



ROEBUCK ACADEMY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week
at our great school!

Monday 28th September

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

Welcome from the Headteacher

We cannot believe that Autumn is upon us already and we are seeing the leaves and the temperature change before us. It has been a great month at Roebuck Academy and the teaching staff are highly impressed with how well all classes have settled down to their learning as well as displaying positive growth mindset attitudes. There has been a wide range of activities on offer throughout the curriculum, of which some are featured in this edition of our newsletter. These include many opportunities to explore and learn in subjects such as: Art, Design and Technology and Literacy. School is about learning, and as a school we are always seeking to find new ways to improve our curriculum. This term we have launched into the Write Stuff approach to writing and already we are seeing the improvement in our writing standards across the school! It is such a privilege to visit classrooms, and see at first-hand, children working hard, achieving and producing some fantastic work. Long may this continue.

Year Nursery - Acorn and Chestnut

The children across Nursery have now become familiar with routines in the classrooms and settled in extremely well. We have been exploring all learning areas such as: sand, water and the mud kitchen. New additions to our areas this year have been a new reading hut and a sensory garden outside Acorn classroom. We also have a sensory corridor outside both classrooms which includes our class fish. The children have been enjoying making new friends and learning in all of these areas. All adults were very proud of nursery when we practised the fire drill this week and walked calmly and orderly to the field. At Roebuck Academy we are outdoor explorers!

Year Reception - Oak and Willow

Don't put your finger in the jelly Nelly!

This week in Literacy the children began to learn the story, 'Don't put your finger in the jelly Nelly!' Mrs Prosser and Mrs Solomon really wanted to put their fingers in the jelly! The other adults in the room tried to stop them but they did it anyway, much to the shock and excitement of the children.

As a class, we read the story together and then created a story map to help us remember all of the different parts. In small groups this week we put our fingers into the different food items from the story such as: jam, milkshake, cheese and pasta. We then used words to describe how each one felt.



Key Dates

30/09/20
Virtual
Macmillan
Coffee Morning

05/10/20
Harvest
assembly with
Rev. Kate

05/10/20
Harvest
collection
deadline

06/10/20
Pine Class
Scootability

06/10/20
Birch Class
Scootability

23/10/20
October
half-term
begins



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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

93.4%

96%

Attendance percentage we aim for every week

Attendance Awards



Oak
99.6%



Elm
96.4%



Willow
96.1%

The winning class(es) will receive an additional playtime this week as a reward. Well done to Maple Class who were the winners last week!



Year One - Elm and Maple

In Year 1 we absolutely loved the whole school reading text, 'Journey'. We created red balloons and boats, made feather bird masks and our literacy was focused on thinking about the character's thoughts and feelings. The children decided what they would have drawn if they had their own magic red crayon which then formed an amazing display outside our classroom. At Roebuck Academy we are authors!



Year Two - Pine and Birch

Over the last week, Year 2 have been covering different forms of media around the book we have been covering, called, 'Journey'. We have been writing poetry, using drama to act out scenes as well as writing our own interpretations of the book.

We have also been busy in Art lessons, using oil pastels to draw a feather for a school display, as well as weaving paper to make baskets for hot air balloons and making feather masks. We have also explored making tints from the colour red. All of which link back to our book we are looking at in Literacy. At Roebuck Academy we are creative!



Year Three - Cherry and Pear

For our English learning, we are focusing on a whole school book called, 'Journey'. This is a wordless picture book and many things happen within the story. We used our drama skills to sequence the events which take place inside the book.

In drama, we had to make sure we used strong voices and lots of expression to convey what the character was feeling. We also had to improvise regarding who was what in each scene. At Roebuck Academy we are crafty authors!

In Art, we are creating watercolour feathers using reds, oranges and yellows. We had to focus on using small lines to create the texture of the feathers. We practised on paper and then used special watercolour paper to make our final design. We had to use a fine paintbrush to add fine detail. This is going to make a whole class display of giant phoenix wings which is inspired again by our whole class text, 'Journey'.





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

Year 4 Cedar and Rowan Class

The children in Year 4 enjoyed a DT morning on Friday, beginning a project all about cars! They discussed the history of cars and how cars have changed over time. They then spent the morning making their chassis for a slingshot car. This required the children to build the framework, attach their axles and wheels and create the mechanism for the slingshot. The children also had the opportunity to use the glue gun to attach their slingshot mechanism to their chassis. Next week, the children will design and make a suitable car body shape which limits air resistance so their car can travel the furthest. They will then have the chance to test out their cars and challenge their classmates to see whose car meets the design brief the best! At Roebuck Academy we are mechanics!



Year Five - Juniper and Sycamore Class

Year 5 have been busy planning their own compositional feathers in a Bohemian style. Once these are complete, they will form part of a whole school display which will be located in the hall. Both classes have created some very effective patterns and we are looking forward to seeing the final product.



Another project started, since the beginning of the term, is a Design Technology unit all about bridges. The children have started their sequence of learning by investigating how they can make a bridge stronger. They are looking forward to designing and making their own bridges in the coming weeks. At Roebuck Academy we are engineers!

Year Six - Elder Class

Last week, we had a visit from Jason at Falconry UK. He brought in some extraordinary birds with him: falcons, owls, and a kestrel. One of which was the third largest owl in the world! He told us interesting facts about each of the birds and even showed us how one of them could move its body without moving its head. Before putting each bird back, the trainer allowed some of the students close enough to get a photograph. At Roebuck Academy we are ornithologists!





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Falconry UK visit Roebuck Academy

Highlight of the week has to be our Birds of Prey Workshop with Falconry UK. Jason, the workshop host, amazed all of our children with his amazing array of birds of prey as well as his knowledge and understanding of different species from around the world. All children who attended commented on how exciting the workshop had been!

WEATHER REMINDER

As the weather is now getting wetter and colder, please ensure all children bring a warm, waterproof coat to school and navy or dark jogging bottoms for outdoor PE.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDER

A reminder that full school uniform is needed every day. This includes all black school shoes or trainers and black, grey or white school socks. PE kits are also compulsory, so please ensure that your child is ready for school every day.

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 are located around the school as well as being placed prominently on classroom doors. We encourage you to also 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.

MRS JOHNSON

Mrs Johnson is Roebuck's Pastoral and Attendance Lead at the school. Most of you will already know Mrs Johnson as she has been working at the school for some time. Mrs Johnson has already been on the main gate in the morning and has been introducing herself to you all. If you or your child requires support with family, home or with attendance issues, please approach Mrs Johnson who will be only too happy to help.





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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 photographs if possible, to our office team on our admin account: admin@roebuck.herts.sch.uk

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

We are always working hard to support all of our families at Roebuck Academy. Since December, the school has been taking part in a local project run jointly between schools and Hertfordshire Constabulary. Operation Encompass is the notification to Headteachers, prior to the start of the next school day, of incidents where a child or young person has experienced or been exposed to any form of domestic abuse. Operation Encompass will ensure that staff are suitably trained to allow the school to best support any members of our community who may be affected. We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our families and Operation Encompass helps us to do this efficiently and sensitively. Please do remember that we will always make time to support you in dealing with difficult situations that may arise for the family at home. Please do get in touch, in confidence, should you require any support from our designated safeguarding team.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Festival Assembly is fast approaching (Monday 5th October) and we are requesting donations to support Vineyard Foodshed which helps to support many local people in crisis. This year the food bank is requesting particular items such as: - Toiletries such as shampoo and shower gel, washing up liquid, washing powder, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned soup, pasta and pasta sauce, coffee, UHT milk, baby food, tins of tuna etc. All donations will be gratefully received. This year, the class that contributes the most items will be awarded an extra playtime. The Deadline for donations is Monday 5th October. Food items can be brought in before then and passed to your child's class teacher. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

