



## Rowan Curriculum Letter Spring 2016



Welcome back! We hope everyone has had an enjoyable and peaceful holiday. Below is an outline of the learning opportunities planned for your child this term.

**General information:** Children in both Rowan classes will have regular PE sessions - Explorers on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Investigators on Mondays and Thursdays - as well as having opportunities to use the outdoor climbing frame. For these activities children will need their labelled PE kit in school every day. Children with long hair will need to have it tied back.

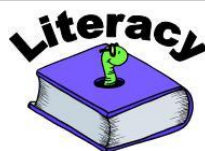
**Homework:** We would encourage you to read with your child as much as possible and encourage them to complete an activity in their green Reading Activity book at least once a week. Children will continue to be issued with a reading book chosen for their stage of development, which we will change regularly. They will also be able to choose a library book once a week and as they are the children's own choice, they may be more suitable to read to them or 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. Talk homework is sent home on a Monday, to give your child chance to prepare for a Big Write session on Friday. Spellings will be sent home on Friday and then tested the following Friday.

**Thank you for your help at home, it really makes a difference. We are extremely grateful for all your continued support. If you have any questions, please ask Mrs Eade or Mrs Warwick.**



*Maths*

Children will take part in regular Maths lessons which will provide them with opportunities to develop their basic skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will also be learning about money, length and time through real life problems to develop their reasoning skills and apply what they have learnt. We will be building up their mental maths skills through regular activities.



*Literacy*

We will continue to have regular Phonics sessions in order to provide children with specific reading and writing skills. In our Literacy lessons, we will explore information texts and recounts as our non-fiction work. Our fiction work will involve stories and traditional tales. We will look at poetry from a range of different cultures.



*Science*

Rowan will be learning about seeds and plants before half term. They will be growing a plant from a seed and observing its growth. The children will understand what seeds and plants need to grow well. We will be moving on to investigating what humans need to stay healthy.



RE

We will be exploring creation stories in different religions, including Christianity, Hinduism and Islam as well as learning about scientific explanations of life on earth. We will then move on to understand the true meaning of Easter.



PE

Children will be taking part in dance, including some sessions with an outside specialist. They will also be having sessions focussing on games activities. They will be learning to work together to develop their ball skills.



Computing

Children will continue to develop their computing skills, using Learn Pads and desktops. They will use these to do research and also word processing.



### *Around the World in 80 Days*

This experience takes place from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Rowan will be learning about geography of their local area. They will look closely at where they live, as well as the four countries within the UK. They will also look at Madagascar as a non-European country and make comparisons about the climate and ways of life. Through this experience we will be developing within children the core values of **respect** and **independence**.

**Possible homework activities, please select at least one to do during the learning experience.**

- Find out about another country including climate, geographical features and places of interest.
- Draw a map of your street and label it.



Easter

This experience will take place from the Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March until Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

During our final theme of the term, the children will further develop their knowledge of the Easter story through RE and Literacy with discussions, writing and drama. They will explore the Easter story through music and design, as well as preparing for our Easter Service in church. Through this experience we will be developing within children the core value of **creativity**.

**Possible homework activities, please select at least one to do during the learning experience.**

- Find out how children in other countries celebrate Easter.
- Find out special recipes associated with Easter.