



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Welcome to Squirrel's class

Your teacher is Miss Garrett.

Your teaching assistants are Mrs Reece and
Miss Harmon.



Higham Primary School

Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve



Timetable Squirrels 2025 to 2026

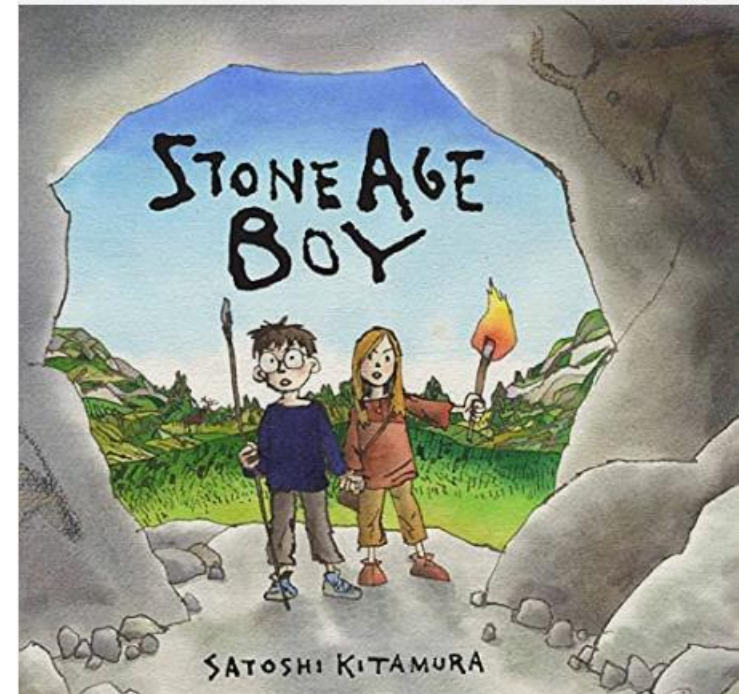
	8.40 – 8.50	8.50 – 9.00	9.00 – 10.00	10.00 – 10.30	10.30 – 10.45	10.45 – 12.00	12.00-1.00	1.00 – 3.30
Mon	Register	TT App/Paper	Maths	Whole class read		Spelling test English	AR	Science / Humanities PE
Tue	Register	TT App/Paper	RE	Whole School Assembly 10.00 – 10.30		Arithmetic SPAG	AR	Maths Spellings new words
Wed	Register	Spelling App/ Paper	Maths	Whole class read		Spelling English	AR	Science / humanities Music / French
Thurs	Register	Spelling App/ Paper	Maths	Whole class read		Spelling English	AR	Computing PSHE
Fri	Register	Finishing Off/ Handwriting /Spelling	Maths	Whole class read		Spelling English	AR	ART / DT Celebration Assembly 2.45 to 3.10



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

English

- In Term 1 we will focus on: We are using the book called Stone Age Boy as a basis for our learning.
- We will be writing character descriptions using descriptive language.
- We will be writing a diary entry / recount of a day in the life of Om.
- We will also be using the book to help us write instructions for a Stone Age person on how to make something.





Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Accelerated Reader

- Your child is now using the Accelerated Reader Programme and they may quiz and change their book on any day. However please make sure your child has read and understood the book really well before quizzing.
- Please sign up to Home Connect. You will then receive an email each time your child completes a quiz in school and you will also be able to see how they are doing with their reading targets.
- All pupils need to bring in their AR book and reading record every day. We have time dedicated to reading every day.



Accelerated Reader

Home Connect – It tells you:

- How they got on in quizzes
- How many points they have
- Their book level
- How they are progressing towards their targets

Become a More Informed Parent

Now you can view your child's academic progress online!

Renaissance Home Connect provides parents with a snapshot of their child's reading and math progress. Accelerated Reader progress includes average percent correct on quizzes, number of points earned, and results on the last quiz.

The main screenshot shows the Renaissance Home Connect dashboard. At the top, there are tabs for 'reading' and 'math'. Below that, there are sections for 'My Overall Progress' (with a 'Current Marking Period' dropdown), 'My Last Quiz', 'Reader Certifications', and 'Find Books' with an 'AR BookFinder' link. The 'My Overall Progress' section includes: Quizzes (90% average % correct), Points (3.5, 16.5 Points to Goal), and ATOS Book Level (3.2, average level 0 to 3.2). The 'My Last Quiz' section shows a book cover and a score of 90% (9 of 10 Correct). The 'Reader Certifications' section shows 'Last Achieved: Super Reader' and 'Current Goal: Advanced Reader'. The 'Find Books' section has a search bar and a 'Click to Open in New Window' button.

Annotations and callouts:

- Top Right:** Students can choose to see Renaissance Home Connect pages in Spanish by clicking this link.
- Top Right (Inset):** Email Setup screen with fields for 'My Name', 'Email', 'Phone Email', and 'Language' (English/Spanish).
- Right Side:** You have the option to receive email notifications in English or Spanish at home or work when your child has completed an Accelerated Reader Quiz.
- Bottom Right (Inset):** My Words Learned screen showing a table of words learned and results on their latest Vocabulary Practice Quiz.
- Bottom Left (Inset):** Bookshelf screen showing a grid of book covers.
- Bottom Center (Inset):** AR BookFinder search interface.
- Bottom Right (Inset):** Progress monitoring screen with dropdown menus for 'Current Marking Period' and 'School Year'.

This screen enables you and your child to see all the books the child has read. By clicking on a book cover, you can get details on the book such as ATOS™ book level, word count, points, and more.

Renaissance Home Connect links to AR BookFinder™, the new online search tool that makes it easy for you and your child to search for the next AR™ book to read. In AR BookFinder (as in Renaissance Home Connect), you may choose to see the pages in English or Spanish.

Your child's progress toward reading goals can be monitored by either marking period or school year by using the drop-down menu.

Why Reading is Important

- **Builds focus and attention** – improves concentration and ability to stay engaged for longer.
- **Boosts knowledge and confidence** – the more children read, the more they know, and this builds self-esteem.
- **Expands vocabulary and communication** – avid readers learn new words in context, making it easier to express themselves.
- **Raises achievement** – strong reading habits support success across all areas of the curriculum.
- **Stimulates creativity and thinking** – reading challenges the brain, sparks imagination, and develops new ways of thinking.
- **Improves spelling naturally** – seeing words repeatedly reinforces correct spelling.
- **Encourages empathy and cultural awareness** – books open up new worlds, ideas, and perspectives on people, places, and beliefs.



What is comprehension?

- This refers to the understanding of a text.
- There are cases of where children are able to read thanks to secure phonics knowledge and the ability to decode but do not understand what they have read.

Questions
you can
ask at
home...

Vocabulary

Find and explain the meaning of words in context

Example questions

- What do the words and suggest about the character, setting and mood?
- Which word tells you that....?
- Which keyword tells you about the character/setting/mood?
- Find one word in the text which means.....
- Find and highlight the word that is closest in meaning to.....
- Find a word or phrase which shows/suggests that.....

Infer

Make and justify inferences using evidence from the text.

Example questions

- Find and copy a group of words which show that...
- How do these words make the reader feel? How does this paragraph suggest this?
- How do the descriptions of show that they are
- How can you tell that.....
- What impression of do you get from these paragraphs?
- What voice might these characters use?
- What was thinking when.....
- Who is telling the story?

Predict

Predict what might happen from the details given and implied.

Example questions

- From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about?
- What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after?
- What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?
- Do you think the choice of setting will influence how the plot develops?
- Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

Explain

- Explain how content is related and contributes to the meaning as a whole.
- Explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of language.
- Explain the themes and patterns that develop across the text.
- Explain how information contributes to the overall experience.

Example questions

- Why is the text arranged in this way?
- What structures has the author used?
- What is the purpose of this text feature?
- Is the use of effective?
- The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy the phrases which show this.
- What is the author's point of view?
- What affect does have on the audience?
- How does the author engage the reader here?
- Which words and phrases did effectively?
- Which section was the most interesting/exciting part?
- How are these sections linked?

Retrieve

Retrieve and record information and identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.

Example questions

- How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know?
- How did...?
- How often...?
- Who had...? Who is...? Who did....?
- What happened to...?
- What does.... do?
- How is
- What can you learn from from this section?
- Give one example of.....
- The story is told from whose perspective?

Summarise

Summarise the main ideas from more than one paragraph

Example questions

- Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?
- What happened after
- What was the first thing that happened in the story?
- Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?
- In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

What you can do to help develop comprehension...

- Comprehension of the world will develop comprehension in reading...
- Ways you can develop comprehension –
 - Talking a lot at home... about everything
 - Develop cultural capital by going out (this does not have to cost money)
 - Reading together and discussing books together
 - Why do you like this book?
 - What do you think will happen next?
 - What do you think about this character?



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

English - Spellings

- This year, we will be continuing to use 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 daily spelling activities linked to the spelling rule or pattern being studied.
- There will be a weekly spelling test every Monday. A list of the spelling rules/patterns which we will study during the term will be made available on the class page of the school website for your information.
- Children also need to continue to practice their common exception words.
- Pupils will all have a Spelling Shed account and will have access to the online games which will support them in strengthening their recall.



Spelling Shed



Higham Primary School

Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Pupils can log in using the username and password and it will take you to this screen. **You do not need to buy the app.** You can use spelling shed FREE on a web browser.

The pink notification boxes indicate how many assignments have been set by the teacher and on which game. If you click on the assignments box at the top of the menu, you can see all of the assignments together.





Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Maths

- TT Rockstars.
- Children will have set times tables to work on to become fluent.
- All children need to be practising their timetables (using TT Rockstars 3 x a week (10 minutes each time) including Studio levels for speed tests) and their number bonds (using Numbots – if required). Login details can be found in the front of their reading record books.
- Children will be having a times tables test on a Tuesday. The children have been given the list of the times tables that they need to focus on for that week. This is also on the school website.





Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Topics

Time travellers.

During this theme children will explore life during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. They will discover how people lived and the developments of the time such as the use of tools and the different types of housing and settlements. The children will investigate a range of evidence used by archaeologists to understand how we know about a time period so long ago.



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

PE

- Our PE day is Monday.
- Please make sure you are wearing the correct PE kit:
 - T-shirt in house colour (Twist, Copperfield, Peggotty or Pip)
 - Fleece in house colour or black hoodie
 - PE shorts in green/black
 - Jog bottoms or legging in black only
 - No logos on any items of clothing- please wear plain black only.
 - (PE bag not required)



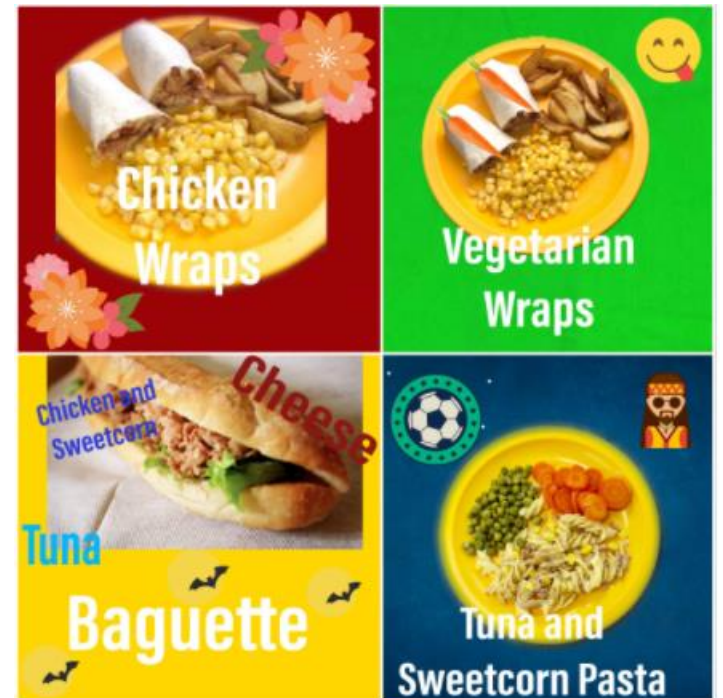


Higham Primary School

Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Lunch

- Don't forget to try our yummy school dinners
- Menus are on the school website





Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

How to support your child at home

- Helping with homework
- Hearing them read
- Lots of useful information on the School Website
- Encouraging them to use TT Rockstars and Spelling shed regularly



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

What they need to bring each day

- Reading book and Reading Record Book
- Named Water bottle
- All clothing named
- Healthy snack (as detailed in the school policy) in a named pot



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Volunteers

- Can anyone volunteer to help in class?
- If you are available and wish to help in class regularly please let the office know so that they can arrange an agreeable time.
- As a school we would just ask for a regular commitment from you as we would need to get a DBS completed in order for you to help.



Higham Primary School
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Thank-you for coming

Any questions?