

The Glapton Academy

Year 5/6 Newsletter

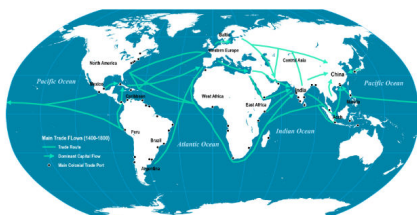
Block 2



Let's Trade!

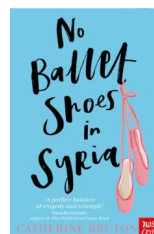
In our geography topic this block, we will be learning all about trade and resources!

Throughout this topic, we will discover how the natural materials around us are used, where they come from and how they are transformed into the products we use every day. We will look at the journey these products take, from their origins to our homes, and how trade connects different parts of the world, including the important link between the UK and the USA. During this topic, we will also delve into the history of trade, understanding how global trade has evolved, and consider its impact on communities and the environment. Alongside this, we will discuss concepts like fair trade and globalisation to help develop an understanding of the importance of ethical and sustainable practices in our interconnected world.



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

As normal, Year 5 pupils' homework will be set weekly on a Friday and due back the following Wednesday. Year 6 pupils will be set two homework tasks each Friday on Sats Companion. All children have now received their login details. 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 menu will be provided each block. These tasks will cover a range of skills.

Should children wish to earn extra dojos with some spelling practise, Spelling Shed provides fun, interactive games for children to engage with and practise their spellings before their test on Friday. All children have now

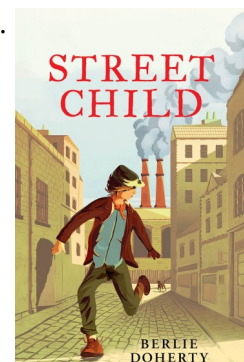


English

In English this block, we will be reading the powerful novel, *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. Set in Victorian England, the story follows Jim Jarvis, a young boy facing the harsh realities of poverty and life in a workhouse.

To begin the block, we will step into Jim's shoes by writing a diary entry from his perspective, capturing the struggles and emotions of living in poverty. We will then use creative writing skills to craft a fictional biography for one of the book's characters, bringing their backstory to life. Finally, we will conclude our unit developing persuasive writing techniques by taking on Jim's voice to write a formal letter to the workhouse authorities, pleading for improved conditions.

This unit will give children the opportunity to explore rich themes of empathy, resilience, and social justice while developing their descriptive, narrative, and persuasive writing skills. We look forward to seeing the thoughtful and imaginative responses this important story inspires!



Maths

In our maths lessons this term, we will be continuing to practise written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This will include: working with numbers with up to two decimal places, learning how to interpret a remainder as a decimal and fraction and using the order of operations to solve problems. Following this, we will be practising mental calculations and developing our ability to reason from known facts.

We will also begin our fractions unit this half term! We will recap equivalent fractions before learning how to simplify fractions, convert between improper and mixed number fractions and compare and order fractions with different numerators and denominators.



We will also continue with our big push on times-tables, as these form an important basis for many areas of the maths curriculum. Please encourage your child to access TT Rock Stars as often as possible to support them with this.

Maths Vocabulary

Regroup
Exchange
Remainder
Decimal
Fraction
Numerator
Denominator
Equivalent
Simplify
Express
Mixed number
Improper
Highest common factor
Lowest common denominator

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! I will be checking every **Thursday**.



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 **Monday**, 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 (outside)

Dates for Your Diary

29th November – Flu vaccinations
3rd December – Sam Leek (new headteacher) parent drop-in – 8.30am – 11.30am
12th December – UKS2 Christmas Concert
13th December – Christmas Fete 3.30pm
16th December – Christmas Parties
18th December – Christmas Lunch/Christmas Jumper Day
19th December – Thank you Club
20th December – Break up for Christmas

*Miss Shenton,
Miss Haywood
and Mr Phillips*