

The Glapton Academy

Year 6 Newsletter

Spring Term 1



Evolution and Inheritance

This half term in Year 6 we are going to be exploring The Amazing Americas!

To begin with, we will be finding out about the continents of North and South America and the countries that form them before naming and locating topographical features within these two continents. Following this, we will be discovering how topography is changing over time, investigating the impact of natural processes and human activity. We will then move on to investigating land-use patterns in the Americas before carrying out a comparative geographical study of The Amazon River and The River Trent. Finally, we will look in detail at the volcanoes which are located within The Americas. We will locate them, discover how they are formed and learn about the different types of volcanoes. For our GARP (Global and Anti-racism Perspective) we will be exploring the question, 'How have natural resources been significant in the survival of Native American tribes?'



Book recommendation

Winner of the Costa Children's Book Award 2017, 'The Explorer' is set in the Amazon and follows the story of Fred, whose plane accidentally crashes into the rainforest canopy.

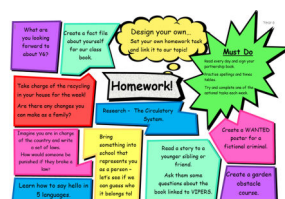


The Explorer is an exciting and gripping adventure that sees four children learning to survive as they journey through unfamiliar and challenging circumstances. This book transports you to a richly drawn land and you will find yourself right there with the children as they follow a map to a lost city, eating tarantulas and swimming with river dolphins.

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.



English

In English this half term, we will be working on a range of fiction and non fiction genres, through our study of the novel 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. Based on events and themes within the story, throughout the block, we will be writing our own informal letters, newspaper reports and untold endings to the story, using our deduction and prediction skills.

We will be continuing to revisit all concepts of the KS2 English writing curriculum through our daily GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) Workouts, alongside explicitly taught lessons on formality, tense and word class.

In reading, we will be working on improving our exam technique, by learning how to get maximum marks when answering comprehension questions. We will specifically be focussing on improving our reading speed and stamina and inference and deduction, as well as commenting on authorial viewpoint and choice.



Maths

In our maths lessons this half term, we will be continuing to work with fractions! We will begin the term by learning how to add and subtract fractions, including mixed numbers... take a look at this example to see the method we will be practicing >>

$$2 \frac{2}{3} + 1 \frac{1}{6}$$
$$= \frac{8}{3} + \frac{7}{6}$$
$$= \frac{16}{6} + \frac{7}{6} = \frac{23}{6}$$

Following this, in our second fractions unit, we will be learning to multiply and divide using fractions and integers before moving on to calculating fractions of amounts. By the end of the term, we will have one final look at measurement. In this unit, we will be exploring both metric and imperial units of measure and learning how to convert between the two.



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 be practising times tables on a DAILY basis in school.

Maths Vocabulary

Numerator
Denominator
Equivalent
Simplify
Simplest form
Express
Mixed number
Improper
Convert
Highest common factor
Lowest common denominator
Multiplicative relationship
Integer
Partition

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 **Tuesday** 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
Plimsolls (inside)

Dates for Your Diary

8th - 12th January: Behaviour Week
15th January: Thank You Club
25th January: Young Voices
30th January: Parents' Evening
1st February: Parents' Evening
8th February: Thank You Club
9th February: Break up for half term
Children return to school - 19th February 2024

Miss Shenton and
Mrs Ralph