

Welcome back to Rowan class!



Spring
term 1 2023

Hello and welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and are ready to go for the new year!

In Rowan, we are beginning our 'The World' theme which we will be harnessing through our sensory story, story massage, music therapy, dance massage and TACPAC sessions. Again here, we are focusing on developing our engagement profile skills to support in reaching our personal learning goals to support our EHCP targets.

Lets learn about... **Sensology**

You may have seen in your young person's school diary, that we include 'Sensology' in our timetable. Sensology is a session designed to 'wake up the senses'. The five basic senses (see, hear, touch, smell, taste) and also movement related sensory systems: the vestibular (balance, head/body movements and gravity) and the proprioceptive (body awareness, special awareness and planning movements). Learners engage in experiences that stimulate each of the senses in turn, through resources specifically selected for the individuals.

In Rowan class, the senses are stimulated and introduced individually and a familiar song/rhyme is used to cue in the session as well as learners' tapping and clapping along in a vestibular and proprioceptive manner. Sensology is used to support the learners' awareness, engagement and to enable them to make preferences. A variety of different equipment can be used when waking up the individual senses. It is important to use contrasting senses to not only enhance the senses but also to allow the learner to communicate and show preference to particular experiences.

For example: Proprioception: massage squeeze, tap or rock and stop. **Vision:** spinning wand, torch and mirror. **Touch:** Bubble wrap Vs Pine cones. **Smell:** Coffee Vs Vanilla. **Sound:** sound on a switch vs. an instrument bell. **Taste:** chocolate spread vs marmite.

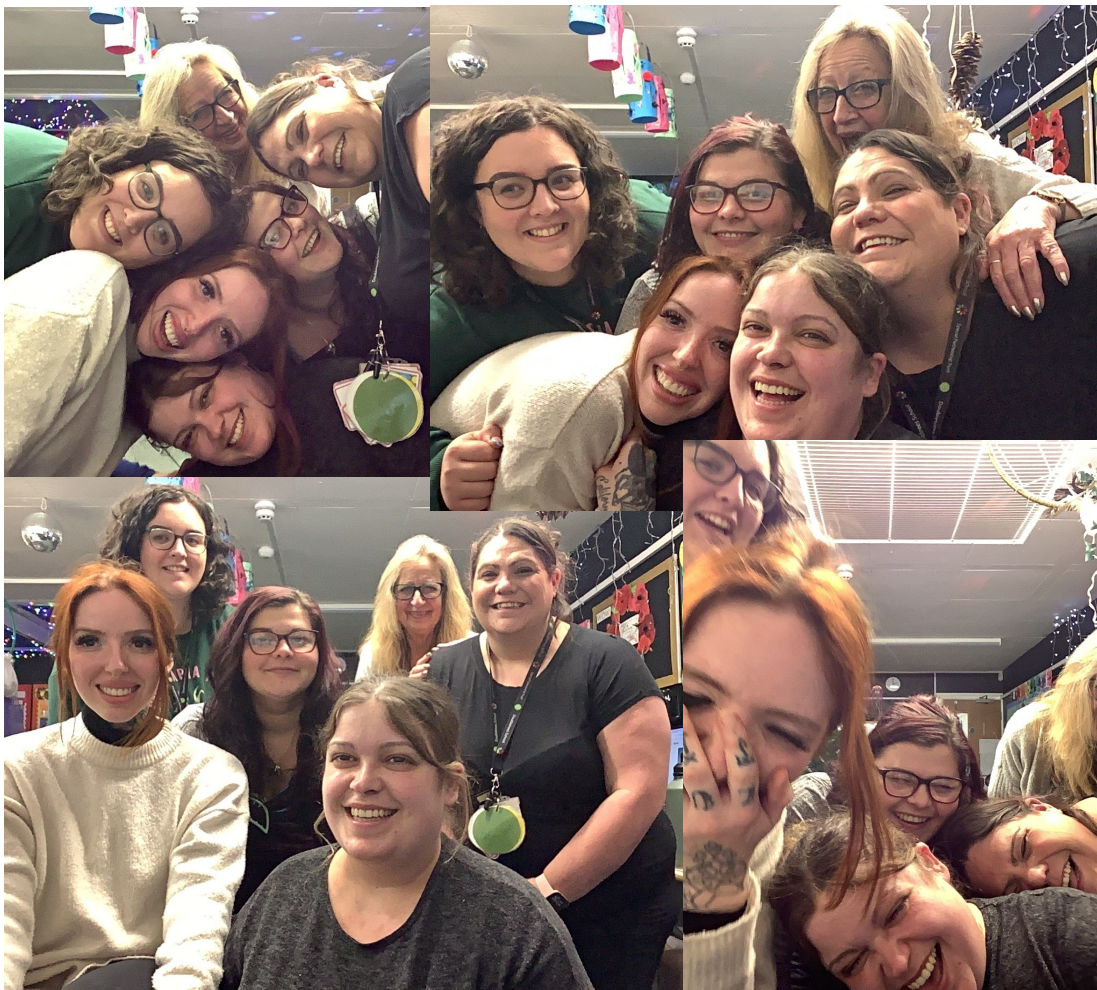
Try yourself at home, and see which senses your young person is the most responsive to!



Parent teacher meetings- w/c 15th January.

Please keep your eyes peeled in diaries, on the social media pages and on the school website for any upcoming dates!

Rowan class team



Class team: Leo (teacher), Ami, Lauren and Georgia (teaching assistants), Kathy (Mid day supervisor) and Lisa (Higher level teaching assistant)

Class Fund

Thank you to those who contribute £5 to our half termly class fund, this supports us in our Cooking and sensory exploration lessons. If you are able to contribute please do so through Parent Pay so that we can continue to explore!

Swimming

Please ensure that your child has a swim kit in school on their swimming day or a spare kit that can be kept at school. Swimming is weekly on a rota basis to ensure all learners have the opportunity to take part! **Our swim day is Tuesday.**

Donations

We are looking for old and unwanted fairy lights (battery operated or mains powered) to further decorate our classroom space! If you have any you are willing to donate, please send them in and we will make use of them!

For updates, please check our school website and Facebook pages. **www.doubletrees.org.uk**