

# Rowena Academy

## Spring Term 2026 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 Spring Term 1, our theme is 'The story of my life'. Our focus texts are, 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and we will be using actions to learn the story. In Spring Term 2, our theme will be 'I heard it through the grapevine', and we will be reading 'The Crunching Munching Caterpillar' and 'Sam Plants a Sunflower'.

As part of our Jigsaw PSHE lessons, we will be thinking about independence, managing and taking care of ourselves.

Our Inspirational Artists this term will be Henry Moore and Anthony Gromley, and our Inspiring Role Model for Spring Term is Nadiya Hussain.



## Reception (Class 1 and Class 2)

This term, we have two themes of learning in Reception. In Spring Term 1 our theme is, 'The story of my life'. Our focus text is, 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and we will be writing character descriptions. In Spring Term 2, our theme will be, 'I heard it through the grapevine', and we will be reading, 'Oliver's Vegetables' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

As part of our Jigsaw PSHE lessons, we will be thinking about being resourceful and resilient, sharing our dreams and goals, and thinking about how we keep our minds and bodies healthy.

Our Inspirational Artists this term will be Barbara Hepworth and Grayson Perry, and our Inspiring Role Model for Spring Term is Nadiya Hussain.

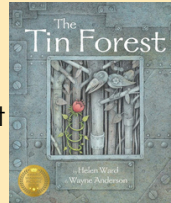


# YEAR ONE

## ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

### English

We will be reading *The Tin Forest* by Helen Ward. This book tells the story of a man who dreams of a real forest and builds one out of tin. One day something magical happens to the forest that not only surprises the man but carries an important message for us as a reader.



*The Queen's Hat* by Steve Antony is our model fiction text for this term. We will be exploring how to write action sentences with different verbs and adverbs, before writing our own journey tale. After half term, we will be writing an information text about a royal person. We will also be writing poetry based on James Reeves' poem, *Slowly*, and taking part in Shakespeare Week.

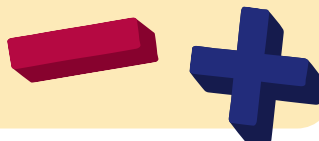
### Maths

#### Spring 1

In the first half term pupils will begin to look at multiplication and division along with place value. They will learn to solve one-step problems involving multiplication and division by calculating the answer using concrete objects, pictorial representations and arrays

#### Spring 2

In Spring term pupils will start to understand fractions and begin to develop a deeper understanding of shape. They will learn to recognise, find and name a half as one of two equal parts of an object, shape or quantity and will find and name a quarter as one of four equal parts of an object, shape or quantity.



### Humanities

#### History

In the first half term, pupils will learn that dinosaurs existed before humans. They will learn about what the world was like during the Cretaceous Period and that fossils are used to tell us about the past.

#### Geography

In the second half term, pupils will learn that the UK has four seasons and that these have different types of weather. They will also learn what the equator is and that places further from the equator are colder.

### R.E.

#### What is a journey and why do people go on them?

In the first half term, pupils will learn about the religious and non-religious reasons people may go on a journey. They will also learn that sometimes journeys can be difficult.

#### What is Islam?

In the second half term, pupils will learn that Islam is one of the world's religions. They will learn that a mosque is a special place for worship and that prayer is an important way people of the Islamic faith talk to Allah.

### Science

#### Animals Including Humans

In the first half term, pupils will learn the different parts of the human body. They will also learn what carnivores, herbivores and omnivores are and to recognise amphibians, fish, birds, mammals and reptiles.

#### Plants

In the second half term, pupils will learn the parts of different plants and know the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.

# YEAR ONE

## Class 3 - Mr Tindle Class 5 - Mrs Heath



### P.E.

#### **Spring 1: Ball Skills and Dance**

In Ball Skills, pupils will learn how to use their bodies effectively to develop their throwing, catching and dribbling skills. In Dance, pupils will consider how to show the start and end of their dance effectively. They will also explore changes in direction, speed, levels and pathways.

#### **Spring 2: Sending and Receiving and Target Games**

In Sending and Receiving, pupils will refine different techniques such as rolling, tracking, throwing and catching a ball over different distances. In Target Games, pupils will learn how to use underarm and overarm throws.



### Art & D.T.



#### **Art**

In the first half term, pupils will learn how to print with hard and soft materials and that Joan Miro used simple shapes and red, blue, yellow and black in his art. In the second half term, they will learn to name the primary colours. They will also learn that different brushes make different thicknesses of line and that colours can be changed by mixing paint.

#### **D.T.**

In the first half term, pupils will learn about Food and Nutrition. They will recognise different foods that come from plants and animals and know how to use three different techniques to cut ingredients safely.

### P.S.H.E

#### **Spring 1: Dreams and Goals**

Pupils will talk about setting simple goals, how to achieve them and overcoming difficulties. They will also learn to recognise feelings associated with facing obstacles to achieving our goals and discuss how to work well with a partner.

#### **Spring 2: Healthy Me**

Pupils will learn about healthy and less healthy choices and how they make them feel as well as hygiene and keeping clean. They will also learn about road safety and people who can help them to stay safe.

### Computing



#### **Spring 1: Moving a Robot**

In this unit, pupils will be introduced to early programming using a floor robot. They will give clear commands to programme their floor robot to follow a simple route.

#### **Spring 2: Grouping Data**

In this unit, pupils will be introduced to data and information. They will learn how to label, group and classify objects based on their properties. They will also learn how to log on to their computers and open and save documents.

### 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?

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.

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!

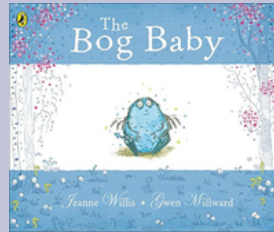


# YEAR 1/2

## ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

### English

We will be reading *The Bog Baby* by Jeanne Willis. This is a magical story with a serious message about what it means to really love something. When two small sisters decide to go fishing in the magic pond, they find something unexpected; a bog baby. This teaches them the greatest lesson, if you really love something, you have to do the best for it and let it go....



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.

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# YEAR 1/2

## Class 8 - Mrs Hibbert and Mrs Nugent

### Art & D.T.



#### Art

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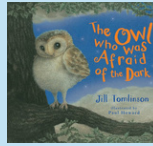


# YEAR TWO

## ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

### English

We will be reading *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* by Jill Tomlinson. This book tells the story of Plop the Baby Barn Owl who is afraid of the dark. He is so scared he won't even go hunting with his family. So Mrs Barn Owl sends him down from his nest-hole, where he will meet a series of friends who will convince him that perhaps there is a little bit of magic in the dark after all.



*Peter Pan* by J.M. Barrie is our inspiration for the start of this term's writing, in which we will explore different ways of describing a character and write our own fantasy tale, before writing an information text about fantasy creatures. We will also be writing poetry about mythical beasts, inspired by *The Hippocrump* by James Reeves, and take part in Shakespeare Week.

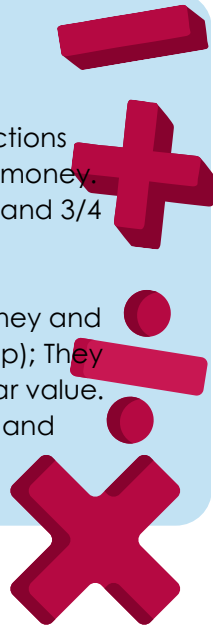
### Maths

#### Spring 1

In the first half term of Year 2, pupils will begin their work on fractions along with an introduction into the concept of maths linked to money. They will recognise, find, name and write fractions  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{2}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity.

#### Spring 2

The pupils in Spring 2 will be continuing their work involving money and learn to recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); They will also learn to combine different amounts to make a particular value. They will also start to explore the mathematics of time, position and direction.



### Humanities

#### Geography

Pupils will learn in the second half term about Mexico. They will know that this is in North America and there are many different landmarks, animals and plants that can be found there.



### R.E.

#### How were religious messages communicated?

In the first half term, pupils will learn what communication is. They will also learn that apostles and companions communicated and shared religious messages in the past.

#### What does it mean to belong to a mosque or a church?

In the second half term, pupils will learn that places of worship can be an important part of a community. They will also learn that groups of people pray together and what features of a mosque help focus and respect.

### Science

#### Animals Including Humans

Pupils will learn that some animals give birth to live some and that some lay eggs. They will also learn what a life cycle is and observe changes of a butterfly life cycle.



# YEAR TWO

## Class 6 - Miss Beckett/ Mrs Moxon/Mrs Hibbert

## Class 7 - Ms Allen

### Art & D.T.



**Art**  
In the first half term, pupils will learn how to weave and to dye wool using natural materials. In the second half term they will learn how to print using repeating patterns and a stencil onto fabric to make Mexican-inspired bunting.

**D.T.**  
In the second half term, pupils will learn how to join and stitch fabric and to use templates. They will also learn the difference between fruits and vegetables and that some ingredients are farmed, caught or grown elsewhere.



### Computing

**Spring 1: Robot Algorithms**  
In this unit, pupils will understand how to order instructions to ensure that they are precise when creating a more complex route for a floor robot. They will also design and test algorithms and 'debug' them to fix any errors.

**Spring 2: Pictograms**  
In this unit, pupils will count and collect data using a tally chart. They will present data in the form of a pictogram and a block diagram and then use this data to answer questions.



### P.E.

#### **Spring 1: Ball Skills and Dance**

In Ball Skills, pupils will develop greater accuracy in stopping, controlling and kicking a ball with their feet. They will also consider the different hand and body positions needed for throwing, catching and dribbling with their hands. In Dance, pupils will work with a partner to perform mirrored movements with expression.

#### **Spring 2: Sending and Receiving and Target Games**

In Sending and Receiving, pupils will learn how to stop the ball before passing and how to ensure greater accuracy when rolling or throwing the ball to others. In Target Games, pupils will refine throwing and kicking techniques to strike a target at different distances or when the target is moving.



### P.S.H.E.

#### **Spring 1: Dreams and Goals**

Pupils will explore setting realistic goals and how to achieve them. They will discuss perseverance when finding things difficult and reflect on who they can work well with in a group and why.

#### **Spring 2: Healthy Me**

Pupils will learn about healthy food and snacks and how to make healthy food choices. They will reflect on what makes them feel relaxed or stressed. They will also learn how medicines work and how to use them safely.



### 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?

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.

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.

