The Roche Nursery School

05.10.26

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see so many of you at our recent Coffee Morning and Curriculum Talk. We hope you found the session informative and that you came away with lots of ideas and activities that you can continue to explore with your children at home.

For those who were unable to attend, we have attached the PowerPoint presentation for you to look through at your convenience.

Just a reminder that if you have any questions or would like to communicate with your child's key teacher, please use Tapestry. Alternatively, you are always welcome to contact the office by telephone or email at keswick@therocheschool.com.

Nursery News:

It has been a wonderful few weeks in Nursery and the children are becoming thoroughly engrossed in all the exciting activities and experiences planned for them. Each day brings lots of spontaneous learning too resulting from the children's own discoveries and interests.

With the lovely weather we have been enjoying, the children have been relishing every opportunity to spend time outside and explore the wide variety of activities on offer. The water activities have been particularly popular and have provided many opportunities for sensory learning. They have also explored the fascinating water cascade and the Upper Nursery children set up an irrigation system by pouring water down long guttering pipes in order to water the plants – it was fascinating to observe.

Our Forest Camp has also been a huge hit. The children are constantly asking when they can visit again. On the note of forest exploration after half-term the Lower Nursery children will be venturing off-site to Wimbledon Common. The Upper Nursery children have already enjoyed several visits to the Common over the past couple of weeks and have absolutely loved their time there. These experiences encourage independence, resilience and communication skills outside of the classroom, while allowing the children to connect so positively with the natural world. The children have been using magnifying glasses to search for creepy crawlies and interesting features, as well as listening carefully to the different sounds around them and discussing what or who might have made them. We have discovered the beauty of see through buckets so the children can study the contents from all angles!









The Home Corner continues to be extremely popular where the children are developing their creativity, imagination and social skills through role-play. Recently, the children have been particularly interested in pretending to be doctors. To support their play, we added a range of medical equipment and books to enhance the Home Corner. The teachers have been very willing patients, receiving plenty of injections and having their knees carefully bandaged! We have been talking about doctors and the special equipment they use and introducing and developing new vocabulary. We have also been talking about the importance of looking after our teeth and remembering to brush twice a day for two minutes. Please remember if your child stays all day they are welcome to bring in their toothbrush to clean their teeth after lunch.







We have an exciting PSED programme in place and in the first part of autumn term we have been exploring the theme of 'Being Me in the World'. As part of our circle times the children have been learning that there are things that make us different from one another, as well as many things that connect us. We have also been celebrating what makes each of us special and unique. Please return the 'Celebrations' form listing any celebrations that are important to your family so that we can include them.

The Montessori Practical Life shelves have been incredibly busy. At times, you can almost hear a pin drop in the classroom as the children become completely absorbed in their activities. It has been wonderful to see their concentration and focus developing as they work independently.

Learning to snip with scissors has also been of great interest and the children have been enjoying developing their fine motor skills and coordination. The children have also enjoyed caring for our Nursery bears, cutting plasters and carefully sticking them on to help them feel better.





We recently celebrated Harvest Festival. Thank you so much to everyone who kindly donated. Your generosity was greatly appreciated and a big thank you to the family who sent in a tin opener as a donation – so useful! Donations have gone to a local charity Dons Local Action Group.

We enjoyed reading *The Little Red Hen* and learning a new song together. Helping charities in our community is an important message for the children to learn and we now look forward to our Book drive donation event for the Children's Book project and the collection of children's sleep wear for Little Village family – more information will follow for all events.

It has also been lovely to see the children beginning to form firm friendships. It is particularly sweet to watch the Upper and Lower Nursery children interacting, playing and giggling together.



We would encourage parents to arrange play dates where possible to help nurture these emerging friendships. If you would like any support or assistance with arranging play dates, please speak to your child's key teacher.

Our project this term 'ABC What Can I Be?' continues to be of huge interest to the children. Last week, they enjoyed building bridges as engineers and working together to problem solve how to get from A to B. We have also been learning the names of some of the famous bridges across the River Thames.

The Hairdressers role-play area has also been great fun. The children learnt about different hairstyles and ways to describe hair. It has been wonderful to hear the children sharing their own experiences and talking about who cuts their hair. Their conversations have provided some lovely opportunities to develop language, listening and social skills.










Clubs

As mentioned during our Curriculum Talk, if you would like your child to stay for one of our clubs, please contact Mrs Lisa to check availability. Monday's Tennis Club is currently full. However, if there is sufficient interest, the school may be able to consider expanding the club.

A reminder that from Monday 12th October, we will be focusing on the importance of books and nurturing a love of reading.

On 12th October we are excited to launch our very own Book Drive in support of the Children's Book Project**.** The project aims to help close the literacy opportunity gap by providing free, high-quality books to children, encouraging a love of reading and supporting lifelong learning.

We would kindly ask families to donate new or pre-loved fiction and non-fiction books suitable for children from birth to 14 years. Your donated books will be passed on to children who may not otherwise have access to books of their own.

Having books at home gives children the opportunity to lose themselves in a story, share special reading moments with their families and discover more about the world around them. By donating a book, you can help put a wonderful story directly into the hands of a child who needs it most.

A few important guidelines for donations:

- Books must be in good condition and suitable for children.
- We are unable to accept books that are damaged, yellowed, excessively worn or very old**.**

- Unfortunately, we cannot accept reading scheme books, encyclopaedias, ex-library books or religious books**.**

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

We would also like to remind parents that our school photographs will take place on Thursday 15th October.

All children should come to school wearing their complete autumn school uniform in the correct school colours. Please remember to check details such as socks/tights and hair clips or hairbands so that the children are looking their very best for their photographs.

Friday 16th October will be our Halloween Dressing Up Day! The children are already very excited and have been sharing lots of ideas about their favourite costumes with their friends. Please be mindful when choosing a costume and ensure that children wear sensible shoes and bring a coat, as we will still be spending time outdoors. An email has already been sent with further information regarding Halloween dressing up for children who do not normally attend Nursery on Fridays.

A reminder that half-term will be from Monday 19th October to Friday 30th October inclusive**.** Please also remember that all children should be wearing the correct winter school uniform when they return after half-term**.**

Finally… news from the main school…..

It was lovely to welcome some of our Keswick families to today's Open morning. We thought it would be useful to let you know of various events coming up there which you may enjoy.

Friday 16th October 9.30 to 10.30am will be The Roche School's next Spanish taster day for children 4 and under in our EYFS space. Please book here The Roche School and Nursery - Visit Us

On Friday 6th November Kate Wiffen Director of Teaching and Learning who oversees the Early Years will be giving a talk to Nursery and Reception parents on ***Confident Communicators*** at 9.30 a.m.

Pre-loved Uniform Sale:

A reminder that the next pre-loved uniform sale is on Thursday 15th October, 2:30-4pm and Friday 16th October, 8:30-10am. at the main school.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers kindly giving up their time to run this important service for us all.

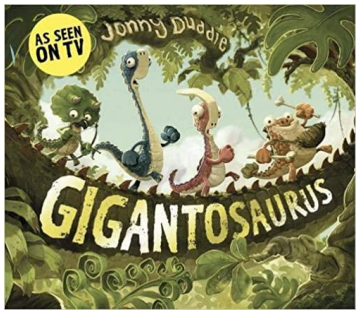
On Tuesday, a group of Year 6 children will be performing at the Woldingham Choir Festival with a medley from 'The Greatest Showman'. We wish them all the very best and I am sure their performance will be outstanding.

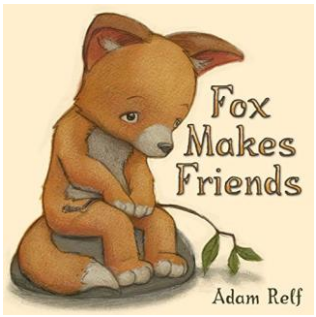
Sophie Roche has written an article about us for the Spanish Embassy magazine! Sharing The Roche School's Spanish immersion afternoons and their pedagogical approach, the full article (in Spanish of course!) can be found here:

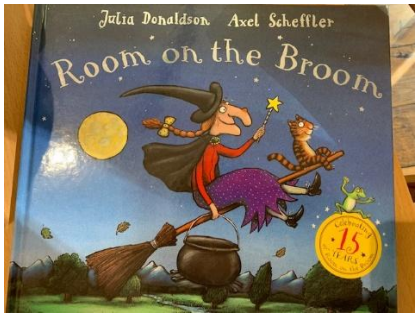
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We have lots to look forward to during our final week before half-term.

Book suggestions:
-The Gigantosaurus by Jonny Duddle
- Fox Makes Friends by Adam Relf
- Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson







Best wishes,
Nursery Team