

The Glapton Academy

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2021



Topic

This half term, we will begin to move on and learn about a new Geography topic.

Our topic will be Marvellous Mexico. This is primarily a topic based on Geography. We will recap the 7 continents and look at North and South American countries. In particular, we will learn about Mexico as a country, its culture and population, as well as the vast deserts and tropical regions. We will begin to use atlases properly by using the 8 point compass to navigate the Americas and locate important cities. We will venture into Mexican culture by looking at the Day of the Dead festival which is celebrated from Halloween for 3 days.

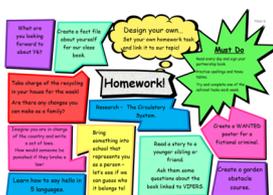


Book Recommendation— The Chocolate Tree

Ever wonder where chocolate came from? We have the Mayan king Kukulcán to thank. Kukulcán is more than a king--he is also a god. One day he brings his people an amazing gift: a chocolate tree! But there is just one problem. Kukulcán's brother, Night Jaguar, doesn't want regular people to have chocolate. He thinks only gods should eat the tempting treat. Will Night Jaguar prevail? Or will the Mayans get to keep their chocolate tree?

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

We will focus on three text types this half term. Firstly, we will be looking at creating our own non-chronological report about Mexico. We will look at using paragraphs and sub-headings to organise our work according to themes. We will develop our use of fronted adverbials to indicate time and focus on our sentence types.

We will then move on to writing an informal letter in the form of a postcard from Mexico. We will look at the difference between informal and formal writing whilst securing the use of different verb tenses. We will also look at the use of apostrophes for omission and possession.

At the end of the half term, we will be combining our knowledge of Mexico to write a fantastic folk tale narrative. This will use improved and advanced expanded noun phrases with a variety of adventurous word classes to transport the reader into a story.

Maths

We will begin our term by securing the knowledge acquired in Addition and Subtraction. We will focus on applying these skills in problem solving and reasoning.

We will be moving to look at measurement and perimeter. We will be looking at the perimeter of various shapes and sizes. This will be a shorter subject but will be valuable as the children will repeatedly apply their addition skills.

A large portion of the half term will be spent looking at multiplication and division. We will be securing all our times tables facts and focussing on the inverse of all calculations. We will be looking at formal methods of both multiplication and division. These will be supported by rich reasoning questions.



Maths Vocabulary

Times by

Divide by

Ones

Tens

Hundreds

Multiples

Inverse

Calculation

Column multiplication

Formal division

Dividend

Partnership Books

This term we will be re-starting 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 days will be **Tuesday and Thursday** 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)

Diary Dates

10th November- Whole School Drop In 9-10am.

12th November—Children in Need

15th November—Anti Bullying week

7th December—KS2 Christmas Concert

15th December—Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

16th December—Christmas Parties

17th December—Last day of term.

Let's have a great half term together!

Mr Phillips and
Miss Malhotra