



Aston Tower Primary School

Year 5 Autumn 2

English

Reading

Our reading sessions will focus on the text: *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick. *“Hugo Cabret lives in the walls of a train station in 1930s Paris. Hugo embarks on a quest to solve the mystery of his missing father and find a place he can call home.”* In our sessions, we will be focusing heavily on vocabulary selection, inferring the meaning of a character’s actions and creating connections between the character and their thoughts and feelings.

Writing

As in Autumn 1, our reading and writing sessions are related, and we will be exploring a range of high quality texts which we can use to impact on our writing. During this half term, we will be: researching and creating non-chronological reports on animals; producing a biography of both a fictional and real-life personality and letting our imagination soar with narrative writing. As before, we will place heavy emphasis on how texts are constructed – looking in detail at what makes a good piece of writing, as well as an entertaining one.

How you can help your child at home:

- Continue to enjoy a wide range of texts at home and from school – listening to your child read and gain confidence reading aloud.
- Practice weekly spellings with your child, looking for patterns and rules, which can be applied to similar words.
- Give your child opportunities to write small passages of text – like diary, a story or a report on something they have found interesting in school that day – this will help grow their confidence as a writer and will allow your child to gain freedom in their writing.

Mathematics

In mathematics this half term, we are continuing our look at measure – focusing on area and perimeter; conversion of metric and imperial measure; measuring angles; reflect and translate shapes and interpret information such as timetables and graphs. This term will look at expanding our arithmetic strategies and developing our reasoning skills with closely related facts to knowledge we already know.

Through our mathematical journey, we will be applying our knowledge to a whole range of different situations and ideas.

How you can help your child at home

- Continue to practise multiplication facts up to 12 x 12. Try picking a multiplication fact at random or work backwards instead of forwards to help embed this knowledge.
- Find practical examples of timetables (bus, train, flights) and discuss them with your child – focus on how to read a timetable and work out how to get from one place to another by using it.
- Look for everyday examples of measure (grams, kg, litres, ml) and ask your child to convert to an alternative unit.

Science

Our topic of science this half term is: *Living Things and their Habitats*, with a focus on plants and their life cycles. We will be exploring how seeds from a plant are dispersed to grow; look at the conditions it takes for plants to grow and discover similarities and differences between the habitats of plants and the conditions they need to thrive. We will also look at the work of botanists, in particular Jane Colden, and their contributions to the world of plants.

How you can help your child at home

- Allow your child to research information about different types of plants and how they grow.
- Plant some seeds and see how they grow within the home – perhaps creating a plant diary with pictures and explanation of the plant or seed growing.
- Make sketches of different types of plants and seeds, comparing how they are similar and different.

Geography

This half term we change our focus to Geography and the world in which we live. Across the world, natural disasters occur regularly. In these sessions, we will find out about natural disasters and how/when they occur. From flooding to earthquakes, we will look in depth at the Earth and its weather patterns to discover what exactly happens during these events.

We will look at the impact these disasters have on the people who live in locations hit by the natural disaster and how they look to recover after the disaster has gone.

How you can help your child at home:

- Find news reports from countries around the world that have been struck by a natural disaster. Look at pictures, sources and further information about it.
- Make a list of different natural disasters which occur throughout the world.
- Look at a map and find patterns as to where natural disasters occur.

Physical Education (PE)

This half term we are exploring the skills associated with basketball. During this topic, we will learn how to pass and receive the ball, as well as shooting, defending and increasing tactical awareness in a game situation.

We will look at a range of activities to practise and hone skills before placing them into 'in-game' situations.

How you can help your child at home.

- Encourage your child to stay active at home – playing with friends or family is a great way to keep our bodies active and healthy.
- Take breaks from consoles and devices to exercise and try new things.
- Walk to school regularly – walking is a great form of exercise and helps the body to wake up and gain energy.
- Practise catching and throwing a ball, focusing on control and accuracy.

Computing

Our computing sessions this half term explore Vector Drawing. We will find out how different computer systems are suited to design and drawing needs. We will be creating our own pictures and animations using a sequence of commands; creating both 2d and 3d shapes.

Through our learning experiences, we will focus on how designers and graphic artists create images for advertisements, cartoons and other public domain images.

How you can help your child at home:

- Use Google Drawing, paint or another vector drawing system to experiment drawing either 2d and 3d pictures or objects. This could be copying a picture or creating their own design.

Design Technology

Throughout the half term, we will be exploring building structures. We will research existing products and develop ideas into a design specification. Afterwards, will begin to formulate a plan with a step-by-step list of tasks and resources, before using tools to measure, mark out, cut, shape and join materials to make frameworks.

How you can help your child at home:

- Look closely at a range of structures such as: bird houses, bus shelters and canopy structures, finding out how they are constructed and hold up during bad weather.
- Experiment with building different shaped structures with paper and seeing if they stand up on their own, without support. Where needed, add supporting structures to help with standing upright.