



ROWAN CLASS



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the beginning of another school year! The children have a full and enriching term ahead where the children will be learning about the Shang Dynasty, plants, animals, the United Kingdom, and a lot more. There is a topic overview for you to have a look at some of the key activities and learning journeys the children will be covering. It was great spending time with the new Year 3 children during transition morning last term, and to see how they have grown since teaching them last year. They seemed to enjoy being in a new classroom and joining the Year 4 children who are remaining in Rowan Class. I feel thankful that I already know all the children, which should make their transition a smooth and happy one!

START OF THE DAY

The gates open at 8:40am with registration at 8:50am. Your child will have the opportunity to do some spelling activities / quiet reading during this time and they will also be able to access Accelerated Reader quizzes. Arriving on time is a great start to the day, putting your child in the right frame of mind to make the most of the day's learning. Good punctuality is linked to good attendance which leads to better outcomes for children.



P.E. AND GAMES

It is very important that the children have their PE kit in school throughout the week so that they can fully participate in these lessons. Please make sure your child has suitable trainers for outside games. **Please ensure that all of your child's kit is named. Earrings should be removed for PE and Game, but if this is not possible, they should be covered with micro-pore tape provided by you.** Long hair MUST be tied back. Rowan Class will have PE on **Mondays** and **Thursdays**.



READING



It is important that children read every day. We recommend at least 10 pages, one chapter, or 20 minutes of continuous reading. Please sign and comment in their reading record book each time they read. Reading records will be checked on a Monday and children will be given opportunities during the week to complete their Accelerated Reader quizzes. Key questions to gauge your child's understanding include:

- 1) **During the book:** What has happened so far? What do you think will happen next? How would you feel if you were a character?
- 2) **After the book:** What was your favourite part? Why? Who was your favourite character? Why? What did you learn? Why do you think the author wrote it? Would you have changed the ending?
- 3) **About the story:** What kind of story is it? Where is it set? When is it set? What words describe it? How do you know?
- 4) **About characters:** What sort of character is [name]? Is he/she friendly, mean, or nice?
- 5) **About the author:** How does the author get us to feel scared or excited?
- 6) **About the text:** Which parts of the text would you change if you were editing it?

We will be circulating the Parent Reading Information booklets again, which provide further ideas for questions in order to test your child's understanding of what they are reading. Books will be handed in fortnightly on a Monday

and returned on Tuesday. Children will be given opportunities to access the Accelerated Reader quiz linked to their completed book.

HOMWORK



As explained during the 'Meet the Teacher' presentation, children will produce work as laid out via their homework grid. There are a variety of activities to choose from and may be completed in any order. The hand in dates for all work is detailed on the grid which will be stuck into the front of their homework book. There will also be a copy available on the website. Children will receive a maximum of 6 weekly words that will be based on their spelling sessions. This is to help them learn the rule, which they will then apply to a range of words within a piece of fortnightly dictation. Children will be provided with some activities to help them practise. All **Year 4** children will have a weekly maths activity. Please encourage your child to complete their activities but if you are finding this challenging, please let me know.

Please ensure your child brings their homework book in on Mondays so that they can stick in the weekly spellings.

Children should be completing the following pieces of homework:

- **Year 3** –daily reading, practising their times tables, three spelling activities and a fortnightly piece from the grid homework.
- **Year 4** – a weekly maths activity, daily reading, practising their times tables, three spelling activities and a fortnightly piece from the grid homework.

TIMES TABLES PRACTICE

As part of their homework, children are expected to practise their times tables on a regular basis. We would recommend TTRockStars (TTRS) and Hit the Button to support their tables' learning (there are links on the website). **It is important that Year 4 children should practise their times tables regularly as the Multiplication Check will take place in June.**



HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES



As part of our aim to provide our children with healthy lifestyles, we would like to remind you that your child should be provided with a healthy packed lunch. If your child would like a snack at break time, please can you ensure it is a piece of fruit or vegetables, such as carrot sticks. **Please do not send your child to school with nuts, peanut butter or products containing nuts** as we do have children in school who are severely allergic to such items.

WATER BOTTLES



It is important that your child is kept hydrated throughout the day, so should have a **named** plastic bottle of drinking water to have in class; these should not be used for squash or fruit juice please.

SCHOOL CLUBS

We will be offering a range of clubs for the Summer term. These will be detailed in the weekly newsletter.

AND FINALLY,...

If you need to speak to me about your child at any point during the term, please contact the office or speak to me directly after school.

With kind regards

Mrs J Sparrow