



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Rabbits Class Newsletter Term 1 2024

Hello and welcome back!

We hope you have all enjoyed a great summer holiday and are now well rested and ready for the term ahead. It has been lovely to welcome the new Rabbits who have settled into their new class so well. It has been particularly pleasing to see how many of them confidently come into class and organise themselves!



We have included below some information that you may find useful about topics and class routines this term. If you have any further questions please feel free to speak to us.

We are currently assessing your child and will be sending number bonds and spellings home to practise in due course. More information about these are explained below.

Number Bonds and Times Tables

Each **Wednesday** your child will have a number bond or times tables test. As well as improving their mental maths skills, these tests help the children become more confident when working under simple test conditions. As your child learns each set of number bonds they will progress onto the next set which they will bring home to learn. Once we are happy they can consistently use all their number bonds to 20 in school, they will bring home their times tables to learn. Although we practise these in school, it makes an enormous difference if the work is reinforced at home on a regular basis. (Please note that the children progress at different rates and some will start at different points or spend longer than others at the various stages.)

Numbots

It has been lovely to see that so many of you have been using Numbots in year 1. Please can your child continue to use the programme for at **least 10 minutes per week** again this term. Your child can earn merits for each stage in the Story Mode (Rust to Diamond).

Here is a link to a short video which tells you more about the benefits of Numbots and how to use it:

[A parent guide to Numbots](#)

Your child's login details are in the front of their Reading Record Book.





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 2 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>

Further information will be available at the Meet the Teacher meeting on Monday 16th September

Topic

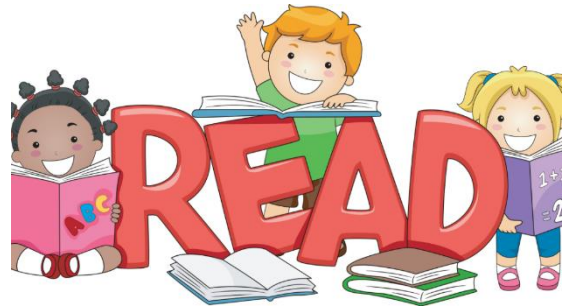
Our topic this term is **Exploring the World**. The children will be learning about aspects of the North and South Poles such as the climate, animals and explorers who have travelled there. In contrast they will also be studying the African country of Kenya, comparing the climate, animals and lifestyles of the people who live near the Equator. The project this term, we would like you to create a poster/fact file/leaflet about somewhere you have been on holiday (can be this country or another) include details about the continent it is in, the climate, interesting details and how it compares to the UK (if in a different country).





Reading Books

We will change your child's reading book on a Monday and Thursday (the same days as Year 1). Although we remind children to hand their books in to be changed, they do still forget. If your child is not bringing home their book please tell us so that we can make sure they put it in their bag. They will also bring home a book of their choice to share. Please feel free to read the book with your child and encourage them to talk about the pictures and story etc. Reading is a skill for life. Although your child is reading on a daily basis in school we cannot emphasise enough the importance of regular reading at home, this promotes the enjoyment of reading, allows you quality time with your child and helps them to practice the skills they learn at school.



School Website

If you need to find out more about the school curriculum and key information, please use the school website which contains lots of useful information:

<https://www.higham.kent.sch.uk/>

PE

P.E. will take place on Wednesday. Please can you ensure your child comes into school on this day wearing their correct PE kit. Please can you make sure that you take out your child's earring on this day and that long hair is tied back.

Jumpers, water bottles and snack pots.

Please can we ask for you to make sure your child's belongings are named as it makes it easier for us to return it to the correct person when it is lost.

You can also refer to our snack policy to make sure your child has the correct snack.

We hope you find the above useful. If you have any further questions please feel free to ask.

Thank-you for your support

Mrs Barkel, Mrs Levy and Mrs Debrates.