



# Rowan Class



Dear Parents and Carers,

## WELCOME BACK TO THE SPRING TERM!

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed some time to relax and recharge. I have put together a curriculum overview to give you an idea of what your child will be learning this term. It's a great way to see what's coming up and how we'll be supporting their progress. If you ever have any questions, worries, or just want to talk about how your child is getting on, please feel free to get in touch through the school office. I am always happy to talk things through and work together to make sure your child feels confident and supported.

## OUR SCHOOL VALUES

This term, our focus will be on the school value of 'Honesty'. Throughout the term, we will be exploring what honesty means with the children, discussing how it can be shown both in school and in the wider community. Rowan has created their class display for the hall, using the parable 'The Tree and its Fruits' (Matthew 7:18). We have created our own tree from hands prints with 'good fruit' in each palm.

## ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual school attendance enables every child to achieve to the very best of their abilities - please refer to our attendance policy for our expectations. **Rowan's attendance at the end of last term was 97.7%.** This is above national and the highest in the school - well done Rowan!

## WOW DAY

Our history unit for this half term will be about the Stone / Bronze / Iron ages. On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January, Divergent Drama will be in to work with the children and we have organised some additional fun activities to complement your child's learning on this day. We will post photographs on Facebook about the WOW day.

## OUTDOOR LEARNING

Rowan will be taking part in some den building activities toward the end of the first half term.

## START OF THE DAY



This is a reminder that the school 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.**

## UNIFORM

Uniform expectations can be found on our website (Parents - Uniform). When children are celebrating their birthday and wearing their own clothes, crop tops and short skirts are not appropriate attire for the school day. Hair should also be tied back and earring should be small, plain studs.

## P.E. AND GAMES



Parents were notified before the Christmas break about a change in our uniform policy. Children will now be coming to school in their PE kit with their school jumper / cardigan on the days they have PE / Games. Rowan has indoor PE on Friday and outdoors with Premier Education on Thursdays. In colder weather, children can plain black tracksuit bottoms. Long hair MUST be tied back. All children should wear shorts for indoor PE - leggings or tracksuit bottoms are not permitted; however, they can be worn over the top of shorts during other times of the day. **Girls should ensure that they are wearing either netball skirts or shorts, not 'hot pants'. If your child wears earrings, they should be removed before their session. If this is not possible, please contact me and provide micro-pore tape to cover them.**

## READING



It is incredibly important that children read **every day**. At St John the Baptist, we know how important reading is for children's learning and development, and we are asking for your support in encouraging daily reading at home. In Years 3 & 4, the expectation is for children to read for at least **10 minutes a day**. Children should be recording their reading in their reading records and asking you to sign it. Reading records will continue to be checked on a Monday. Children who have had 5 or more reads signed in a week will have a raffle ticket entered into an exciting prize draw. More details will be shared shortly.

## HOMEWORK



Homework will continue to handed out on a Monday and be collected in the following Monday.

## HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES

This is a polite reminder that children should be provided with a healthy packed lunch - no chocolate bars or sweets please. Rowan class have their snack after break at 10:30. Please ensure it is a piece of fruit or vegetables. **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 they should have a named plastic bottle of drinking water to have in class; **these should NOT be used for squash or fruit juice and should be COLD water only.**

## SCHOOL WEBSITE

All communication will be posted in order to keep you up to date with future events and information about your child's learning. Rowan has their own class page on the school website, which you can find under 'Our Learning'. Homework, spelling lists and additional information can be found here.

## STUDENT TEACHER

This term, we have a third-year student teacher, Miss. Hayward, working alongside me in Rowan Class.

## HELPERS NEEDED

If there are any parents who are able to spare some time to listen to children read, please let the office know.

## COMMUNICATION

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. At the start of each term, a curriculum overview is shared with all parents to keep you informed about your child's learning journey. Additionally, the weekly newsletter has a calendar with upcoming events which is regularly added to. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please get in contact via the office ([office@stibps.co.uk](mailto:office@stibps.co.uk)).

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Georgia Griffiths