



## Owls Class Newsletter - Term 4

Welcome back everyone. I hope that you all had a relaxing half term break. We are entering a very busy term with lots of exciting things happening including World Book Day, Bikeability, Science Week, Governor Day, Red Nose Day and Easter. It is also parents evening on 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup> March so I look forward to seeing you all then. Please make sure you have booked your slot on Bromcom.

### Our Curriculum

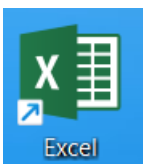


This term we will continue our work looking at the Victorian era with a particular focus on Higham, the local area and its most famous resident - Charles Dickens.. They will research the ways of life for different classes of society from the Royal family to life in the workhouses and look at how Britain has changed throughout Queen Victoria's reign. There will also be a change to find out about some of the key inventions of the Victorian era and how they are still significant today.



In art we will learn about Victorian artist William Morris - who he was and how he was important. We will look at his textile and wallpaper designs and will use our observation skills to sketch natural objects. We will design our own printing tiles taking influences from his work

We will be finishing our work on the human circulatory system and keeping a healthy lifestyle before moving on to studying plants and animals. In this unit of work, the children will be introduced to the idea that groups such as plants, animals and microorganisms can be subdivided. They will classify animals into commonly found invertebrates (e.g. insects, spiders, worms) and vertebrates (e.g. fish, reptiles, birds), discussing reasons why they belong in a particular group. They will also identify how some plants and animals adapt to suit their environment.



In computing this term, the children will be learning all about spreadsheets. They will be supported in organising data into columns and rows to create their own data set and will be taught the importance of formatting data to support calculations. They will also be introduced to formulas and will begin to understand how they can be used to produce calculated data. Learners will be taught how to apply formulas that include a range of cells, and apply formulas to multiple cells by duplicating them.

PE will continue take place on **TUESDAY** afternoons. This term, we will hopefully be outside on the field as much as possible learning the skills of rugby. Please ensure children come into school on this day with the correct PE kit. Girls must have their hair tied back and if wearing earrings on that day, they need to be able to remove them for this lesson (a small box to keep them safe in is advisable).



### SATS

We are working hard in class to prepare the children for the End of Key Stage assessments (SATS) which will be held on week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May - please do not book a holiday or appointments during this week. Thank you to all those parents who have been supporting the children with their weekly homework. The comments by questions where you have had an input are useful and I will endeavour to revisit those topics that children have struggled with in class time this term. I have really been impressed with how many of them have taken responsibility for their learning and are handing in their folders diligently each week. Homework will continue through this term in the same format.



**Higham Primary School**  
Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

## TT Rockstars / Spelling Shed / Accelerated Reader

Quick and confident recall of times tables supports success across the maths curriculum—from fractions and division to problem-solving and reasoning. Keeping these skills sharp not only boosts confidence but also helps children tackle more complex concepts with ease. Pupils should continue to use TT Rockstars weekly. It was great to see so many of the class take an active part in the NSPCC Number Rocks Challenge - we were the highest scoring class in the school but also the highest scoring class in the whole of the South East region! A great achievement!



### **Spelling Shed**

they should be logging in at home to help learn their weekly words.

Spelling Shed continues to work well and pupils continue to score well. Just a reminder that new spellings are issued every Tuesday in the form of a worksheet with the list of words to learn and some suggested activities to complete at home to help them consolidate their learning. The sheet is purely for use at home and does not have to come back into school each week. If this sheet does not make it home, you can also find the whole of the term's spellings listed on the Owls class page of the school website. The children will be tested on their words the following Monday. All pupils have a Spelling Shed account and



for achieving this along with meeting their points target. Last term was a little disappointing in terms of the number of pupils who received both their merits, so we will be working to increase this number significantly this term. Please encourage your children to read regularly at home so that they are reading several books within the term.

It is hugely important that pupils develop a 'love of reading' and work to improve their reading stamina, vocabulary and comprehension both at school and at home. The reading SAT's paper is extremely challenging with three texts to read and answer questions on in one hour! We are doing lots of practise in school this term. All pupils read independently for at least 15 minutes each day and have the opportunity to take their quiz and change books when needed. The aim is to score 100% in a quiz (this earns them 5 house points). They are aiming to keep their average above 85% across the term and merits are awarded

## Dates for the diary

27<sup>th</sup> Feb - Copperfield own clothes

6<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day at Higham (see separate letter)

9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> March - Bikeability Group A

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> March - Bikeability Group B

17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> March - Parents evening

20<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose Day (more info to follow)

1<sup>st</sup> April - Easter service at church / Last day of term

2<sup>nd</sup> April - Staff Development Day

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

Mrs Driscoll & Mrs Turner