



Fleet Primary School

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Year 1 Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2021

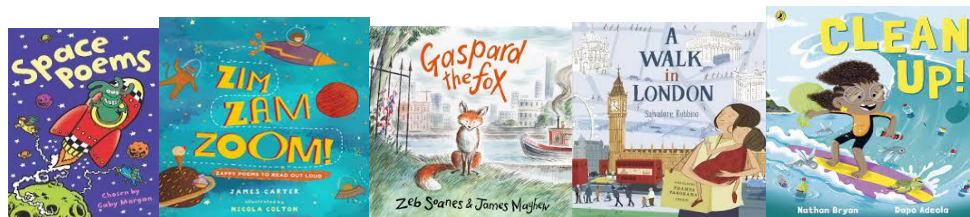
September 2021

Our Wonderful World



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school and to Y1! I hope you have all managed to enjoy the summer months. My lovely Teaching Assistants (TAs) this year are **Mimosa Hassani** (AM/PM), **Joanne Stopps** (AM) and **Sue Charles** (PM). **Tammy Wood** will cover my Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time on Tuesday mornings, during which she will teach the children Science. Please be assured that, even more than usual, your child's wellbeing is our primary focus. We aim to make their transition to Key Stage 1 (KS1) as smooth as possible by initially running Y1 along similar lines as Reception, using the Integrated Learning (IL) approach, which is strongly supported by the broad and balanced creative curriculum integral to Fleet.



The children have settled into our new class routines exceptionally well since they returned – we adults have been very impressed so far! We are all very excited about our Geography-based Autumn topic: **Our Wonderful World**. We have begun our topic by writing about our adventures during the summer holiday and we have been making predictions about our new English text, *Look Up!*, which is bursting with energy and passion about Space and our wonderful world! We begin our adventures here on Planet Earth and then launch into the Solar System after which we return to this planet to explore our great city of London. To end our topic, we will sail off on the high seas, exploring ocean life and (in)famous pirates. Throughout the term, we will look closely at a variety of fun, high-quality texts relating to



our wonderful world, including fiction, poetry and non-fiction, and using these as a springboard for our learning across all curriculum subjects.

In **History**, we will focus on astronauts and pirates as significant historical adventurers, including the marvellous Mae Jemison and the infamous Irish explorer of the high seas, Anne Bonny. Our adventures in History will also include using our knowledge of present-day London in order to navigate its exciting past. Linking our learning across curriculum subjects, we will look more closely at our wonderful world through **Science**, learning about the human body, the senses and the seasons. Our **Geography** learning will include using geographical skills and fieldwork, looking closely at the countries, capital cities and flags of the United Kingdom (UK), and the surrounding seas, as well as national seasonal weather patterns. Travelling further afield, we will learn about hot and cold areas in the world. We will use our knowledge in Geography and Maths and connect this with learning in **Computing**, coding in order to navigate different places and spaces. Linking our Computing learning with **Art**, we will use the iPads to take photographs of ourselves and fashion these into 3D images of our astronaut alter egos. In **DT** we will use junk-modelling techniques to construct rockets and a figurehead for our pirate ship and we will design, create and evaluate our own weather-measuring instruments.



Maths

In Maths we will be following the **National Curriculum** using the **Mastery** approach. We will focus on key Big Ideas and the children will have lots of opportunities to apply and develop their mathematical language, fluency and understanding as well as to solve problems and extend their reasoning skills.

Reading

We will read daily in class, with a combination of whole-class, shared, guided and individual reading. I will read formally with your child once every week in their **Guided Reading (GR)** group, during which their GR and Phonics books will be changed. Please note that the **children must have their Book Bags in school every day. It is crucial at this stage in your child's development that they read regularly, at school and at home.** As such, please **read to and with your child on a daily basis and write an accompanying short note in their Reading Record/Phonics Log**, which the children should bring to class every day in their Book Bag.



Phonics

Phonics will be taught in class **daily** with observational assessment and with the help of Y1's famous Sassy Sentence Snake!



P.E.

This term, we have **P.E. every Monday** with fabulous Coach Keeley! **On this day, children should wear trainers and comfortable clothing in which they can easily move** - there is no need for a PE Kit at this stage in KS1.





Supporting Your Child's Learning



Literacy

- Read **every night** to and/or with your child for **at least 10 minutes**.
- Encourage writing wherever possible. A special writing book and pens can help with motivation as can writing for real-life purposes (eg: shopping lists, postcards, lists etc.) Whilst still keeping it fun, please help your child to write in clear sentences with a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.



- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>
- phonicsplay.co.uk
- phonicsbloom.com
- wordsforlife.org.uk
- lovelybooks.co.uk
- childrens.poetryarchive.org
- teachhandwriting.co.uk
- <https://www.busythings.co.uk> (individual username and password required - see Ms Coulter)
- <https://discoveryeducation.co.uk> (Espresso = username: student21013/password: fleetp)



Maths

- Help your child to learn all Number Bonds to 10.
- Help your child to tell the time by knowing o'clock and half past and to relate times on clocks and watches to daily routines.
- Working with measures supports many areas of Maths (eg: help your child to add small totals of money, calculate change, measure ingredients when cooking or baking etc.)



- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>
- mathsathome.lgfl.org.uk
- nationalnumeracy.org.uk
- ictgames.co.uk
- primarygames.com
- www.topmarks.co.uk
- uk.mathletics.com (individual username and password required - see Ms Coulter)
- <https://www.busythings.co.uk> (individual username and password required - see Ms Coulter)
- <https://discoveryeducation.co.uk> (Espresso = username: student21013/password: fleetp)





Water Bottles

In Y1, we ask you to provide your child with a water bottle with their name written on it, which they should bring to school every day full with water for the day ahead. If needed, the children can refill their bottles during breaks.



Topic Snapshot

The Topic Snapshot attached to this letter is an introduction to the **key learning** throughout the term. Please read and discuss this with your child and help them to become familiar with the vocabulary etc.

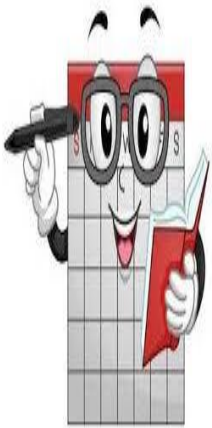


Class Trips

We have some lovely class trips this term to link with our Topic. There will be a combination of in-school sessions and trips outside of school, the details of which are below. Where TBC is stated, I shall provide details in advance of the session/trip when it has been confirmed. We will need some adult volunteers to help support us on these trips so if you have the time then please do let me know.



Important Dates



Y1 Class Meeting (via Zoom) - Thursday 16th September @ 6.30pm
Camden City Learning Centre (In-School Session) - Thursday 23rd September
The October Gallery (In-School Session) - Wednesday 29th September
Gospel Oak Methodist Church (In-School Session) - Thursday 4th November
Diwali Dance Workshop (In-School Session) - TBC
Class Tea - Thursday 11th November
Class Assembly - Friday 12th November
Hampstead Heath/Mad About Maps - Thursday 18th November
London Landmarks Bus Tour - TBC
Infant Christmas Show - Friday 3rd December



Finally, if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me (admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk FAO Ms Coulter/Y1). Here's to a happy and successful first term!

Karen Coulter
(Y1 Class Teacher)