

The Glapton Academy

F1 Saplings Class Newsletter

Block 3 2024



Welcome back!

We hope that you have all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break with your friends and families,

Our New Topic



This half term our Saplings class topic is 'Excellent Explorers'.

The children will be finding out about what an explorer does and the many different places that may be explored, including, jungles, mountains, polar regions, space and the sea.

The children will be asked to share their ideas about which types of equipment or what items in particular they think they would need to take with them on an expedition. The children will also investigate the different types of transport they could use.

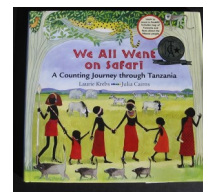
The children will also have the opportunity to find out about famous explorers past and present and will be encouraged to recognise different gender and ethnicities in these groups. The children then will be able to answer the question –can anyone be an explorer?

Towards the end of the term the children will investigate some simple facts about the festival of Chinese New Year.

Book recommendation

We All Went on Safari

By Laurie Krebs



'We all went on Safari' is a beautifully illustrated book showing a counting journey of animals found in African continent in the country of Tanzania.

The book enables the reader to not only practise their counting and number recognition skills as they read but to experience and observe the different types of animals found in a country very different from our own as well as the native environment and the homes and clothes of the indigenous peoples found there.

The book also provides the correct vocabulary for the reader to count in Swahili.

Mrs Smith

A Polite Reminder

We love the children to be healthy and keep hydrated in Saplings Class.

May we please remind you that in accordance with our school policy, if children wish to bring a drink to school in addition to the milk that they are offered then please may they bring a **bottle of water** only rather than squash or cordial. This is in line with other classes in school and our school policy.

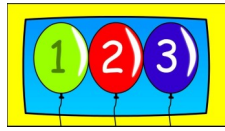
Thank you for your support.

Literacy/Communication and Language

As part of our literacy curriculum the children will be listening to the stories 'Mole's Journey', 'We all went on Safari', 'Bumper to Bumper' and 'Let's get moving up a Mountain'. During their group reading experiences the children will continue to consolidate their knowledge of the different features of a book, that print carries meaning and that there are differences between a fiction and non-fiction texts.

In writing the children will continue to practise their pencil control skills using a range of overwriting opportunities, their name cards to copy and write letters from their names and by writing on large sheets of paper to allow large movement to develop hands wrist and finger muscles..

Maths



In Maths this half term the children will continue to practise their counting by rote and number recognition daily through adult led interactions and through activities provided by our continuous provision.

As before, please continue to practise counting and number recognition skills with your child whenever you can— some examples might be looking at and recognising door numbers or car number plates on the walk to school, counting how many cups or plates are needed at home for a family meal or counting foods as they are prepared for dinner.

This half term there will be a focus on encourage the children to count out objects to 5 pointing and counting each object individually as they do so and recognising that the end number counted is the total number of objects that the children have.

Maths Vocabulary

- total
- point
- count
- number
- one
- two
- three
- four
- five

School Uniform

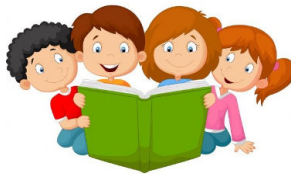
School Uniform Accessories.

May we please remind you that hair accessories, socks and tights should be black, grey, white or red only. Also nail varnish is not permitted along with jewellery other than plain stud earrings, watches are only allowed when your child can tell the time.

If your child arrives at school in 'wellies' please also bring a pair of shoes for them to change into when at school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Reading Records .



Each week your child will bring home a 'Reading Record' booklet and a rhyme. It would be fantastic if you are able to read each week's rhyme daily with your child encouraging them to hear and say any rhyming words, as well as listening for initial sounds in words. Please make a brief note in your child's booklet of when they have read -not just our school rhyme but anything else that your child has read with yourself or other family members. Please also use the reading record books to let us know about any activities your child has taken part in and enjoyed so that we can encourage them to share their experiences with the adults and children in class . Please return the Reading Record booklets to class every Friday. Thank you.

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

We look forward to working with the children this half term.

Mrs Smith
And all of the
Saplings Class
team.