



# The Glapton Academy

## Year 3/4 Newsletter



### Topic

During Block 2 we are going to use our Geography knowledge and become explorers of the rainforest!

We are going to be locating countries and major cities in North and South America, learning about biomes and environmental regions, exploring layers of the rainforest and their unique characteristics as well as learning more about deforestation and the impact on the Amazon Rainforest.

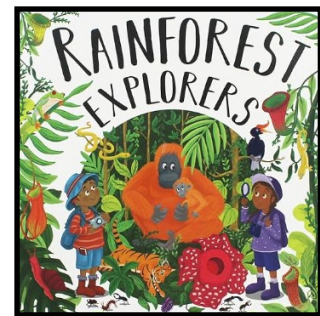
We will also be looking at the similarities and differences between Sherwood Forest and the Amazon Rainforest!

During this topic we will be looking at human and physical processes and environmental impact as well as cultural diversity.



### Book recommendation

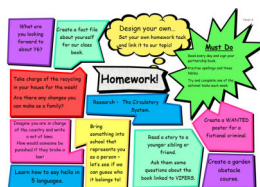
Get ready for a fantastic rainforest adventure! Join bold explorers Max and Rosie as they prepare for a daring journey into the depths of the rainforest. Their mission is to photograph a family of orangutans, but to get there they have to brave raging rivers, toothy tigers and carnivorous plants!



### Homework

All children will be given homework every Friday. This must be completed by the following Wednesday. Homework given will always be a reconsolidation of learning that has taken place in school.

In addition to this, a homework menu will be provided each half term. These tasks will cover a range of skills. Children can choose as many additional tasks as they like to fit in with their busy schedules at home.

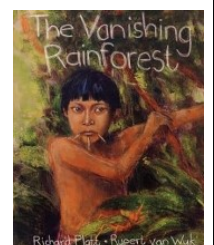


### English

In English this half term, we will be studying the book 'The Vanishing Rainforest', which is linked to our Geography topic. We will be learning how to write non-chronological reports and producing them based on the Rainforest, focussing on some key GPS areas such as using paragraphs to organise ideas, using a range of rules to form the present participle of a verb, identifying and using coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS) to create compound sentences, as well as using apostrophes for a wide range of contractions

During this block, we will be also be looking at persuasive techniques and how to write effective persuasive letters, as well as improving our narrative writing.

In reading, we will focus on developing a variety of essential skills. These include making inferences by reading between the lines to understand deeper meanings, retrieving key information and evidence directly from the text, and making thoughtful predictions about what might happen next in the story. We will also practice locating specific details to support our ideas, interpreting how characters might be feeling based on their actions or words, and using contextual clues to anticipate future events in the narrative.



## Maths

In our maths lessons in Block 2, we will be moving on to multiplication, division and measurement. We will be looking at multiplication families and using manipulatives and pictorial representations, such as arrays and bar models, to make links between multiplication and division.

We will also be learning that area is the amount of space taken up by a two-dimensional shape or surface. We will be investigating ways of working out the area of a shape with lots of practical activities too.

We will continue with our big push on times-tables, as these form an important basis for many areas of the maths curriculum.

Please also encourage your child to access TT Rockstars as often as possible to support them with this essential knowledge.



## Maths Vocabulary

- Multiplication
- Multiply
- Times
- Groups of
- Repeated addition
- Arrays
- Representations
- Division
- Divide
- Grouping
- Sharing
- Area
- Two dimensional shape

## Partnership Books

Each class will continue to 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

### Wednesday

♦ Alder + Sycamore

### Thursday

♦ Oak

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit clearly labelled with their name. Earrings must be removed for this day.

### **PE kit consists of:**

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black shorts (inside)
- Black leggings/ joggers (outside)

## Dates for your diary

3rd December – Sam Leek (new headteacher) parent drop-in – 8.30am – 11.30am

**10<sup>th</sup> December – LKS2 Nativity**

13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fete 3.30pm

16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Parties in class

18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch/Christmas Jumper Day

19<sup>th</sup> December – Thank you Club.

We look forward to working with you and your child.

Mrs Lomax

Miss Jacobs

Miss Edwards

Miss Farrell