

Owls Newsletter



Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Parents,

Our Topics

This term, we will continue to work on our 'Inventors and Industry' topic. We will look in more detail at the Victorian era with a focus on Higham and its most famous resident – Charles Dickens. We will look at how the village has changed over time and what our school would have been like when first built. There will also be the chance to find out about some key inventions of the Victorian era and how they are still significant now. In term five, we will spend some time concluding our 'Inventors and Industry' topic. The class will be looking at some key inventions of the Victorian era and how they are still significant now.



Our science work this term looks at electricity. In this unit of work, the class will construct simple series circuits, to help answer questions about what happens when they try different components, for example, switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors. They will learn how to represent a simple circuit in a diagram using recognised symbols. We will link this knowledge of building circuits to our design technology work to make a 'steady hand' game. In computing, we will be learning to test programming on an emulator and transfer programming to a micro:bit. You can find out more about the micro:bit at <https://microbit.org/>



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, a poster/information board or a model/replica artefact, for example. You can find out more about our curriculum by visiting <https://www.higham.kent.sch.uk/year-6-overview/>

Spellings and TT Rockstars

We are continuing to use Spelling Shed as our spelling programme during year six. The class have a 30 minute lesson every week which will focus on a spelling rule or pattern, followed by regular spelling activities linked to the spelling rule or pattern being studied. There is a formal weekly spelling test (Monday) and a sheet of spelling homework (optional) is sent out every Tuesday. A list of the spelling rules/patterns which we will study during the year is available on the class page of the school website for your information. You can also find the year 3/4 and 5/6 statutory spelling word lists on our class page.

All children are encouraged to strengthen the speed and accuracy of their times tables knowledge using TT Rockstars.



Reading

In Year 6, we continue to use the Accelerated Reading programme. All children have retaken their STAR assessments and have a sticker in their reading record showing their updated ZPD.

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

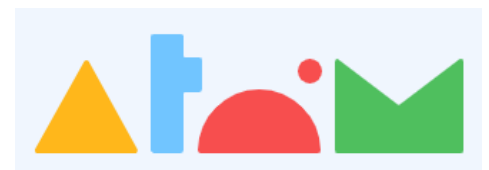
<https://ukhosted27.renlearn.co.uk/6706259/HomeConnect>

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.



P.E

Our PE day will continue to be **Monday**. If the need arises to change the PE day at any point during the year due to other events taking place, you will be notified in advance. Please ensure your child wears suitable P.E kit on this day. In line with the policy, small stud earrings may be worn in school but must be removed for PE lessons. Long hair should be tied back for PE lessons.



Atom Learning – Y6 Homework (Spring Term)

After Christmas, we will begin to use Atom Learning to set online homework for year six pupils. The homework will take the form of revision tasks to build confidence as we work towards our statutory key stage two assessments (SATs) which will take place from Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May 2025. The homework will be optional. However, in addition to helping prepare for the SATS tests, completing the homework regularly will also help to develop time-management and organisational skills which are essential for a successful transition to secondary school. More details will be sent out early next month and the class will have a lesson introducing the Atom platform so that they are familiar with how it works.

Many Thanks,

Miss Davey