



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Welcome to Foxes Class Newsletter for Term 5

Dear Parents,

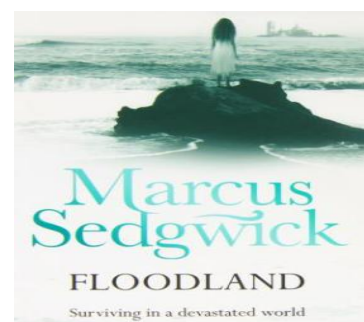
We hope you had a wonderful Easter break. It has been fantastic to hear the children talk about their wonderful adventures over the holidays. We are all looking forward to all the exciting things this term has in store. The PGL trip is fast approaching, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We hope the children are looking forward to it, they are going to have an unforgettable time. Keep an eye on Class Dojo, this is where you can stay up to date with photos of the children doing their exciting activities.

We will be continuing to encourage all of the children to achieve their very best. This is particularly important as any work produced from now on (in all subjects) could be looked upon as evidence, should it be needed, for the 11+ and Kent Test.

Our Curriculum

Our new Humanities topic is Let it Flow. We will be learning about the water cycle and studying local rivers. We will also be doing some map work; looking at key features and learning how to do 4 and 6 figure grid references.

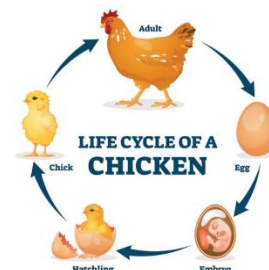
We will be continuing this theme in our English lessons where we will be studying Flood by Alvaro F. Villa and Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick. We will be using these texts to write diary entries, persuasive texts, balanced arguments and opinion pieces.



In Science, our theme is 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. This term we will be observing life-cycle changes in a variety of living things. We will also be looking at reproduction in plants and animals.

Long term homework is not set formally but if your child is interested in researching something related to our humanities or science topics, they are more than welcome to do so and share their findings with the class. This could be a PowerPoint, poster, pictures and facts or model, for example.

Further information about our curriculum can be found on the school website.



Mathematics

For Maths, we use the White Rose scheme of learning. This term we will be finishing our working on perimeter and area before moving onto statistics.

All children also need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books. The children will complete a minimum of one soundcheck, 5 Studio games and 5 Garage games each week. This should take around 11 minutes and can be completed at home or at school. The children will receive 5 house points for completing them all and the whole class will receive 5 class points if they all complete their allotted sessions.



PE- Our PE day is Thursday

Our PE lessons this term will be on Volleyball. We will learn how to dig and serve and have lots of fun playing the game. We will also be doing many Outdoor Adventurous Activities throughout the term.

We will be outside for the majority of our PE lessons. Please make sure your child is dressed suitably for the weather.



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Weekly Spellings

We are now using Spelling Shed to teach and practice spellings. They will have a 30 minute lesson every Tuesday which will focus on a spelling rule or pattern, followed by spelling activities throughout the week linked to the spelling rule or pattern being studied.

A list of the spelling rules/patterns will be sent home weekly with the children, sometimes along with optional activities for them to complete. The terms spellings will also be made available on the class page of the school website.

Each Monday your child will have a spelling test based on the spelling patterns from the week before. We may also include spellings from previous weeks as well as the Year 5 common exception words that we will also be practising in school. They will complete their test in spelling books which will be marked and then sent home for you to share. New spellings will be sent home each Tuesday to be practised during the week at home and tested the following week in school.

Pupils will also have a Spelling Shed account, that gives them access to the online games which will support them in learning the weekly spellings. We would like children to spend **at least 10 minutes per week** playing these games as it will really help strengthen their recall.

A Parent Guide is available here: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>

Reading

In Year 5, the children continue to use the Accelerated Reading programme, where children have been assessed at the beginning of term, in order to identify a level in which they need to read at. They need to read within this range – they do a quiz on the book once they've read it and this gives us an indication of the comprehension. Quizzes can only be done in school. The aim is to get 100% in a quiz and so sometimes a child might be asked to choose a lower level based on their level of comprehension, rather than fluency alone.



We have noticed that a lot of the children are not reading at home, please could you try to encourage them as much as possible. Reading really does have a big impact on all their learning.

Please use the following link to sign up for email notifications for Home Connect. You will then receive an email each time your child completes a quiz in school. You will also be able to find out how they are doing with their termly reading targets. Your child's login details are in their reading records.

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=6706259>

We have an accelerated reading session each day in class, so please ensure your child brings their reading book and reading record into school every day.

Cooking

As part of our DT curriculum, all of the children will get the opportunity to take part in cooking lessons with Mrs Siggers in the kitchen. The children will not all go at the same time and may not cook until the end of the year. The children have been split into groups and each group will attend three sessions. When it is your child's turn, you will receive a letter with all of the details. In order to cover the cost of the ingredients, we are asking for a contribution of £5 per child. This only needs to be paid when it is your child's turn. They will also need to bring in a Tupperware box each week to take home their cooking.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact myself via the school office.

Kind Regards,

Miss Hipkiss