

ROWAN CLASS

DAYS TO
NOTE

- P.E. days are currently Thursday and Friday
- Homework return on a Monday
- Reading records daily

Spring Term 2024

The Great Fire of London



I hope you enjoyed a happy Christmas and New Year.

This term we have a focus on history and have begun learning about the Great Fire of London. As the children have already found out, this happened in 1666 and had a huge impact on London. The class will be finding out not only *what* happened, but *why* and what effect it had on London as a city. We will learn about how sources of information can help us answer historical questions. *How do we know about events in the past? What changed because of the fire and how did it change?*

Samuel Pepys was a key historical figure. We shall learn about who he was and why he is significant.

In **geography**, the children will be learning the names of the continents and oceans. This will be practised through quizzes and songs. We will use the globe and maps to explore the layout of the world and learn to recognise where we are in the world in relation to other countries and continents.

In **science** the children will be

continuing with the topic of humans and animals. This half term we will concentrate on healthy living, with exercise, eating well and keeping clean.

In **computing** lessons the children will further develop their skills in using programmes such as Word, to practise their typing speed. We will design and create pictures using digital art. We will also be learning about algorithms; how they are used in devices and ordering a series of instructions to create results. All computing is underpinned by e-safety, ensuring that the children use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private and recognising where to go for help if it is required.

In **art and design** lessons the children will be creating London fire pictures.

We also have a focus artist— Asia Kozina. Her work will inspire us with paper sculptures and learning how we can twist, roll, curl and cut paper.

In **P.E.** we will be enjoying circuit skills and dance. Circuit skills will help develop overall fitness and techniques to improve various sporting skills. In dance we will be learning how dance can reflect mood and tell a story; We have begun by using our imaginations to feel the music and tell an observer a “story” by actions. We will then move onto retelling the Great Fire of London through movement.

We will be starting **R.E.** looking at the Gospel, encouraging the children’s discovery of the good news Jesus brings us. They will be writing their own good news and celebrating their own achievements. We will move on to salvation, recognising Jesus’ death and resurrection, saving people from sin linking to the question, ‘Why does Easter matter to Christians?’

After half term, **D&T** will see us exploring different ways of creating free-standing structures. Children will have the opportunity to discover how different structures have been made and what makes them successful, before designing and creating their own to help solve a modern problem.



Much of our writing will be linked to our topic focus, but not always. Our aim is to inspire children’s enthusiasm to write, whilst at the same time developing their understanding of taught grammatical features, spelling and sentence techniques.

We do ask that you encourage your child to read. Share stories with them to increase their imagination, spelling, comprehension and concentration skills. Talk about new vocabulary. Challenge your child to try out a new word in their writing. We are always happy to share stories in class written at home. You never know...your child might be the next Julia Donaldson!

It’s an Egg-cellent Life!

After half term, with a theme of dragons and dinosaurs, the children will be inspired in their curiosity to find out more about these mythical and historical creatures.

Sometimes, eggs are left in the most bizarre places...who knows...there may be something hatching near us in the Spring!

In **Science**, in the second half of the term, we will have a focus on plants. The children will learn why plants disperse their seeds and the various clever ways in which they do this.

They will be planting cress seeds, looking at the various factors that may affect the growth and development and growing beans, recording their progress in bean diaries.

In **Music** we will be focusing on three different pieces of music throughout the term, developing our identifications skills, being able to recognise patterns and rhythms and creating simple percussion.