

The Glapton Academy

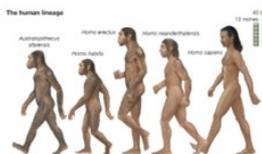
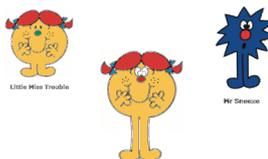
Year 6 Newsletter

Spring Term 2



Topic

In Year 6 this half term, we will be learning about the Art of Evolution! This topic will have a Science and an Art focus. We will begin by studying the concepts of inheritance, learning how, through genes, characteristics are passed down to offspring from parents. We will then progress on to exploring the concepts of variation and adaptation. Following this, we will be carrying out an exciting scientific investigation discovering more about Charles Darwin's observations on the Galapagos Islands. Later in the term, we will be exploring evidence of evolution through fossils; developing an understanding of the development of evolutionary ideas and theories; learning how human evolution has occurred and compare modern humans with those of the same genus and family; and give examples of selective and crossbreeding.



Book recommendation

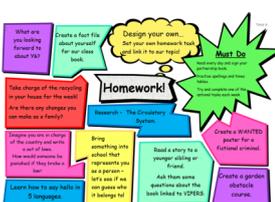
Evolution can be a difficult idea to wrap our brains around: it deals with random, unlikely events, combined with vast lengths of time too enormous to comprehend. But the evidence is all around us – in the fossils of long-dead creatures, and in our genes and the relationships between all living beings.

Amazing Evolution shines a light on this incredible process, from the beginnings of life around 3.8 billion years ago, to the millions of different species alive today, including the moon-walking, talking apes with super-powerful brains – human beings!



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 'Darwin's Dragons' by Lindsay Galvin.

The children will be exposed to a variety of text types throughout the unit, whereby we will be writing our own character descriptions and non-chronological reports, as well as learning how to use figurative language 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 sentence types, organisational devices and use of colons and hyphens. 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 be exploring equivalences between fractions, decimals and percentages before learning how to calculate percentages of amounts.

Following this, we will be moving onto our next unit: Measurement!
Throughout this unit, we will be...

- Using, reading, writing and converting between standard units, converting measurements of length, mass, volume and time from a smaller unit of measure to a larger unit, and vice versa, using decimal notation to up to three decimal places
- Converting between miles and kilometres
- Using, reading, writing and converting between standard units, converting measurements of time from a smaller unit of measure to a larger unit, and vice versa
- Recognising that shapes with the same areas can have different perimeters and vice versa
- Recognising when it is possible to use formulae for area and volume of shapes
- Calculating the area of parallelograms and triangles
- And, calculating, estimating and comparing volume of cubes and cuboids using standard units

Maths Vocabulary

Percentage
Fraction
Decimal
Equivalent
Measure
Convert
Unit
Imperial
Metric
Digital
Analogue
Perimeter
Area

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
Plimsolls (inside)
Plain black joggers and top (outdoors/winter)
Trainers (outside)

Dates for your Diary

03.03.22: Reading Challenge Day

08.03.22: Road Safety Quiz

14.03.22: STEM Week

18.03.22: Red Nose Day

01.04.22: Break up for Easter

*Miss Shenton,
Mrs Ralph and
Mrs Warman*