

## Rabbits Class Newsletter Term 5 2026

Welcome back to Term 5; we hope you had a fantastic Easter break. We are really excited to be back at school for the Summer Term and have a busy few weeks ahead of us.



### Topic

Our Topic for the next two terms is **'Calm Coasts and Stormy Seas'**. For this theme the children will visit the oceans, seas, and continents. They will discover the geographical features of the seaside, both human and physical features. They will learn about seaside environments; finding out where they are located in the United Kingdom and seaside resorts nearest their own locality using maps, aerial photograph, and developing their key vocabulary. Children will learn about the similarities and differences between seaside resorts and their own locality. They will discuss what an island is and think about what being an island means for the UK. They will compare British and non-British beaches. They will investigate and compare the different lighthouses identifying the reasons why they have been built in a particular location.

The class will also be reading and listening to stories about Mr Grinling, the Lighthouse Keeper and writing their own stories about him. The children will be writing non-fiction texts, labelling their own diagrams and acting out scenes from historical stories.



For their homework we would like the children to either make a model of a lighthouse or create a fact file about light houses (this is always a hugely popular topic and the children always bring in some amazing models!). We will then add them to our class display which is going to be all about lighthouses. It would be great if the children could complete the homework before the end of term, so it can inform their learning whilst we are still studying the topic.



### Art

For our Art lessons this term we shall be learning about sculpture. We shall be making sculptures out of different materials, both natural and man-made. We shall be learning how to manipulate malleable materials by pinching, rolling and squeezing. We shall be learning how to change the surface of different materials by adding texture. Finally, we shall be creating our own 'sea-themed' tiles out of clay.



### Numbots

It has been fantastic to see how engaged the children have been with Numbots last term and the amazing progress they have made. Please continue to encourage your child to use Numbots, for at least 10 minutes each week. The username and password is in the front of their reading record books. You can watch the following short film to give you more information about using Numbots. Either click on the link or use the qr code.





## Spellings

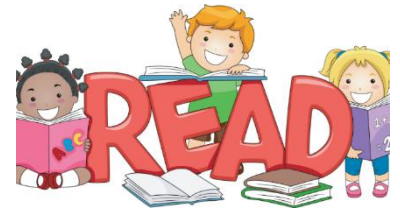
Your child will continue to have a weekly spelling test based on spelling patterns that can be found on the class website and which are sent home each week. They will continue to be tested each Monday in their green books and sent home as soon as we have marked them. Please practise them with your child as often as you can to help build their confidence.

Don't forget, pupils 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.

## Reading Books

Book changing days continue to be on a **Monday** and **Thursday**. Please try to read with your child as often as possible or indeed read to them if they are particularly tired after school.

Please see the Top Ten Tips for reading stories to your child at the bottom of this newsletter.



## Accelerated Reader

If your child is now using the Accelerated Reader Programme, 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.

If you have not already done so, please sign up to Home Connect. You will then receive an email each time your child completes a quiz in school and will also be able to find out how they are doing with their reading targets. Your child's login details can be found at the front of their yellow reading record.

To log in to Home Connect Website:

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=6706259>

## School Website

Please have a look on the school website for further information on what the children will be learning:

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

Further useful information can also be found on the Rabbits class page, including this terms Spellings:

<https://www.higham.kent.sch.uk/rabbits-year-2/>

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.

## Ten top tips for reading stories to your child

- 1 Make reading to your child feel like a treat.  
Introduce each new book with excitement.
- 2 Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so both of you can see the book.
- 3 Show curiosity in what you're going to read:  
*Oh no! I think Arthur is going to get even angrier now.*
- 4 Read the whole story the first time through without stopping too much. If you think your child might not understand something, model an explanation:  
*Oh I think what's happening here is that...*
- 5 Chat about the story:  
*I wonder why he did that?*  
*Oh no, I hope she's not going to...*  
*I wouldn't have done that, would you?*
- 6 Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers.
- 7 Link stories to your own experiences (e.g. *This reminds me of...*)
- 8 Read favourite stories over and over again.  
Get your child to join in with the bits they know.
- 9 Read with enthusiasm. Don't be embarrassed to try out different voices. Your child will love it.
- 10 Read with enjoyment.  
If you're not enjoying it, your child won't.

