

# Rocks Lane Montessori Newsletter



Summer Term June-July 2021 Issue No. 2

## A special message:



Welcome back to the last half term before summer break, and before some of our children graduate and prepare for big school! We have planned a fun and story-packed curriculum this next half of term, extending our learning to the world of books and story-telling. Puppets, drama and story-formation will all be part of the curriculum. We also focus on the garden, which is blooming with heathy fruit and vegetables which we cannot wait to harvest and enjoy at the meal table! Maybe some of our butterflies will come and visit.

We hope you had a great break and we can't wait to see you at school!

Love, the Rocks Lane Montessori team



## Announcements:

### Happiest birthday to...

- Tommy (2<sup>nd</sup> June)
- Matteo (19<sup>th</sup> June)
- Rose (29<sup>th</sup> June)
- George (26<sup>th</sup> July)



### We also welcomed new additions to our Rocks Lane family!

- Felicity welcomed her new baby sister, Annabel.
- Orlando welcomed his sister, Scarlett.

## Check out some of the amazing activities and facts we learnt about our world last term!

### 1. Science experiments

Volcano eruptions, lava lamps and jumping raisins! Who knew that common items around the classroom could be used to illustrate scientific concepts such as density, diffusion and surface tension? There is always a buzz around our science shelves as we eagerly observe, inquire and hypothesize about the processes that we observe.



### 2. Introduction to Hemispheres

The world can be divided into parts called hemispheres. Very different yet specific plants and animals live in these bands! We were introduced to different types of flora and fauna of the equator, and why these environments are good for these groups of animals only.



### 3. Breadmaking

Our weekly breadmaking sessions have yielded the most yummy-smelling, mouth-watering bread that we can't wait to take home and share with our families. With a simple dough recipe, we pinched, kneaded and baked rustic home-made bread, the smell of which is a delight as it permeates the classroom!



### 4. Flower arrangement and gardening

Beautiful flowers bloom in the season of spring. We marveled at tulips and daffodils and at the same time exercised care of the environment by honing our flower arranging skills. We invite you to ask your child to be part of your regular home flower arrangement routines!



## Our heartiest thanks to...

A big thanks to all the parents who contributed flowers to our classroom! Our little classroom nook is a little lovelier because of your contributions! Special thanks goes out to Kate (Rowan's Mummy) who helped in our garden planting seedlings for our vegetable patch. The children looked after them daily with tender care, watering them and observing their growth from seedling to fruit-bearing plants. Next half term we will harvest the juicy and nutrient-filled crops and cook with them.

Try it at home! Over this half term, why not try your hand at..

### Racing boats!

#### Materials:

Paper, optional pirate decorations, corks, elastic bans, skewers, black cardboard, wooden lolly sticks, washing up sponges, plasticine, glue.

#### Method:

1. Construct your boats using different materials
2. Some ideas are lolly stick rafts, sponge boats, paper boats and cork boats
3. Test your boats to see if they float
4. Race them down half pipes
5. Observe the difference in speed if the gradient is greater or if water

#### Discussion points:

How can you measure which boats are the fastest?



Check out more experiments from Science Sparks at: <https://www.science-sparks.com/science-worksheets/>

A very warm welcome to...

### Miss Jessica!

Many of you would have heard from your little ones about Miss Jessica, or have received observations from her. Miss Jessica is our Teaching Assistant, and is training to be a Montessori teacher. As soon as she joined the classroom, she was a natural Montessorian, and immediately signed up for the teaching course. We are thrilled to formally introduce Jessica to our Rocks Lane Family.



Miss Jessica is originally from Brazil. She is an avid traveler who loves going camping and a night out at the theatre. She is a hands-on mum of 3 boys. She lives locally and enjoys embarking on exciting home improvement projects. Miss Jessica loves cycling too!

## Special dates:

- Queen Elizabeth's Birthday 12<sup>th</sup> June
- Father's Day 20<sup>th</sup> June
- World Music Day 21<sup>st</sup> June
- Yoga Day 21<sup>st</sup> June
- International Mud Day 29 June

## Our favourite songs:

- What's the weather?  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jn7uAsLWXpk>
- Get your sillies out!  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwT5oX\\_mqS0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwT5oX_mqS0)

## Our gallery...



We're so excited about the curriculum for next half term:



## Curriculum Focus Topics, Summer 2021

Week	Project	Number of the week	Letter of the week	Shape of the week	Book of the week	Person of the week
7-11 <sup>th</sup> June	Welcome to the Gruffalo Café.	1, 2, 10	k, oo	triangle	The Gruffalo	Julia Donaldson
14-18 <sup>th</sup> June	Teamwork is Dreamwork!	3, 4, 20	d, ee	Types of quadrilaterals	The Enormous Crocodile	Roald Dahl
21-25 <sup>th</sup> June	What do you do on a rainy day?	5, 6, 30	n, sh	pentagon	The Cat in the Hat	Dr. Seuss
28 <sup>th</sup> June-2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Guess who's coming to tea.	7, 8, 40	u, qu	hexagon	The Tiger who came to Tea	Judith Kerr
5-9 <sup>th</sup> July	I'm ready for school now.	9, 50	w, ch	heptagon	The Tale of Peter Rabbit	Beatrix Potter
12-13 <sup>th</sup> July	Saying Goodbye!	10, 60	h, wh	heart	Friends	Eric Carle