



P.P.S. Rowan Class

September 2017
Autumn Term

Petworth's Got Talent! & Into the City

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Rowan Class, I hope you all had a fantastic summer holiday and enjoyed the recent sunshine.

Our topics this term are 'Petworth's Got Talent' and 'Into The City'. The first half term will focus on our talents and how they make us unique and special; we will look at talented people we know and how we aspire to be like our favourite famous people. The second half of the term will have a geographical focus as the children will learn to recognise geographical similarities and differences between Petworth and London through studying the human and physical geography of Petworth and comparing these findings with research about London. The children will use aerial photographs to create maps to use on a walk around Petworth on 22nd September. They will compare this walk with London using Google Earth to explore London's streets.

In design and technology the children will create 3D models of their chosen Petworth building. This can be any building including their home, Petworth House or even St Mary's Church. This will involve planning and evaluating their design and the building process.

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.

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. In e-safety lessons the children will recognise how to 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.

In art lessons the children will explore a range of art by artist Van Gogh creating their own interpretation of his work. In addition to this they will explore a range of materials to create a picture using pointillism.

In P.E. lessons the children will take part in games, which will extend the children's agility, balance and co-ordination. In gymnastics the children will be travelling in different ways, making shapes and linking movements. We will be working with sports coach Stacey Allen for Multi-Skills PE lessons throughout November and early December. This is always a very engaging experience for all.

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 on 12th October, please feel free to come to church and celebrate with us!

In the second half term the children will be discussing the Gospel and the good news Jesus brings.



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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. We will be using our wildlife area to explore natural habitats. We will then compare those animals living in the nature area to those in the pond and forest. We will create a habitat to complement our chosen animals.

We will be using dialogue and shared writing as a vehicle to assist the children in writing a range of text types. We will be kick starting the term off with postcards and the children will then move on to creating adventure stories. In the second half of the term the children will be writing a leaflet to encourage people to visit Petworth, followed by a focus on traditional folk tales.

Throughout our English work, there will be an emphasis on using sentences containing two adjectives, as well as the correct use of punctuation. Cursive handwriting lessons to ensure the correct formation of both upper and lower case letters will also be taking place. Our first class novel will be 'Fantastic Mr Fox' by Roald Dahl, this will be our class theme for our activities on Petworth Primary's Roald Dahl day, which will involve the children coming in to school dressed as their favourite character from their favourite Roald Dahl book.

The children will be 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. As the term progresses we will focus on length and mass, interpreting data in a graph and written methods that can be used to solve multiplication and division. Recall of number facts and the 2,5 and 10 times tables will form part of our daily mental maths.

We are working with Petworth House to plan a visit this term, which will include sketching parts of the house and learning about the history of the roles within Petworth House.

Homework: please read with your child as much as possible. 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 may be more suitable to read to them or to be shared in a more collaborative way. Please make a note of any reading that your child carries out at home so that they can move up our 'reading rocket'. This will provide them opportunities to share their reading achievements, as well as earning stickers and certificates. Spellings and Mathletics activities will be set weekly. Thank you for your help at home, it really makes a difference.