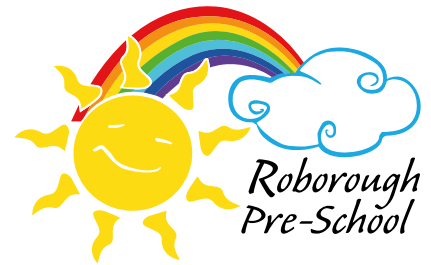


Roborough Pre-School

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Welcome back after the half term

We have had a great start to this second half term of Autumn and will be welcoming another four new children and their families to our preschool. We are sure they will settle in easily and quickly with the support from our experienced and caring staff. We are really looking forward to getting to know them and their families.

Topic for this half term

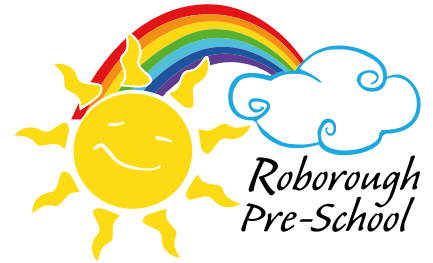
We start the second half of the term focussing on the topic of Celebrations and we will be exploring celebrations such as Halloween (for those who celebrate it), Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Christmas! We will look at how we celebrate these different events in our own families and encourage positive conversations around differences and how others might celebrate. We will also explore different cultures and celebrations that happen around our local area and the world, such as Diwali. Please feel free to add pictures of how you celebrate any of these events at home with family and friends, throughout the next few weeks. It is always great to see these photos on Tapestry and we always share this in preschool. With this Topic in mind we have lots of dates for your diary, especially leading up to Christmas, so please do make a note of them, detailed later in this Newsletter.

We also have a new volunteer member of staff who is helping us on a Wednesday as part of her Level 2 Early Years Childcare course through City College. Her name is Amelia and she has settled in really well. We are enjoying supporting Amelia in her qualification and the children really like her too. I'm sure they have already mentioned her name!

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Communication diaries

We have more communication diaries on order, and they should be with us next week for anyone waiting for theirs. We are now ensuring that all of the children have a daily communication diary for the staff to fill in during each of the children's sessions. We endeavour to complete these comprehensively during each session. As we are very busy, we may not always be able to communicate general daily activities but please do be reassured that we will always communicate how much they have eaten at snack time, any nappy changes or toileting support they have needed and other important information about your child's day.

Pudsey Bear Week-Children In Need charity

At Roborough Preschool we always try to do our best to raise awareness of Pudsey Bear week and fundraise for the charity, Children In Need. We always have lots of fun activities to do throughout the week with the children such as arts and crafts, baking and Pudsey Yoga!



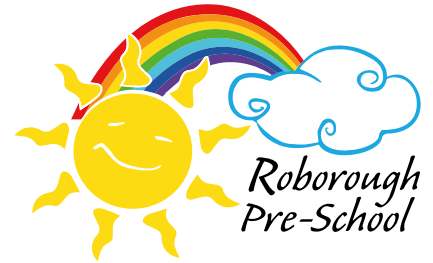
This year we would like to raise money through fancy dress days as well as bake sales. These will be held on Tuesday 14th November, Wednesday 15th November and Friday 17th November to ensure every child who attends has a chance to take part. This is entirely optional of course; however, we encourage the children to dress up in their favourite outfits on one of these days (or all of them!) for a small donation of £1 (each day if you are able to). At the end of each of these fancy dress days we will also be selling cakes (made by the staff and children) from the Church entrance to fundraise for this charity. These will be available to buy from 2.45 before you collect your child. I hope you will be happy to support us.

Ofsted

We are happy to announce we scored a 'GOOD' rating from Ofsted. [Please click here to view the full report.](#)

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Early Talk Boost programme

Earlier this term we were privileged to be accepted on an Early Talk Boost programme to support our current, and future, children's communication and language. This programme will be delivered by Marie and Sam in the Summer Term as soon as they have completed their training in January and February next year. Before this starts, the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF), who are supporting and financing this training, need to assess the children who have agreed to take part. This applies only to our 3-4 year old children. Assessments will take place on Monday 27th November by the EEF Quality Assurance (QA) team, and then by the Speech and Language professional on Thursday 7th December. I will get in touch with the parents of the children who are not in session on these dates (and who have given permission) to arrange a convenient time for them to attend. If your child is already in session, these short assessments will take place throughout their day with one of our staff present. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

MESSAGES

Packed Lunches

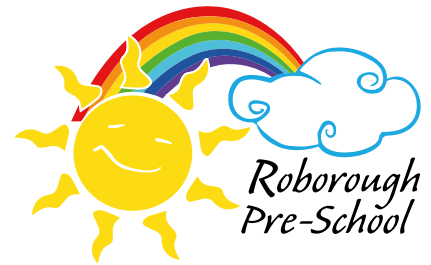
Please could we remind parents to ensure that grapes and other small items such as cherry tomatoes be cut in half lengthways. We encourage our packed lunches to be as healthy as possible and promote independence during eating, such as including a piece of fruit and even providing yogurts that need a spoon rather than the pouches. We do understand that this is a parent's choice of course and it is also important that the children have a dairy product in some form in their lunchbag. Also, we are happy for children to have a chocolate biscuit as a treat, but chocolate bars or sweets are discouraged.



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Items needed for preschool

Please could we also remind parents that we recommend the following items be in preschool for their sessions and especially during the colder Winter months:

- A bag with spare clothing (even if they are independent in using the toilet), to include underwear and socks please.
- A (named) appropriate warm coat.
- Warm hats and gloves when the weather gets colder.
- A named water bottle with water in it or very very diluted sugar free squash.
- Named wellies.

Book bags

Could we also stress the importance of bringing in your child's book bag / plastic wallet with their 'reading' books in them to change each session. The children love to do this and this is also a vital part in supporting our children's literacy and communication skills both in preschool and at home. If you need a new book bag, please let me know. Thank you so much for working with us and for your continued support.

Preschool Uniform

Preschool uniform is not obligatory but we have plenty of stock now, ready for the new term. If you would like to purchase any new uniform, let me know by email and I will get this to you. Please could we ask that all uniform worn in preschool is also clearly named, thank you!



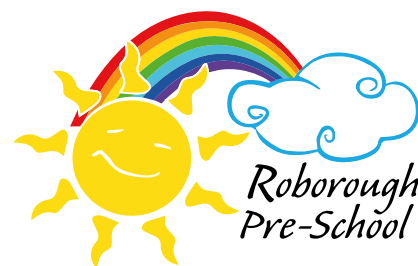
Collection Times

Our afternoon sessions run from 12-3 and we are always tidied up and sat for our afternoon drink and biscuit by 2.45pm. Some of our parents have a regular arrangement with us to collect their child early each session due to other siblings' commitments and family circumstances and we ensure they are always ready at this regular prearranged time and this is now part of our afternoon routine on these days. If you need to arrange for your child to be collected early please let us know at the door in the morning, and

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or through your child's communication diary. If it is a collection that needs to be made at short notice, please give us a call on 01752 773914 before collecting, so that we can get the children's items ready for you in good time whilst minimising disruption to the children's routine. Thank you so much.

Dates for your diary:

- Monday 13th November - **Meet The Committee**: Roborough Preschool is a charity managed through a board of trustees. Come along for drinks, meet the trustees, and we can answer any questions you may have. Hopefully you will want to find out how to be part of supporting this wonderful preschool.
- W/c 13th November - **Pudsey Bear week**:
Fancy dress and cake sales on 14th, 15th and 17th.
- Monday 27th November - **QA pre-assessments** for children taking part in the Early Talk boost programme, throughout the day 9.30-3pm.
- W/c 4th December - We will be holding a **Christmas songs performance** for the Church community during one or some of the afternoons.
- Thursday 7th December - **Assessments by the Speech and Language professional** involved in the Early Talk Boost programme, 9-3pm.
- Wednesday 13th December - **Parents evening for key children of Sam and Marie**. For Nicole and Michaela we will arrange for these to be held during this week either at the end or at the beginning of their key children's sessions. Further details to follow.
- Friday 15th December- **CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY!** This will be held in the afternoon at preschool for all children to attend (if they want to), finishing with Christmas songs and possibly a visit from a special person with a big white beard (wearing a red suit and black boots) bearing gifts for the children!
- Friday 15th December - **Last day!**
- Thursday 4th January - Return to Preschool for the **start of Spring Term**.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need support in any way at all.

Best Wishes from Marie, Sam, Nicole and Michaela.