

Rowena Academy

Autumn Term 2025 Curriculum Updates



EYFS

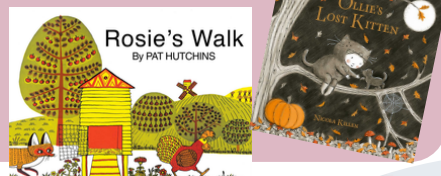
Nursery - Miss Sproston
Class 1 - Ms Kahler and Mr Newton
Class 2 - Mrs Smith

Nursery

This term, we have two themes of learning in Nursery. In Autumn Term 1, our theme is 'It's All About You'. Our focus text is, 'Rosie's Walk' and we will be using actions to learn the story. In Autumn 2, our theme will be 'All of the Lights', and we will be reading 'Ollie's Lost Kitten' and 'Dear Santa'.

As part of our Jigsaw PSHE lessons, we will be beginning to understand how it feels to belong and learning about what being responsible means. We will also learn that all families are different and begin to make new friends.

We have two inspirational artists that we will be focusing on this term: Jackson Pollock and Wassily Kandinsky. We will be exploring colour mixing and making shapes with paint and paintbrushes.



Reception (Class 1 and Class 2)



This term, we have two themes of learning in Reception. In Autumn Term 1 our theme is, 'It's All About You'. Our focus text is, 'The Little Red Hen' and we will be writing character descriptions. In Autumn Term 2, our theme will be, 'All of the Lights', and we will be reading, 'Whatever Next!'

As part of our Jigsaw PSHE lessons, we will be beginning to understand why it is good to use kind and gentle hands, and learning about what being responsible means.

We have two inspirational artists that we will be focusing on this term: Bridget Riley and Andy Goldsworthy. We will be exploring nature and making patterns with natural resources.

Our role model for the Autumn Term is Buzz Aldrin. This links to our focus text, 'Whatever Next!'. We will be learning about space and what it is like to be an astronaut.

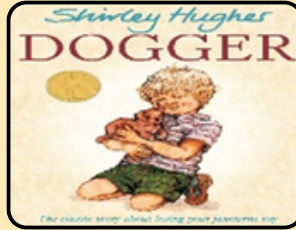


YEAR ONE

ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

English

We will be reading *Dogger* by Shirley Hughes. This classic book tells the story of Dave and his favourite toy - Dogger. Everywhere Dave goes, Dogger goes too. They do everything together so surely nothing could break this special friendship up, or could it...?

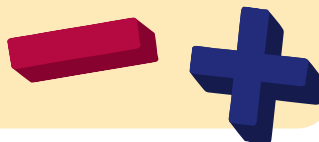


In writing this term, we are going to write two different stories - a story involving a mean character, based on *The Three Little Pigs*, and a warning tale based on *The Gruffalo's Child*. In addition to this, we will explore writing instructions on how to trap a wolf, and also a recount.

Maths

We are going to spend some time deepening their understanding of numbers to 10, then to 20, and by the end of term, to 50. Children will be able to explain how they know that 7 is a greater number than 5, for example.

We will also be spending time learning what addition and subtraction mean. Children will understand that addition is more. They will learn to write number sentences using the + symbol, We will also spend time learning about subtraction. Children will learn that subtraction is reduction. They will write simple number sentences using the - symbol.



Humanities

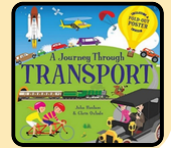
Autumn 1: What makes our school special?

In the first half term, we will be learning what a map is and what the different features of our school are.



Autumn 2: How has transport changed?

In the second half term, we will be learning about how road, sea and air transport has changed over time.



R.E.

Autumn 1: What does belonging mean?

In the first half term, we will be learning about different groups that we belong to and understand how to make people feel welcome.

Autumn 2: What is Christianity?

In the second half term, we will be learning about why the bible, God, prayer and the church are important to people of the Christian faith.

Science

Autumn 2: Everyday materials

In the second half term, children will explore a variety of different everyday materials, understanding the difference between an object, the material it is made from and the properties each has. For example, deciding whether the material is hard or soft, bendy or stretchy. They will think about whether a material is good for a job. For example - is paper a good material for an umbrella?



YEAR ONE

Class 3 - Mr Tindle Class 5 - Mrs Heath

Art & D.T.



Autumn 1: Drawing and Collage

In the first half term, children will be learning about straight, wavy, zigzag and curved lines. We will investigate how to create light and dark tones using different pressure and drawing materials. Children will also explore texture, colour and pattern in collage by tearing, cutting and layering materials.

Autumn 2: Mechanical Components

In the second half term, we will investigate the purpose of a chassis, axle and wheels before designing and creating our own vehicles to carry a toy.

Computing



Autumn 1: Technology Around Us

In the first half term we will be learning to identify a computer and the different parts it has. We will also use one to add and change text.

Autumn 2: Digital Painting

In the second half term we will use different tools to make a picture. This will include colour, shape and line tools.



P.E.



Autumn 1: Fitness and Team Building

We will be exploring how our bodies feel when we exercise, focusing on our heartbeat, breathing and muscles. We will also reflect on how exercise impacts on our concentration and well-being. In Team Building, we will work on clear communication, instructions and rules to make our games run smoothly.

Autumn 2: Fundamentals and Gymnastics

In Fundamentals, we will learn to hop, jump, run, change direction and skip using a skipping rope. In Gymnastics, we will use rolls, jumps, balances and travelling movements to practise and perform a sequence.



P.S.H.E

Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will explore what it means to be part of a class, including our rights and responsibilities. We will also work together to set up a class 'Learning Charter'.

Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

We will learn about bullying and explore how to deal with it. We will also celebrate what makes us similar and different within our class and explore feelings around making new friends.

Music

Throughout the year, we will be listening to and exploring a range of musical genres, artists and composers. Can you listen and discover our Music of the Week further together at home?

Autumn 1:

In Music, we will be exploring our voices to create different sounds, start to understand how to stay in tune and to memorise simple songs off by heart to sing together.

Autumn 2:

With un-tuned instruments, we will develop our understanding of how to play with control and follow a beat as a group.

There will be a real focus to develop a love for performing to peers and joining in with group activities!



YEAR 1/2

ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

English

We will be reading *Pumpkin Soup* by Helen Cooper. This is a funny, rhythmical story about friendship and sharing, with fabulous animal characters, illustrated in glowing autumnal colours. Cat, Duck and Squirrel live in an old white cabin, with a pumpkin patch in the garden. Every day Cat slices up some pumpkin, Squirrel stirs in some water and Duck tips in some salt to make perfect pumpkin soup..until the day Duck wants to do the stirring...



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YEAR 1/2

Class 8 - Mrs Hibbert and Mrs Nugent

Art & D.T.



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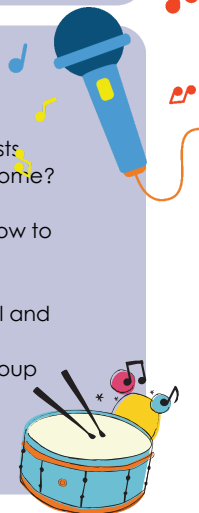
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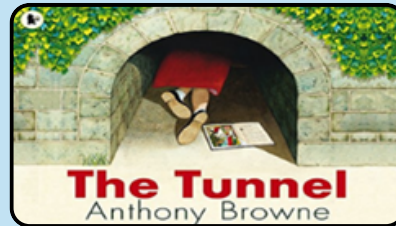


YEAR TWO

ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

English

We will be reading *The Tunnel* by Anthony Browne. This modern classic tells the story of a brother and sister who are complete opposites to one another and spend most of their time arguing. One day, they find a tunnel but what will be on the other end ...?



This term, we will be writing a journey story based on *Meerkat Mail*, followed by a unit on recount writing. Following this, we will explore a warning story linked to our learning in history, and write a discussion text about who we think was to blame for the Great Fire of London.

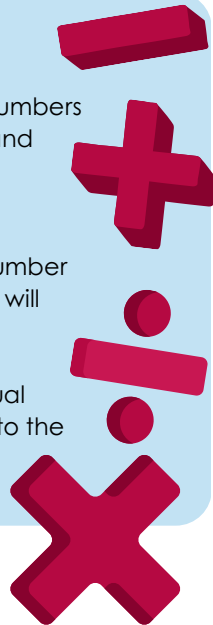
Maths

In maths this term children will begin by learning the place value of numbers up to 100. Children will be able to partition whole numbers into tens and ones.

Then we will be looking at addition and subtraction.

Children will learn how to add three 1-digit numbers (up to 100) on number lines, including how to add across a 10, which can be tricky! Children will learn to do the same thing with subtraction too.

Children will begin to learn what multiplication means by making equal groups and adding the groups together. Children will be introduced to the idea of dividing by taking groups away from a total



Humanities

Autumn 1: What makes London special compared to other places in the UK?

In the first half term, we will be learning about the countries of the UK and their famous landmarks.



Autumn 2: What happened during the Great Fire of London?

In the second half term, we will be learning about the Great Fire of London and why Samuel Pepys is important because of his diary.



R.E.

Autumn 1: What is Judaism?

In the first half term we will be learning about the importance of Abraham and how people of the Jewish faith worship God, both at the synagogue and at home.

Autumn 2: Why is Advent and the Nativity story so important to Christians?

In the second half term we will be learning about the Nativity story and the importance of Bethlehem and the Church of Nativity to people of the Christian faith.

Science

Autumn Term: Uses of everyday materials

Across the term, children will build on their learning from Year 1, using their knowledge of different materials and their properties to understand the suitability of different materials for a certain purpose, for example, looking at the best material for a straw, as well as exploring how materials can be changed by twisting, bending, squashing and stretching.



YEAR TWO

Class 6 - Miss Beckett/
Mrs Hibbert

Class 7 - Mrs Allen

Art & D.T.

Autumn 1: Collage

In the first half term, children will learn how to crumple, fold, overlap and overlay materials to create different collage effects. They will also learn about and create a 3D photocollage, inspired by David Hockney.

Autumn 2: Construction and Drawing

In the second half term children will learn about nets and the architect, Sir Christopher Wren. We will then design and construct a house in the style of homes from the Great Fire of London. In Art, we will also learn about the different effects created by charcoal, graphite and ink.



Computing

Autumn 1: Information Technology Around Us

In the first half term we will learn about the different ways technology helps us and know how and why we make choices about this.

Autumn 2: Digital Photography

In the second half term we will learn how to use a digital device to take a photograph. We will then learn how to use these with different programmes to create digital media.



P.E.

Autumn 1: Fitness and Team Building

We will continue to develop accuracy when skipping with a rope and develop our running technique, including pace and how to change direction. We will also reflect on how to use exercises to build strength. In Team Building, we will further develop our communication skills and think about how to encourage others to be successful.

Autumn 2: Fundamentals and Gymnastics

We will learn about the difference between sprinting and jogging, jumping and hopping as well as refining how to land safely. We will also learn how to dodge. In Gymnastics, we will use rolls, jumps, balances, travelling movements and shapes to create a sequence at different levels with a change of direction.



P.S.H.E.

Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will explore our hopes and fears for the year ahead and discuss how everyone plays a part in creating a safe and fair learning environment. We will also explore how to recognise our feelings and value the contributions of others.

Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

Children will learn about bullying and explore how to stand up for themselves and others. We will also discuss stereotypes about gender, celebrate difference within our class and discuss how to remain friends.

Music

Throughout the year, we will be listening to and exploring a range of musical genres, artists and composers and describing instruments and musical elements that are used. Can you listen and discover our Music of the Week further together at home?

Autumn 1:

In the first half term, we will be developing our musical listening and singing skills, alongside being able to sing in a round. We will be encouraged to perform to peers, and be willing to share our ideas.

Autumn 2:

We will start to look at playing a tuned instrument by following simple notation, and playing different rhythms in time to the beat. We will start to create our own simple rhythmic compositions.



Thrive Updates

The Thrive Approach team have been busy updating Thrive Online to enhance the provision for staff supporting children in our school. Staff can now select even more targeted strategies to support social and emotional learning and link these strategies to fun and exciting activity cards for children and staff to take part in together.

The Thrive Approach is currently used in over 2,800 settings across the country and overseas with over 75,000 people trained in the approach to support children mental wellbeing and social and emotional development.

Thrive in our School

Our Thrive Lead is Miss Sproston.

Our Thrive Practitioner,
Mrs Worley, works 2
days a week
delivering focused
Thrive sessions.

Thrive strategies are
embedded throughout
our classrooms and
daily life across school,
by all adults.

