



Willow, Maple and Rowan have been very busy this half term. Below there is an update on what each class have been doing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support this term and wish you all a lovely break.

Mrs Aoife Greaves

Headteacher

Celebrating Attendance

Attendance:

20 pupils have not missed anytime off school this term. Well done.



Top Trumps

We are setting up a Top Trumps Club at lunchtime. If any families have packs of Top Trumps cards that they no longer use we would be grateful of them for use in our club. Please bring them to the school office or give them to myself or class teachers on the playground.

Thank you

Beanbag

We are trying to make our library a more inviting space and I would like to put some beanbags in there for the children to use when reading. If anyone is having a clear out and is considering getting rid of any large beanbags for sitting on we would very much appreciate them. They can be brought to the school office.

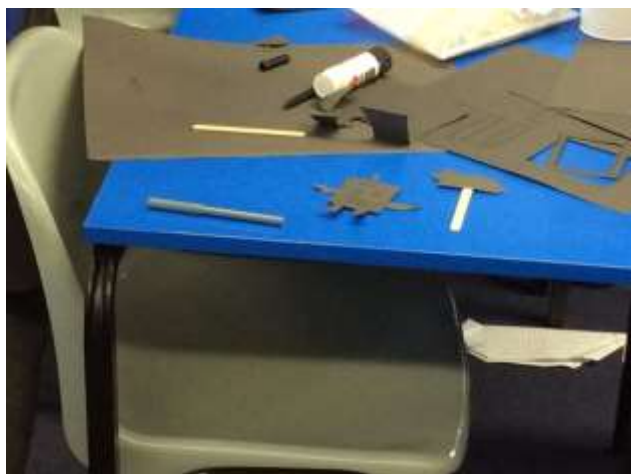
Thank you

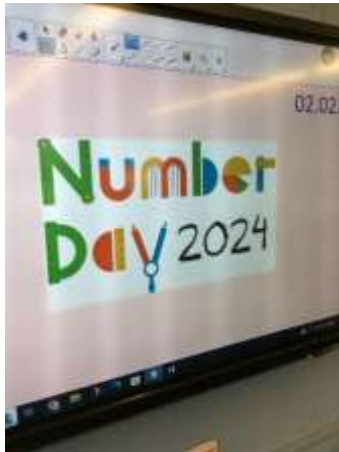
It has been a very busy term in Rowan Class. Here are just a few of the learning activities that we have been taking part in.



In Religious Education, we explored how other cultures celebrate special festivals. We found out about how the Chinese celebrate New Year and then made Chinese crafts including lanterns and dragon puppets.

In Science we have been learning about light and shadow. We explored opaque, translucent and transparent paper and then made shadow puppets using the best materials. We found that the translucent paper was best for our puppet theatre and the opaque paper for the puppets.





To support the NSPCC, we held a Number Day. We all dressed in something representing a number. We took part in lots of number activities including making our own games to help us learn important number facts like times tables.



In Art we have been using our sketching skills to draw Ancient Egyptian artefacts. No shading was allowed! We developed our use of line to create the effects we wanted.



To complete our topic learning, we held an Ancient Egyptian Day. We all dressed up in costume and took part in lots of activities. We spoke Arabic, ate foods that would have been eaten by the Egyptians., worked with Egyptian numbers and wrote in hieroglyphics.



Maple

In literacy we have been learning all about the traditional tale 'Beauty and the Beast'. We started by exploring the characters in the book and thought about how we might feel if we were Belle during different parts of the story. We then compared different versions of the story, comparing the traditional story book to the Disney animated film.

We enjoyed a visit from a poet. One of our favourite poems she performed was by Michael Rosen about his son. It was called 'Eddie and the Nappy'.

In our castles topic we have been exploring why castles were built in the past (and why they are not built in modern times) and have started to learn about the features of castles and how they helped to defend against invaders.

The Year 4 young sports leaders ran a sports festival for us in the hall where we got to have a go at different activities and games using skills like balance, accuracy and teamwork. It was great fun, thank you sports leaders!



Willow

In Willow Class we have found out about cold climates focusing on the Arctic and Antarctic. We found out that you would never see a polar bear and a penguin together in the wild because they live at different ends of the earth.

We read a beautifully illustrated book called *You're Snug With Me* by Chitra Soundar and Poonam Mistry. We used this as inspiration to make our own patterns and winter scenes.

We investigated ice and melting and we tested our gloves and mittens to see whose were best at keeping our hands warm and dry.

We have found out about how clothes are made. We have explored weaving, sewing and we've even done some finger knitting!

Mrs Carter brought in some frog spawn which has now hatched out into tadpoles. We are looking forward to watching them change into froglets and then frogs. The frogs will then be returned to the pond where the spawn was collected.

We have been reading stories about journeys and made story maps. We have looked at different modes of transport and made pictures and models of them. We've also thought about what places would look like if we were able to look down from above. This led on to us looking at maps of the school, Hockliffe and the British Isles.

We are finishing our topic with a journey into space this week!

In PE we are looking at different styles of dance this half-term. So far we have looked at ballet and rock 'n' roll, and this week we will be looking at hula! We are enjoying this PE very much. In Music we are continuing to learn songs and use glockenspiels to play accompanying notes, alongside learning to keep the 'pulse' or steady beat to a piece of music. We are getting very good at this!



Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

We had a very successful first EDI meeting earlier this term. One of the outcomes of the meeting was to send a questionnaire to all stakeholders. Please take sometime to complete the questionnaire [here](#).

Our next meeting is on 23rd April 2.30pm (online.) Please email me via the school office if you are interested in attending.

Cultural Day 7 Olympics afternoon 17th July (parents are invited in the afternoon for our Olympics but the event is weather dependent.)

We would like to extend our warmest wishes to our families during the holy month of Ramadan.



Website

Our new website is now live and can be found [here](#).

New food provider



From April, our new school meal provider will be Innovate. On offer to pupils is a high-quality menu that is nutritionally balanced, seasonal and designed to ensure children eat well. Parents will receive instructions on how to order meals from school later this week.

The Menu

Options include:

Main meal – a choice of meat or vegetarian/vegan/halal option

Jacket potato – with a selection of toppings

Dessert of the day and/or a fruit option and/or yoghurt

The menu will follow a similar weekly pattern, so pupils know what to expect; for example, a roast dinner served every Wednesday and a curry every Thursday.

There will also be popular themed days, celebrating events such as ‘Bonfire Night’, ‘Chinese New Year’ and ‘World Book Day’, to name just a few.

How to Order

All meals are booked online. Visit [Innovate’s website](#) for more information and to register.

Meals will need to be booked by midnight on the Saturday of the week before. We encourage all parents/carers to book their child’s meals well in advance to save disappointment, as we are unable to offer a school lunch if one has not been booked online.

School Calendar	Other events
19 th Rowan & Maple Parent’s Evening 1.30 – 6pm 21 st Willow Parent’s Evening 2.30 – 6pm 22 nd Joy of Movement Festival KS2 22 nd Rocksteady Concert 2.30pm 27 th Cluster Sports Festival KS2 (return approx. 4.30) 28 th Break up for Easter	British Science Week International Women’s Day Start of Ramadan Easter Fair Trade Fortnight
April 16 th Children return to school	World Autism Day Ramadan Ends Eid-Al-Fitr Earth Day St George’s Day
May 9 th Class Photos 22 nd Road Safety Assembly 24 th Break up 24 th HSA non uniform	VE Day World Asthma Day Florence Nightingale’s Birthday International Nurse’s Day International Day of Families
June 3 rd Return to school 11 th KS2 get Moving (PE required) 18 th Rowan trip Holdenby House 25 th KS2 get Moving (PE required)	World Environment day World Refugee Day Armed Forces Day Summer Solstice Father’s Day
July	Bastille Day

2 nd KS2 get Moving (PE required) 3 rd Year 4 Transfer Day 4 th Year 4 Transfer Day 4 th Internal move up day 5 th Drama workshops all classes 9 th KS2 get Moving (PE required) 18 th Cultural Morning 18 th Olympics Afternoon (parents invited weather permitting)	World International Day for Justice Islamic New Year Anniversary of the Moon Landing
--	--

HSA Events 2023 2024

Date	Event	Cost
Easter Egg Hunt and Quiz	28 th March (AM)	TBC
HSA Non Uniform	24 th May	£2
Father's Day Donuts & Lego	13 th June 2.00pm Rowan Families with siblings in Rowan and another group are requested to attend the 2.00 session. 2.30pm Willow & Maple	TBC
Disco	4 th July	£5
Summer Fete	Saturday 6 th July 10.00am- 12.00pm	

Leighton Linlade School Games Events over the Easter holidays