



# P.P.S. Rowan Class

January 2019  
Spring Term

## The Great Fire of London and Dinosaur Discovery

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and managed to enjoy time with your families!

This term takes a large focus on history, starting with The Great Fire of London in 1666 then moving on to look back millions of years ago for a Dinosaur Discovery.

During the Great Fire of London focus the children will look at why the fire spread so quickly and how it could have been prevented. They will then move on to look at types of dinosaur, whether they were carnivores, herbivores or omnivores and how they would have lived.

In science the children will begin exploring the useful properties of materials with a range of investigations involving absorbency and flexibility. Experimenting good choices of materials for making umbrellas and whether chocolate would make a good spoon!

The second half of the term 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 addition to this we will continue to use our allotment area to grow and enjoy the fruits of our labour. In geography we will explore a range of maps at a local, national and global level. The children will learn how to understand simple map symbols and compass directions and be able to place our continent amongst others on the map of the world.

In computing lessons the children will further develop their previous art skills in a new context and apply them within software they are familiar with they will use Paint, PowerPoint and programme with Scratch. All computing is underpinned by 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.

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 Art and Design lessons the children will begin looking at hot colours, thinking about how they can create a background for a silhouette of London burning down. They will make fire head dresses for their dance routines and create 3D houses, which will be burnt in a re-enactment of the Great Fire. The children will design moving dinosaur art using lever mechanisms.

In P.E. we will begin with playground games and dance. Playground games involves enjoyable, engaging and fun activities, which will encourage children to be more active in the playground, and consequently healthier and fitter. In dance we will be learning how dance can reflect mood and tell a story; we will retell the Great Fire of London through movement. The second half of the term will take a focus on gymnastics developing balance, agility and co-ordination, and begin to apply these in a range of activities

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.

### Homework:

Spellings and Mathletics activities will be set weekly. You will find your Mathletics log in stapled to the inside of your child's reading record. We have recently introduced Times Tables Rock Stars to Year 2. These log ins are also attached inside the reading diary if you would like to explore this exciting new addition.

### Our Blog:

Please don't forget that you can follow our learning online at

<http://rowanclasspetworth.edublogs.org/>

### Helping at school:

If you have any free time and would like to come in to school to hear readers please let me know. Any help is gratefully appreciated and it all makes an impact on the children's learning.

Kind regards,

Miss Rawlings.