

# The Glapton Academy

## Year 6 Newsletter

### Spring Term 1



#### Topic

In Year 6 this half term, we are going to be using the design process to learn about structures. This is a Design Technology topic called 'Project Protection' where pupils will have the opportunity to analyse, design, test and evaluate structures, giving them an insight to the work of structural engineers and architects.

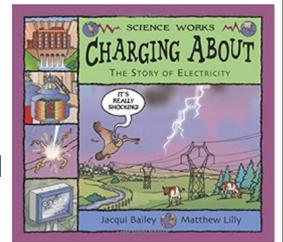
Pupils will also learn the knowledge and skills required to use a range of tools, materials and effective joining techniques safely (evaluating throughout the process). In addition to this, they will have the opportunity to embed the knowledge and skills they have learnt by applying it to solve an interesting problem. A problem that requires a good understanding of structures! This topic will enable pupils to learn through discovery and feel happy knowing they have been successful in solving problems inspired by their English class reader, Skellig by David Almond.

#### 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.

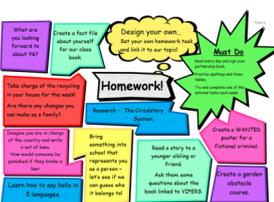
This book also contains an experiment, more great facts to know, useful websites and an index.



#### Homework

All Year 6 pupils will be set two homework tasks each Friday on Sats Companion. All children have now received their log-in details. These tasks 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.



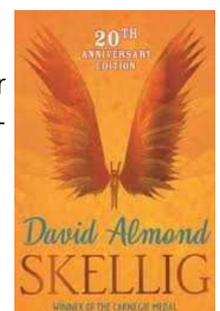
#### English

In English this half term, we will be working on a range of fiction and non fiction genres, through our study of the novel 'Skellig' by David Almond.

The children will be exposed to a variety of text types throughout the unit, with a particular focus on narrative and poetry genres, whereby we will be writing our own retelling of a famous Greek myth, as well as learning how to use a variety of poetic devices to enhance meaning in our poetry writing.

We will be continuing to revisit all concepts of the KS2 English writing curriculum through our daily GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) Workouts, alongside explicitly taught lessons on speech punctuation, antonyms and synonyms.

In reading we will be working on improving our exam technique, by learning how to get maximum marks when answering comprehension questions. We will specifically be focussing on inference and deduction questions as well as questions related to the author's viewpoint.



## 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 fractions with division and calculate decimal fraction equivalents for a simple fraction (e.g.  $0.375 = \frac{3}{8}$ ) before moving onto our decimals and percentages unit later in the 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 regularly



## Maths Vocabulary

Fraction  
Part / Whole  
Numerator  
Denominator  
Equivalent  
Simplify  
Express  
Order  
Compare  
Mixed number  
Improper  
Highest common factor  
Lowest common multiple

## 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 **Thursday**.

## PE

Our PE days will be **Monday and Friday** 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  
Black shorts or joggers  
Trainers (outside)  
Plimsolls (inside)

## Dates for your diary

28.01.21—Parents/carers evening

*Miss Shenton,  
Mrs Ralph and  
Mrs Warman*