

The Glapton Academy

Year 6 Newsletter

Spring Term 2



STEM Week

On the week commencing 11th March, we will be holding our annual STEM week. In Year 6 this year, we are going to be developing our knowledge of science, technology, engineering and mathematics through a very exciting woodwork project!



The children will be following the design process throughout the week and will close the week by creating their very own birdhouse! They will begin by investigating key elements of existing designs before carrying out research into bird behaviours and needs. Following this, we will be exploring different materials and practising a variety of woodwork skills: these will include sawing, drilling, sanding and hammering. Finally, we will create a design specification and plan our birdhouses before creating them in our small groups. We will conclude the project by evaluating our designs against the design criteria and suggesting ways it could be improved. The winning designs will be hung up around the school grounds.



Book recommendation

Aya is eleven years old and has just arrived in Britain with her mum and baby brother, seeking asylum from war in Syria. When Aya stumbles across a local ballet class, the formidable dance teacher spots her exceptional talent and believes that Aya has the potential to earn a prestigious ballet scholarship.



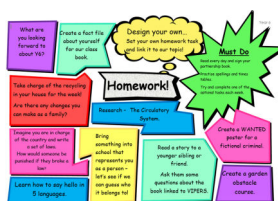
But at the same time, Aya and her family must fight to be allowed to remain in the country, to make a home for themselves and to find Aya's father – separated from the rest of the family during the journey from Syria.

With beautiful, captivating writing, wonderfully authentic ballet detail, and an important message championing the rights of refugees, this is classic storytelling – filled with warmth, hope and humanity.

Homework

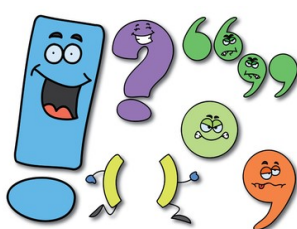
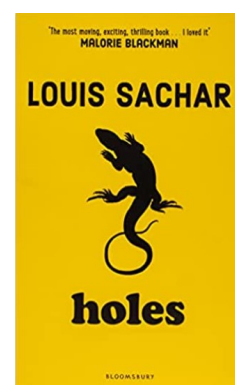
Year 6 pupils will be set two homework tasks each Friday on Sats Companion. These tasks must be completed by the following Friday. Homework given will always be a reconsolidation of learning that has taken place in school.

In addition to this, a homework mat will be provided each half term. These tasks will cover a range of skills and will deepen the pupils' knowledge and understanding of topics being taught.



English

In English this half term, we will be continuing to explore the novel 'Holes' in our reading lessons. Through use of this text, we will be learning to make detailed inferences and justify them with appropriate evidence from the text; use PEE (point, evidence, explanation) technique to answer written inferential questions in detail; clearly summarise the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph; and provide reasoned justifications for my views.



Alongside these reading objectives, we will also be focusing on improving our GPS knowledge. We will cover topics including verb forms, conjunctions and cohesion, word class, punctuation and composition and effect.

Maths

In our maths lessons this half term, we will be continuing to work with measurement. In this unit, we will be exploring both metric and imperial units of measure and learning how to convert between the two.

There are 9 cubes altogether.

There are 4 red cubes.

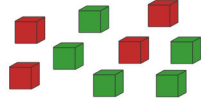
There are 5 green cubes.

What fraction of the cubes are red? $\frac{4}{9}$

What fraction of the cubes are green? $\frac{5}{9}$

What is the ratio of red to green cubes? 4:5

What is the ration of green to red cubes? 5:4



What do you notice about your answers?

Following this, we will move on to our ratio unit where we will be learning correct ratio language; exploring the relationship between ratio and fractions; using scale factors; and solving problems involving ratio and proportion.

Finally, we will conclude this term learning about decimals. We will build confidence in rounding, adding and subtracting, multiplying and dividing with decimals.

For all of these units of work, all children will have to be accurate and efficient with multiplicative relationships, which at the moment, most of our pupils are not. As a result of this, we will continue to practise times tables on a DAILY basis in school.



Maths Vocabulary

Ratio

Multiplicative relationship

Value

Comparison

“For every ____, there are ____”

Equivalent

Dividing

Common factor

Simplifying

Enlarged

Scale factor

Proportion

Dimensions

Product

Partnership Books

This term we will be continuing with our reading reward system which was launched earlier this year. Each class will become '**Reading Rocketeers**' aiming to get to 'space' (200 reads) by the end of the academic year. Children are encouraged to read at home every day and to make a note in their partnership book every time they read outside of school. After every 20 reads, they will get one step closer to space and will be rewarded with a token which they can 'spend' on prizes and, of course, books!



Spellings

All children will be given spelling words to learn each **Friday**.

These should be practised at home as often as possible and different words with the same spelling pattern will be tested in school the following **Friday**.

PE

Our PE day will be on a **Friday** however your child's PE kit must be in school every day as this can change. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit clearly labelled with their name.

Earrings must be removed for these days.

PE kit consists of:

Plain white T-shirt

Plain black sweatshirt

Black shorts or joggers

Trainers (outdoor)

Dates for Your Diary

1st March: Book Bus Shop Visit

5th March: Choices and Consequence Workshop - Elm

7th March: Reading Challenge Day

8th March: Choices and Consequence Workshop - Birch

WB 11th March: STEM week

15th March: Red Nose Day

27th March: Thank you club

Miss Shenton and
Miss Edwards