

Elsenham C of E Primary School



2026 SPRING NEWSLETTER: Rowan Class - Mrs Fox and Miss Wilson

Happy New Year Rowan class!

We hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas break and are looking forward to the spring term as much as we are! Read below to find out about the exciting topics we will be learning this spring.

Homework this term will be daily reading, spellings, times tables and a weekly activity for maths and English on ATOM. These should take no longer than 15 minutes each to complete and homework club on a Wednesday lunchtime is an option should your child require some support with this. Please continue to make use of the resources your child has access to, such as, TT Rock Stars, Accelerated Reader and Purple Mash. Your ongoing support is very much appreciated.

Mathematics

This term, we will be giving more focus to learning the times tables securely. This includes knowing the inverse ($4 \times 5 = 20$; the inverse is $20 \div 5 = 4$) and being able to apply these to a range of contexts. Once secure, we will be delving into formal written methods of multiplication and division. We will explore area and perimeter as well as mass and capacity. Our other main focus will be on fractions, exploring how a whole can be split into parts, comparing and ordering fractions and adding and subtracting them. Knowing your times tables will be hugely beneficial so please continue to challenge yourselves on Times Tables Rock Stars.

Science

We will be exploring rocks and soils this term. The children will have the opportunity to handle three types of rock and many fossils and will be investigating how they are formed. After this half term, we will look at forces and magnets, planning and carrying out experiments that will help us to see how forces are acting on an object and whether we can alter them.

And there's more!

In history this term, we will be studying the ancient Mayan Civilisation. We will explore their impressive building skills and inventions, as well as have a go at using their sophisticated writing system. We will use our art sessions to explore Mayans too.

Our geography topic will be focussing on settlements and why people choose to live near volcanoes! P.E. this term will consist of an outdoor games lesson on Monday as well as an indoor P.E. session on a Tuesday. Please ensure that you have weather-appropriate clothing and earrings have been removed. Please also ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times. R.E. will take a new direction in the spring as the children are taught about philosophy and encouraged to develop their questioning skills. They will also be working towards their Young Leader Award which will teach them excellent team building and leadership qualities! We know they will enjoy the challenges that the award offers!

English

Our non-fiction unit this half term will be non-chronological reports and children will get to explore the features of a report in order to create their own over the coming weeks. After half term, we will continue our non-fiction learning by looking at explanations and linking this to our topic and foundation learning. We will be also be developing our vocabulary skills by writing different types of poetry such as kennings, limericks and haikus.

Reading will be a top priority this year as we ensure children's phonic knowledge is secure so that they can comprehend, and enjoy an array of books. We would like to strongly encourage children to continually improve their reading ability, fluency and understanding by reading daily.

As a class, we will be reading and exploring texts daily so that children are able to answer questions confidently about what they have read. The children will continue to access levelled books from the library. Once they have read a book, they will take a short quiz on it to check that they have understood it. Please encourage your child to read at home and, once they have completed a book, remind them to 'quiz' on it in school!

Please continue to support your child in learning their weekly spellings as well as the Year 3 statutory words. We will be consolidating spelling rules in weekly English lessons.