



Higham Primary School

Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Welcome to Foxes Class Newsletter for Term 4

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another exciting term here at Higham. We are so proud of all the children and how hard they are working and all they have achieved so far this year. We have lots of wonderful activities to look forward to for World Book day and Creative Week. We can't wait to see all of the children's amazing costumes. Towards the end of term, we have an outdoor learning day and lots of Easter activities planned. This term the children will be going swimming for their PE lesson.

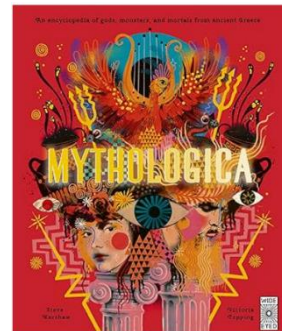


PGL will be upon us before we know it, there will be a meeting at the start of Term 5 where you will be given all the information and forms to fill in. If you have any questions beforehand, please do not hesitate to ask.

Our Curriculum

Our Humanities topic is The Ancient Greeks. Last term, we learnt about the geographical location of Greece and its physical features, comparing it to Ancient Greece. This term, we will go on to study the Ancient Greeks in more detail. We will focus on life in different city states, famous battles and legacies left behind by the Ancient Greeks.

In our English lessons we will be focusing on the book Mythologica. We will be using this text to write non-chronological reports and a poem about Ancient Greek Creatures.



Reversible and Irreversible Changes



In Science, our theme is 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. We will be exploring and comparing different types of materials and conducting lots of tests. We will be looking at and conducting some reversible and non-reversible changes.

We will be doing DT this term and will be making a pop-up book with a mechanism. As part of our creative week, we will be studying and recreating the art work of Bridget Riley.

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 Whiterose scheme of learning. This term we will be focusing on decimals and percentages and linking it to our knowledge on fractions.

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.





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PE- Swimming- Our PE day for this Term is Friday

On a Friday morning your child needs to arrive at school at 8.15, with their PE kits on with their swimming costume underneath. They will be staying in their PE kits all day. Please could your child bring some goggles, if they have them.

Please can you make sure your child has the right PE kit. No earrings are to be worn on PE days unless your child can take them out themselves, please provide a small box so they can be kept safe. If needed, please provide a hair band for your child as their hair will need to be up.

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. To log in to Home Connect Website:

<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.



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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 five sessions across the term. 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.

We would love to have reading volunteers to come into school and hear the children read. If you do have any free time or know anyone that would like to volunteer, please contact the school office.



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

Kind Regards,

Miss Hipkiss