

The Glapton Academy

Year 4 Alder Newsletter

Summer Term (1st half) 2021



Topic

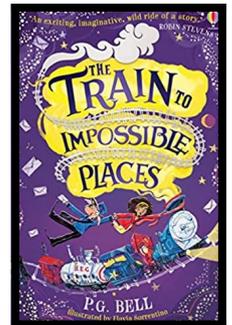
Our topic this half term is 'Gizmos and Gadgets' where we will be exploring the world of inventors and their amazing inventions. We will be building on our Science and DT skills and knowledge that we acquired during STEM week and finding out about inventors, designers, engineers, chefs and manufacturers who have developed ground-breaking products and looking into some of their products in order to evaluate them in terms of their purpose and their design. We will be looking further into the science of electricity, looking at devices that use electricity and creating different circuits using a range of components, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.



Book Recommendation

For a fip-roaring inventive adventure story, read 'The Train to Impossible Places' by P.G. Bell.

When Suzy hears a strange noise in the middle of the night, she creeps downstairs to find a train roaring through her house. But this is no ordinary train. This is the magical delivery express for the Union of Impossible Places. Whisked on board by a troll-boy, Suzy's world is turned upside down when she's asked to deliver a cursed package to a fearsome sorceress. And quite suddenly, Suzy realises the fate of the Impossible places is in her hands...



Homework

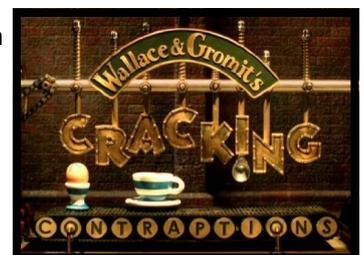
All children will be given homework every Friday. This must be completed by the following Wednesday. Homework given will always be a consolidation of learning that has taken place in school. In addition to this, a homework menu will be provided each half term. These tasks will cover a range of skills. 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 fiction and non-fiction genres. We will be studying a variety of text types, including: Narrative dialogue, persuasion through formal letter writing, explanation texts and poetry.

In order to support and inspire us when we are creating our own texts, we will be basing much of our work around the book Operation Gadgetman by Malorie Blackman and short clips of Wallace and Gromit's Cracking Contraptions.



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 the rules of correctly punctuating speech.

In reading, we will begin the term working on our inference skills—using what we know and what we can infer from the text to help us understand what we are reading more clearly. We will also be continuing to use VIPERS to help support us with our comprehension skills.

Maths

This term, the children in Alder will be looking at decimals, learning to: recognise and write decimal equivalents of $1/2$, $1/4$ and $3/4$; recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths; compare numbers with up to two decimal places; find out what happens when you divide a number by 10 or 100. They will be using this knowledge to apply to the context of money and recapping pounds and pence and converting these accordingly. They will also spend sometime ensuring that the formal written methods of multiplication and division have been fully embedded.

As times tables form an important basis for many areas of the mathematics curriculum, we will be doing lots of practise on them. There is no trick to being able to do these, other than practise, so any support that you can give your child at home to learn these off by heart would be greatly appreciated.



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

Maths Vocabulary

Decimal
Equivalent
Convert
Tenths
Hundredths
Decimal place
Pounds
Pence
Multiply
Product
Times
Divide
Divisible by

Partnership Books

This term we will be continuing our reading reward system. Everyone in the class should be striving 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!



Please make sure that your Partnership Books are signed each week and are in school every day.

Spellings

All children will be given spelling words to learn each week. Please practise these as often as possible, as well as different words with the same spelling pattern.

Children will be tested on different words with the same spelling rule or pattern on a Friday.

PE

Our PE days this half term will continue to be **Mondays** and **Fridays**.

Due to current circumstances and space within the cloakrooms, please only send kit in on these days. 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
Black shorts or joggers
Trainers (outside)
Plimsolls (inside)

Dates for your diary

03.05.21—Bank Holiday
24.05.21—Eid al Fitr - Islam Focus Day
28.05.21—Vesak—Buddhism Focus Day
28.05.21—Last day of half term
31.05.21—04.06.21—Half Term
07.06.21—First day back at school

We look forward to seeing you all again soon and working alongside you and your family.

*Mrs Ralph and Mrs
Eden-Smith*