



Higham Primary School

Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Squirrels Class Newsletter Term 2 2024

Welcome to Term 2; we hope you had a restful half term break. We are really happy to be back at school for the second Autumn Term, we have lots of learning to do this term on the lead up to Christmas!



HELP- Please can we ask you to bring in recyclable materials such as an egg box, tea bag boxes etc. This is for their DT work which they will be using very soon!

Topic

We will be continuing to focus on the United Kingdom, they will distinguish between rural and urban land use using maps and aerial photographs and then study in detail mountainous and coastal regions of the United Kingdom identifying similarities and differences in the two locations. As part of their learning the children will go on to investigate their local town of Gravesend learning about how to conduct fieldwork to observe and record the human and physical features.



Science

Our focus this term is 'Forces and Magnets'. During this unit of work, children will explore simple pushes and pull as an introduction to forces. They will explore how the texture of an object or surface it is on can affect how the object moves. They will then explore pushes and pulls further by investigating different magnets and how they can pull (attract) and push (repel) at a distance without contact.

DT

We will investigate a range of levers, linkages and pneumatic mechanisms. We will look at how they move and work by disassembling examples. We will look at where fixed and loose pivots are needed to create different movements. We will try out our ideas, practising our measuring, marking out, cutting and joining skills before designing and making our own moving monsters. We will consider the audience and purpose of our product and evaluate against agreed design criteria.

Maths

All children need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars 3 x a week (10 minutes each time) including garage and their number bonds (using Numbots – if required). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books.





Spellings

Spelling lists for the statutory words for year 3 and 4 will be available on the class page. As well as the 100 High Frequency words for children whom wish to become confident with these first. Year 1 and 2 spellings are also available upon request. Children will have a copy of these spellings in their trays, in class, in order to check their spellings in their own work, independently.

We will be using a new scheme 'Spelling Shed' the children have login details can be found in the front of their reading records. They will also bring a sheet home with them to support their learning of different spelling patterns. **Spelling tests will take place on a Monday.**

PE

PE will take place on Tuesdays afternoons. This term, our topic is 'Dance'. They will be working to create actions in response to a stimulus and move in unison with a partner, to remember, repeat and create actions and dynamics to create a dance. They will work towards to use formations, canons and unison for dancing in order to structure a dance to represent a theme.

The wearing of earrings of any kind is not permitted for PE, including the use of earring tape. Please ensure all jewellery and earrings are removed before coming to school on PE days. We cannot take responsibility for the removal or storage of earrings. If your child is to have their ears pierced, please do this at the start of the summer break to avoid your child missing PE. Any child unable to do PE will be expected to complete written work within the lesson time based on what is being taught in that lesson.

Reading

The children will be continuing their reading within the ZPD ranges. Please encourage your children to read with you, daily, or ask them comprehension questions about what they have read in their bedrooms etc. Please also remember to sign to say that they have read their books and to which page. When they have finished a book, they can then take an Accelerated Reader test to check their understanding of the text – both house points and merits are up for grabs, each time they score 100% on a test. We some of you have been concerned that the books seem at a lower level, but please be assured the range is an accurate measure of their comprehensive understanding of the books they are reading.

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.

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

We have daily accelerated reading sessions in class, so it's vital that your child remembers to bring their book and reading record in to school EVERY day, along with their water bottle (named) and their morning snack in tub /pot which is clearly labelled with their name to help avoid confusion if they lose it at any time on the playground. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

We have a very busy term and we hope it will be a good one!

Best wishes,

Mrs Howe, Mrs Graham and Mrs Sackley

