

# The Glapton Academy

## F1 Saplings Class Newsletter

### Block 2 2023



Welcome back!

This half term in Saplings Class our topic is 'Circus and Celebrations'.



The children will firstly be finding out some facts about the festival of Diwali and be encouraged to begin to develop an understanding that not everyone celebrates the same festivals and that people have different ways of celebrating.

The children will also have the opportunity to link the timing of the Diwali festival with the current autumn season. The children will be prompted to observe the visual changes that take place at this time of year as well as sharing their ideas and asking questions about the natural world around them and the forces they might feel outside.

The children will then be provided with lots of opportunities for developing their physical skills as they begin our 'Circus' topic. The children will be provided with activities to develop their balance and coordination skills through a range of 'circus style' activities. The children will find out about different aspects of circus life and the types of circus performers.

Towards the end of the term to topic focus will move towards the Christmas celebration. The children will be finding out about the first Nativity and investigate how Christmas is celebrated in relation to other festivals.

### Book recommendation

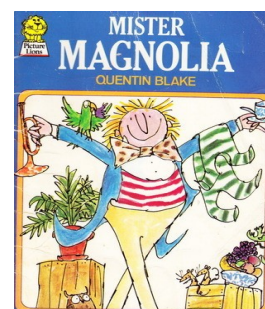
Mr Magnolia

By Quentin Blake

Mr Magnolia has a problem.. He only has one boot! And this is stopping Mr Magnolia from..splashing in puddles but "hey! wait a minute, what's this?" Someone has brought Mr Magnolia a present ..I wonder what is inside?

As children in F1 begin their skills in recognising rhyming words this book has lots of simple sentences full of words that rhyme for the children to hear and recognise.

Mrs Smith



### A Polite Reminder

We love the children to be healthy and keep hydrated in Saplings Class.

May we please remind you that in accordance with our school policy, if children wish to bring a drink to school in addition to the milk that they are offered then please may they bring a **bottle of water** only rather than squash or cordial. This is in line with other classes in school and our school policy.

Thank you for your support.

### Literacy/Communication and Language

The children will be reading the stories 'The Fabulous Foskett Family Circus', 'Biscuit Bear', 'It was a Dark Dark Night', 'The First Christmas' and 'Stickman'.

The children will be encouraged to listen attentively to our stories.

The children will be encourage to continue to develop their awareness of the different features that a book has eg title, cover, words, pictures as well as who the author and illustrator are and what they do. In writing the children will be prompted to continue to talk about and create marks to express something specific.

As always the children will be guided to look at the person who is speaking to them, wait their turn to speak and to try and answer in simple sentences.

## Maths

In our maths lessons this term, we will be continuing to practise written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

This will include: working with numbers with up to two decimal places, learning how to interpret a remainder as a decimal and fraction and using the order of operations to solve problems. Following this, we will be investigating common factors, common multiples, prime, square and cube numbers.

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 TT Rockstars as often as possible to support them with this essential knowledge.

The children's usernames can be found in their Partnership and Homework books.



## Maths Vocabulary

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## Partnership Books

This term we will be re-starting our reading reward system. 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 a **Tuesday and Friday** 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

16.09.21– Parents Spelling Session 2.30pm with Mrs Ralph

20.09.21 and 21.09.21 Parents evening

22.09.21-SCARF Challenge Day

28.09.21-Parents Calculations Session 2.30pm with Miss Shenton

30.09.21 –Elm Class Assembly 2.45pm

01.10.21 –Harvest Festival Celebrations

I look forward to working you and your child this half term.

*Miss Edwards*