

The Glapton Academy

Year 6 Birch Newsletter

Spring Term Two 2021



Topic

This half term the children will be learning all about electricity and two of the most important scientific inventors in the field of electricity – Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla.

The children will learn to represent circuits using symbols in a diagram and will be developing their understanding of what electricity is and how to measure it. They will also be comparing and giving reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.

As well as conducting an investigation of their choice, the children will get the opportunity to create their own game!

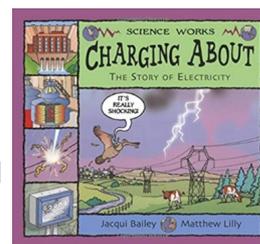


Book recommendation

This is the story of how electrical energy is generated in a power station, how it travels through pylons, power cables and wires until it reaches towns and homes.

We learn how electrical current is created and how it is made safe.

This book also contains an experiment, more great facts to know, useful websites and an index.

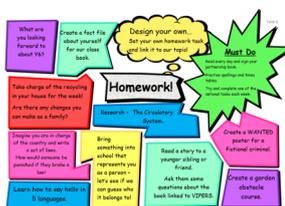


Homework

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.

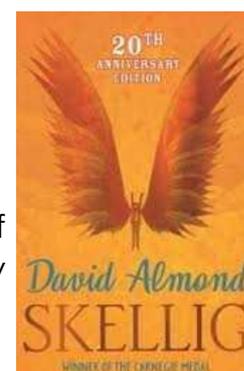


English

In English this term, we will be exploring a range of fictional text types whilst reading the novel 'Skellig' by David Almond. We will be studying character descriptions, myths and legends and poetry with a specific focus of the power of imagery.

We will also be working hard to improve our GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling) skills through the use of Writing LEAPs. We will begin this term by learning how to use expanded noun phrases effectively to add detail, quality and precision to our sentences.

In reading, we will be continuing to work on our VIPERS skills, specifically finding and explaining the meaning of words in a context. We will then apply this vocabulary to our own writing.



Maths

This half term, we will begin by recapping our fractions knowledge. We will reconsolidate our learning of finding equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and converting between improper and mixed number fractions.

Once we are secure in these areas, we will move on to: adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators using the concept of equivalent fractions, and mixed numbers; multiplying simple pairs of proper fractions, writing the answer in its simplest form and dividing proper fractions by whole numbers. After this, we will learn to associate a fraction with division and calculate decimal fraction equivalents (e.g. 0.375) for a simple fraction (e.g. $\frac{3}{8}$) before moving onto our decimals and percentages unit in the Summer term.

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 Times Tables Rock Stars as often as possible to support them with this essential knowledge.



Maths Vocabulary

Fraction
Numerator
Denominator
Equivalent
Simplify
Express
Order
Compare
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!



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 a **Tuesday** this half term. 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 or joggers
Trainers (outside)
Plimsolls (inside)

Dates for your diary

01.03.21 St David's Day
04.03.21 World Book Day—Reading Challenge
08.03.21 STEM Week
17.03.21 St Patrick's Day
31.03.21/ 01.04.21 RE Focus Days—Christianity and The Easter Story
01.04.21 Last day of term, finishing for Easter.

I can't wait to see all of your smiling faces again later this term...

See you soon!

Mrs Randall