please contact the school office for further information.