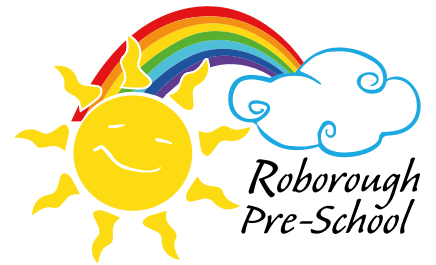


Roborough Pre-School Spring Term Newsletter 1

Date: 04-01-24



Happy New Year!

We hope you have all had a lovely break over the Christmas period and want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! Here's hoping that 2024 will bring peace, health and happiness to everyone in our Preschool family and community.

The beginning of a new term

We are now starting our second term of the academic year, Spring Term! The time is flying by! We are very much looking forward to working with the children this term and have lots of exciting activities planned. We will also be welcoming some new children and their families to our Pre-School and look forward to getting to know them, please help us in making them feel welcomed.

Our Topic this term - Winter and Ice

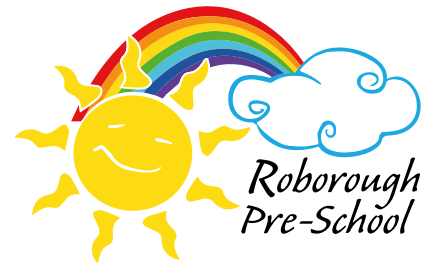
In our topic work this half term we will be focusing on Winter. We will be reflecting on our past knowledge of the different seasons to see how winter fits into this. We will be discussing with the children about the changes that they have observed in their local environment and on walks out of the Pre-School.

We will be getting the children engaged in hands on exploration in a variety of ways extending their vocabulary and engaging their senses. We will look at similarities and differences as we explore the



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different forms water can take and will encourage the children to notice these changes. Through exploration the children will be encouraged to ask questions and pose hypothesis around how they they might be able to change its current state from water to ice and visa versa. We will be learning lots of different polar animals names and will be talking about where in the world we might find these animals and how that their environment is very different to our own.

As we approach the end of the half term we will be looking closer to home and thinking about how we might help our own local environment as we get involved in Big Schools Birdwatch and make bird feeders to support our local wildlife.



New Staff and Changes to Communication

As you are all now aware I have stepped up to the position of Manager and Nicole and Michaela will be staying with us. We have appointed a **Deputy Manager, Amy**, who will be officially starting with us the week beginning the 15th of January.

Please bare with us as we transition into these new roles and please help us in making Amy feel part of our Pre-School family. If you have any concerns or questions please feel free to drop me an email sam@roboroughpreschool.co.uk

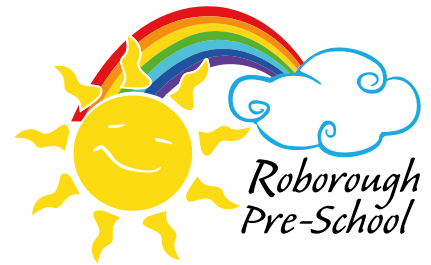
As discussed in our last parent meeting and via email, as we begin this New Year we plan to be using Tapestry much more as a form of communication. We hope that this will provide more efficiency and to try and keep all information in one place rather than doubling up. You should all now be receiving alerts when a new post is uploaded related to your child, snack and toileting log (for those in nappies).

If you are a Facebook user you can also search our Roborough Pre School- Families Page, a private group for just current parents and staff. You will have to ask to be accepted but once a notification comes through our end you will be placed onto this. This is still an area that we are developing but is a useful place for us to share helpful parenting and early years links from other agencies. So if this interests you please take a look.

Personal contact can of course still be sought by emailing your key worker (but please copy me in case your child's Keyworker is not in session) or of course by emailing me. If you are having any problems with your Tapestry account then please get in touch, as most forms of communication will now go through here.

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Phone Contact and Absences

We are in the process of sorting a new mobile but you can contact the Pre-School via email (**key workers first name**) @roboroughpreschool.co.uk or our landline **01752 773914**. Please can all absences be reported in ASAP on the morning of your child's session. If no one is available to take your call then please leave a message on our voicemail. If we have not heard from you by 9:30am then we shall call you to check in but it saves us a lot of time at the busy start of the day if you can notify us first.

Also with collection if you plan to collect your child early (before 2:50) please let us know. The end of the session is very busy and we need this information in advance to ensure that we can have your child's stuff available first and at the side door. We would prefer it if children could be collected as close to 2:50/3pm as possible as it makes the transition at the end of the day much easier for us but understand that sometimes a earlier collection is required and we will do our best to accommodate this when prior notification is given. Thanks for your understanding in this matter.



Phone Contact and Wellie Boots

Please check your child's wellies to ensure that they still fit! We are likely to use them a lot over this half term. We also have a lot of wellies with no names on. Sometimes the children don't know which are theirs and it can be hard for us to keep track of who's are who's.

We shall be placing the wellies outside the front of the preschool (weather permitting) over the next few weeks. If you could check the ones we have correctly fit your child and that they are labelled with their name and then hand them back into the preschool that would be much appreciated. Any wellies that are not claimed or labelled will then be kept for spares or donated to make more space in the cloakroom. Thanks for your support in this matter.



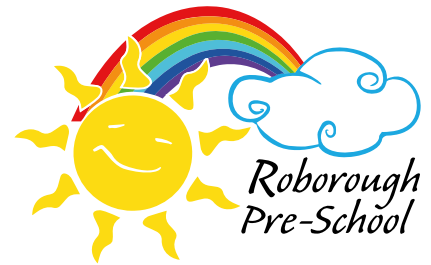
Spare clothes

A polite reminder that all children require at least one change of clothes in a bag for their peg (a labelled Tesco bag is fine). All children have the occasional accident even if it's just out in the water areas and having clothes of their own to change them into is much nicer for them, when possible. These can be left at preschool on their pegs if required.

Please can all items of clothing and items such as drinks bottles and lunch boxes that come into Pre-School be labelled.

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Shoes to promote independence

At Pre- School we are keen on supporting children with independence and self care skills. We encourage all of our children to develop independence on putting on their own coats, waterproof trousers and footwear when going out into the garden.

One way in which you can support this is in the footwear that your child comes into session with. Velcro type shoes make it much easier for children to take off and put on their own shoes. We do not expect anyone to buy new shoes but if your child has these sort of shoes it would be helpful in supporting their development in this way.



Hot Topics

Some of the hot topics that we will be promoting over this coming year will centre around toileting, bottles and dummy use and speech and language. Support and advice will be given out via Tapestry throughout the year to help you in supporting your child's development in these areas but please just drop us an email if you feel that you need support with any of these (or any other aspect of your child's development).

Here are some useful links on these topics:

<https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/dummy-use.docx>

<https://healthforunder5s.co.uk/app/uploads/2020/05/IHV-bottles-and-dummies.pdf>

https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/media/3224/tct_univspeak_0-5_update.pdf

Term dates for Spring term 2024

Tuesday 4th January - Friday 9th February 2024

HALF TERM - Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February 2024

Preschool Reopens - Monday 19th February 2024

All Term dates for the year can be found on our website

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

Best Wishes from Sam, Amy, Nicole and Michaela.