



Fleet Primary School

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Reception Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2021

September 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception!

I hope you all had a lovely summer. It has been lovely meeting all of you and getting to know the children over the last week. The children are settling in well and lots of wonderful new friendships are budding.

Myself, Shami, Anna and May will be working in Reception this year, with Margaret covering my planning and preparation time on a Thursday afternoon.

Autumn Term Topic

As many of you know, at Fleet each term we have a main topic that is the focus of our activities. From this central theme we plan activities across the different areas of learning and incorporate the children's particular interests and enthusiasms into our planning as we go.

The prime areas of learning that take priority when planning are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Additional areas include:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

This term our topic is **Monsters**. Each week we will have a different key text based on monster characters. We will spend the first few weeks getting to know each other, by talking about ourselves; our interests and our families. We will talk about what makes us special, our similarities and differences. The day is organised so children can take part in a variety of stimulating adult led activities that promote the different areas of learning as well as initiating their own learning and play.



Daily Routine

The Early Years Curriculum promotes learning through the children's interests and their play. The adults working in the class help to facilitate the children's ideas as well as extending them. We work individually with each child and in small groups, aiming to get alongside them and what they are interested in doing as much as possible. There are also times throughout the day where we will run adult lead activities such as; maths games, writing tasks, phonics games and art activities. A typical day starts with a carpet session and writing activity. We then have a fruit snack and break. After morning break, we have a phonics carpet session and guided reading. We stop for lunch at midday then in the afternoon, we have a Maths carpet session and activity.

Phonics

This year, phonics will be taught following the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Scheme. The resources on this page, <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/> will help you support your child with saying their sounds and writing their letters. There are also some useful videos so you can see how they are taught at school and feel confident about supporting their reading at home.

I will keep you updated about what we are learning in phonics and ways you can support your child at home.



Reading

During our daily guided reading sessions, I work with a little group of children and we share the same text together. If you haven't already, please purchase a bookbag from the school office so the children can continue practising their reading at home.

Each week the children will bring home four books:

Two reading practice books. These will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this with a high level of fluently. This book will be matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

Two sharing books. These are books chosen by the child which they may not be able to read on their own. These books are for you both to read and enjoy together.

Mathematics

In maths, the children will be learning to count, recognise and order numbers to 10. As well as automatically recalling some number bonds.

The children will learn how to add small sets and to take away. This will be introduced in meaningful ways, often through their play.



Creative Development

As well as activities linked to our topic, the children will have free access to resources for painting, collage and junk modelling. We will be learning plenty of songs as well as using percussion instruments alongside our singing.

Physical Education

The children will have two PE sessions each week. One session will be on Mondays with our sports coach, Keely and the other with me on Wednesdays. This term we will have a focus on group games and large ball skills. They don't need a PE kit but it is always a good idea to make sure your child is wearing comfy shoes to school.

House Keeping

- Please send your child in with a named water bottle. We can top these up throughout the day if need be.
- Please make sure your child's clothing is named, especially jumpers. This makes it much easier to get clothing back to the right person!
- Please let me know if someone different is collecting your child.
- At the end of the day, we try and tidy our garden for the next day. Please do not play out there at the end of the day.
- Please have a spare clothes bag that can be kept at school in case your child has an accident or gets mucky.
- We go outside in all weather. Please make sure your child is dressed for the elements. If they come in wellies, bringing a pair of shoes as well is helpful as they sometimes start to get sore feet.
- Please keep toys at home. It's not much fun if they go missing and there are lots of lovely things to play with at school. I am happy for the children to bring books in from home to share. We have a box they can put them in and I read them to the class.
- If you are interested in being a class rep, please let me know – it is a great way to get to know the school and other parents.

Important Dates

- Autumn Heath Walk - Thursday 14th October Reception
- Reception Class Tea – Thursday 18th November
- Infant Christmas Show – Friday 3rd December
- Infant Christmas party – Wednesday 15th December

If there is anything that you would like further information about, please feel free to ask.

I am looking forward to supporting your child in what is sure to be an exciting and busy first term!

Best wishes,

Rachel Webb and the EYFS team