

The Glapton Academy

Year 6 Newsletter

Block 5



Topic

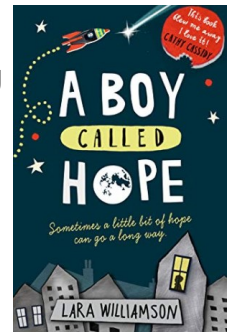
This half term in Year 6 we are going to be exploring The Amazing Americas!

To begin with, we will be finding out about the continents of North and South America and the countries that form them. We will then be looking in more detail at the human and physical features of the Americas with a focus on rivers and volcanoes. We will be locating rivers and volcanoes on a map, discovering their features, learning about how they are formed and discovering how and why they often change over time. Following this, we will be learning more about natural resources and their distribution.



Book recommendation

An original and interesting peek into the life of Dan Hope and his dysfunctional family.



Touching and thought-provoking, this is an excellent book to read after Wonder and a great book to discuss with your child.

Homework

All children will be given homework on Sats Companion every Friday. This must be completed by the following Friday. Homework given will always be a reconsolidation of learning that has taken place in school.

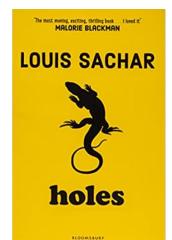
Additionally, a homework menu will be provided each half term. These tasks will cover a range of skills and the children can complete as many tasks as they like.

English

In English this term, we will be focussing on spelling, grammar and punctuation skills leading up to the SAT tests.

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.

We will be enjoying the novel 'Holes' by Louis Sachar as our class reader, and, following the SATs tests, will be basing our English writing unit (persuasive letter writing) upon characters and events that occur within the story.



SATS Dates

Monday 9th May	Tuesday 10th May	Wednesday 11th May	Thursday 12th May
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling papers	Reading paper	Arithmetic paper 1 Reasoning paper 2	Reasoning paper 3

As you can see, it is set to be a very busy week!
Good luck to all of our wonderful children and may all of your hard work pay off.

Maths

This half term in maths, we will begin by learning how to solve algebraic equations. We will need to remember to use the inverse calculations and keep the equation balanced throughout.

Here is an example if you would like to support your child at home with this.

$$\begin{array}{l} 8a - 5 = 11 \\ +5 \quad \quad \quad +5 \\ \hline 8a = 16 \\ \div 8 \quad \quad \quad \div 8 \\ \hline a = 2 \end{array}$$

Following our algebra unit, we will be investigating ratio and proportion and solving problems involving ratio relationships. In addition, we will be solving problems involving the relative sizes of two quantities where missing values can be found by using integer multiplication and division facts. After this, we will begin a short unit on statistics, focusing particularly on constructing and interpreting line graphs and pie charts.



In preparation for our arithmetic test on Wednesday 11th May, we will be doing lots of additional, fun arithmetic practice in the afternoons. We will be taking part in quizzes, treasure hunts and team games to support our understanding and confidence.

Maths Vocabulary

Algebra
Algebraic
Formulae
Equation
Unknown
Variable
Balanced
Value
Symbol
Inverse
Linear
Solve
Simplify

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 **Monday** 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
Trainers (outside)
Plimsolls (inside)

Dates for your diary

2nd May	Bank Holiday
9th – 12th May	KS2 SATS Week
16th May	Visit: Darwin Exhibition at Wollaton Hall
27th May	Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday
30th May	Half Term week

Miss Shenton,
Mrs Ralph and
Mrs Warman