

# The Glapton Academy

## Year 5 Newsletter

### Summer Term 1– 2023



#### The Magnificent Maya

This half term, we will be learning all about the civilization of the Ancient Maya. We will be discovering all about this fascinating group of people by using primary and secondary sources such as real life artefacts, essays, textbooks and our own research.

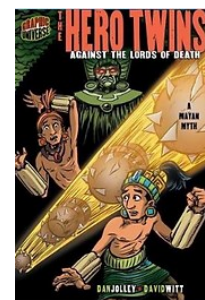
We will be finding out where the Ancient Maya called home and how this land helped them to become self-sufficient and successful farmers. We will also be finding out how advanced the Maya were and how many of their discoveries and inventions are still with us today. Alongside this work, we will be asking a big enquiry question: Why did the Ancient Maya civilization collapse? We will be gathering evidence from many sources to help us answer this question.



#### Book recommendation

The Hero Twins: Against the Lords of Death  
By Jolley Dan and Witt David

The Hero Twins: Against the Lords of Death is a graphic novel with a high level of appeal to children in upper KS2. Follow the tale of the hero twins, Hunahpu and Xbalanque, whose special skills at the Mayan ball game Po-ta-Pok cause upset to the rulers of the land of the dead.

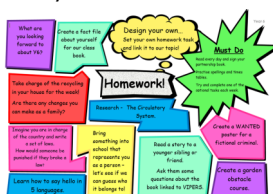


#### Homework

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.



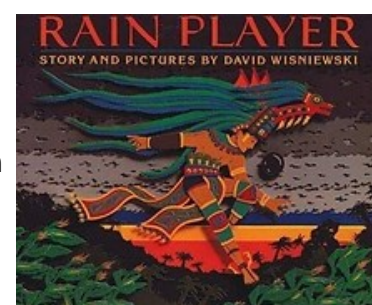
#### English

This term, we will be basing our learning on the book 'Rain Player' by David Wisniewski. This story centres on a boy who is challenged to save his people from drought by defeating the Rain god at a Mayan ball game, Pok-a-Tok.

We will be writing our own set of instructions on how to play this infamous game. Through this, we will be learning how to use organisational and presentational devices to structure our writing and using commas to avoid ambiguity.

We will also be writing a narrative based around our story which will help us to use a range of sentence types and show rather than tell a reader how a character is feeling.

Finally, we will be using our research from history to write an explanation text about why the Maya civilization collapsed.



## Maths

This half term, we will be moving on to learning about statistics. We will be reading and interpreting information in tables and graphs and solving problems based on these graphs. We will also learn how to draw our very own line graph!

We will be then moving on to learning about properties of shape. Firstly, we be recapping our knowledge on angles by identifying and comparing them then measuring and drawing given angles with a protractor. We will identify angles at a point, whole turn, half turn and straight line. We will then move on to looking at the properties of regular and irregular polygons, finding the missing lengths and angles of rectangles and identifying 3D shapes from 2D representations. We will then learn how to reflect and translate shapes.

Please do continue to encourage your children to log onto TT Rockstars at home. There is no trick to being able to do these other than practice so any support that you can give your child at home to learn these off by heart would be greatly appreciated.

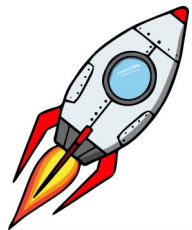


## Maths Vocabulary

Database  
Line graph  
Maximum/minimum value  
Outcome  
Angle  
Acute Angle  
Obtuse Angle  
Right Angle  
Reflex Angle  
Straight Line  
Full Turn  
Half Turn  
Protractor  
Irregular  
Regular  
Polygon  
Reflection  
Translation

## Partnership Books

We will be continuing 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 on **Thursdays** this half term 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.

### **PE kit consists of:**

Plain white t-shirt  
Black shorts (inside)  
Plain black joggers and top (outside)  
Trainers (outside)  
Safety message - Earrings must be removed by for PE days.

## Dates for your diary

18.04.23– Children return to school  
28.04.23—Road Safety Quiz  
1.05.23– May Bank Holiday  
08.05.23– Coronation Bank Holiday  
22.05.23– Safeguarding Awareness Week  
24.05.23— Class Group Photographs  
26.05.23— Thank you Club  
26.05.23– Break up for half term

We are looking forward to working with you and your child again this term.

Miss Cartwright

Miss Haywood