

P.P.S. Rowan Class

September 2023
Autumn Term

Where in the World?

Dear Parents,

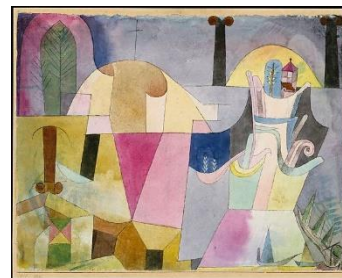
Welcome to Rowan Class, I hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday.

This term we are beginning with a focus on where we are in the world. Through geography we will learn more about Petworth and the surrounding area along with where the town is situated in the UK. We will be learning the countries and capitals of the countries that make up the UK, the names of the continents and the world's oceans and seas. After half term, the children will investigate geographical similarities and differences between Petworth and Brighton through studying the human and physical geography of Petworth and comparing these findings with research about Brighton. The children will use aerial photographs to create maps to use on a walk around Petworth, they will compare this walk with Brighton using Google Earth to explore Brighton's streets.

In art, the children will be looking at Paul Klee and designing and creating their own piece of artwork, based on Petworth town, inspired by Paul Klee.

In computing the children will use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content; using cameras to take photographs of the local area, editing, saving and printing them. E-safety is very important to us in a digital world and therefore the children will recognise how they can use technology safely and respectfully, understanding that it is important to know where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact from strangers on the internet.

To promote a love of books and reading, we will be having a Fairy Tale Friday, whereby each Friday our learning will focus around a different fairy tale or story. This will help us practice the skills we have learned throughout the week and get us talking about stories.



In R.E. the children will learn about the church as a space to worship. They will discover the features and artefacts found in the church and the importance of special or sacred places in their own lives and those of others. We will be writing Harvest poems ready for the Harvest festival. In the second half term the children will be discussing Gospel and the good news Jesus brings.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.



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In Science the children will be finding out about 'Living things and their habitats' and will learn to distinguish between mammals, amphibians, invertebrates, birds, reptiles and fish. They will look at the differences in habitat, animal movement and skin type. Using our school grounds, we will be investigating natural habitats and micro-organisms.

P.E. lessons are on a Thursday and Friday. Children can come to school in their P.E. uniform. They will take part in games which will extend their agility, balance and co-ordination. In gymnastics the children will be travelling in different ways, making shapes and linking movements.

We have started the term in English lessons, with letter writing using the text 'Dear Teacher'. We will be writing adventure stories, creating poetry and leaflets. Throughout our English work, there will be an emphasis on using sentences containing adjectives, as well as the correct use of punctuation. Understanding nouns, writing questions and exploring conjunctions such as 'and', 'but' and because to extend sentence lengths are further areas for our learning, Cursive handwriting lessons to ensure the correct formation of both upper and lower case letters will be practised daily.

The children will be beginning the school year by developing their understanding of place value, recognising the value of each digit in a 2 digit number and understanding the role of 0 as a place holder. They will apply this knowledge when comparing numbers using the < and > symbols and when solving place value problems.

We will move onto using place value to help solve the operations of addition and

subtraction using apparatus and written methods. Recall of number facts (pairs to 10 and 20) and the 2,5 and 10 times tables will form part of our daily mental maths. We will be doing lots of counting, forwards and backwards to reinforce confidence in sequencing numbers.

Homework: please read with your child as much as possible, ideally everyday. The children will be issued with a reading book chosen for their stage of development, they are also able to choose a library book weekly, which can be a shared reading time with a family member. Please make a note of any reading that your child carries out at home.

The children will be provided with spellings every week, which will be related to the phonics focus in class. We will be reinforcing spelling patterns, letter blends and phonemes from year one, so there may be occasions where some spellings are a repeat from previous learning. This will ensure each child's confidence and security in phonics knowledge.

Later in the term, we will begin focusing on our school Christmas performance. We look forward to this, and inviting you in for the show.

Please feel free to drop a note into school should you wish to speak to myself, Mrs Groves or Miss Smith. We are available for any important hand-over information each morning and anything that may take a little longer, please catch one of us at the end of the school day.

Thanks very much.

Miss Pennicotte-
Henrie