

## Rowan Class Notes

Rowan Class this year consists of 30 year five children. The class will be taught by Mrs Donaldson on a Monday, Tuesday and every other Wednesday afternoon. Mrs Helsby will teach Rowan class on a Wednesday morning, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday afternoon will be taught on alternate weeks by Mrs Donaldson and Mrs Helsby. Mrs Pipe will be the class teaching assistant and will be in Rowan every morning. Mrs Dowdell will be working one to one with a child every morning and two afternoons.

Our topic for terms one and two will be Tudors.

### School Priorities

As a school we set ourselves ambitious targets in order to continuously improve. Our school development priorities for this academic year are:

- Improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment particularly the challenge for higher attaining pupils
- Accelerate Progress and Improve outcomes for pupils particularly in maths
- Develop effective and sustainable leadership and management through rigorous monitoring
- Achieve good personal development, behaviour and welfare particularly through support for our most vulnerable and challenging pupils
- Create an environment ready for outstanding learning through continued development of outdoor and IT provision

### PE

PE days will be Monday and Friday but the children should have PE kit in school every day in case the timetable changes. All children participate in these activities and so it is important that they always have their NAMED PE kit in school hanging on their peg. A drawstring bag is preferable for space in the cloakroom. Jewellery should not be worn during PE lessons and long hair needs to be tied back.

### Homework

Homework will be set on Fridays and will be in two parts: project based homework or computer based tasks. Work can be brought into school or e-mailed to:

[mrsdonaldson@bridlewood.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:mrsdonaldson@bridlewood.swindon.sch.uk) or [mrshelsby@bridlewood.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:mrshelsby@bridlewood.swindon.sch.uk)

In addition to this, children will be given a list of spellings for the term. Spellings will be tested on a Friday. The spellings are divided into bronze, silver and gold. The children will be advised as to which they should be learning as a minimum, however, we encourage them to challenge themselves to learn as many as they can.

We encourage children to read at home every night. This can be from books from the school library or from other books that you may have available at home. Please encourage your child to record when they have read in their reading diary. When a child has completed twenty reads in their reading diary they can bring it to Mrs Sammon or Mrs McLaughlin for a special stamp in their diary and will receive a certificate in Celebration Assembly.

## **Equipment**

Children must have a water bottle in school, preferably with a sports cap. This should be placed in the tray at the back of the classroom each morning and taken home to wash every evening. To save confusion the bottles need to be clearly labelled, as do all clothes and bags. Children should not bring pencil cases.

Any bags need to be of an appropriate size as space in the cloakroom is limited. A small bag which could fit into their classroom drawer would be ideal.

## **Behaviour**

Our School Core Values are: Respect, Honesty and responsibility and there will also be a third value. These will be finalised soon. Children will be expected to conduct themselves in a manner fitting to these values.

The rewards and sanctions are outlined below:

### **Rewards:**

Smile  
Verbal praise ('well done')  
Thumbs-up  
Applause  
Stickers  
Written comments on work  
Team points  
Champion of the Day

### **Sanctions:**

Verbal warning  
Time Out  
Class Teacher/Mrs Sammon to  
contact parents/carers

Please refer to our School Behaviour Policy for more information.

## **Key Diary Dates**

Reception/Key Stage One Phonics Workshop tbc

Individual School Photos- 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Maths Workshop for Parents tbc

INSET Day 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Open Morning for Parents – maths focus tbc

Parent Consultations - 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (5.00-7.30pm) and 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (3.30-5.30pm)

PGL - Mon 12<sup>th</sup> March to Frid 16<sup>th</sup> March

Class assembly - Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Class trip Hampton Court - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November approx. £16

Possible in school visit – Explorer dome – term 5/6

### **Help from Parents**

Hearing readers, assisting with practical activities, preparing materials etc is much appreciated by teachers and children. It is not necessary to commit yourself to come in for a whole morning or afternoon or to come every week, and no experience is necessary. If you would like to help, please feel free to come and have a chat now or at any time during the year.

If there is anything that you would like to discuss, please make an appointment to meet with us after school.

Mrs J Donaldson and Mrs J Helsby