



Fleet Primary School

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Year 2 Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2021

September 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 2, I hope you all had a relaxing summer break. This term, our class topic is 'All Around the World', a mostly Geography based topic focusing on the seven continents of the world. It will be a great opportunity to learn about different places in the world (in a time when travel has been more limited!) and for the children to share their own global connections. We are spending our first two weeks in Europe, starting in London and then moving around. During the first half term, Year 2 will explore Europe, Asia and Africa. We will study some of the wonders of the world, compare cultures and learn about different traditions. We will link History, Art, DT and Science throughout the term for each country we visit. After half term, we will continue our journey to the other continents; North America, South America, Oceania and finally end up in Antarctica.

English

In English, we are starting with some poetry and postcard writing focussed on landmarks in London and around Europe. For our fiction work, we will start by reading the Julia Donaldson version of the Chinese tale 'The Magic Paintbrush'. The children will be introduced to different versions of the story before rewriting the tale with their own original ending. We will also study 'Lila and the Secret Rain', set in Kenya, and 'The Great Explorer', which is about the Antarctic. For our non-fiction work, our first focus will be on writing instructions. The children will first learn how to make a kaleidoscope before writing instructions to teach a friend. The children will link their DT cooking work to writing recipe instructions. After half term, we will write some fact files about Amy Johnson as part of our work around Oceania.



Topic work

Art and DT this term will be mainly inspired by our visits to Asia and Africa. We will explore wonders of the world such as the Terracotta Warriors, and make our own Chinese inspired dragons. Our first Design and Technology project will be to make Kaleidoscopes inspired by the colourful Nasir-ol-molk Mosque in Iran. We will also be doing some cooking. In History, we will

study the Great Fire of London during our work around Europe. We will also look at key historical figures such as Amy Johnson. The children will have lots of opportunities for Geography work – for example, map work around continents and oceans, looking at flags and exploring human and physical features. Our RE focus will be Christianity.

Science

Our Science learning will be on Living Things and their Habitats before we move on to Animals including Humans after half term. We will be linking our learning around specific animals and habitats to the various locations that the children are learning about in their topic.

Maths

The children have made a great start to Maths learning this term. This term, we will focus on numbers up to 100 and addition and subtraction, supporting children to gain a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts. We will focus on: mathematical language, where children will be encouraged to explain their maths thinking, understanding objects and pictures before moving on to symbols and signs then problem solving. The children should be becoming more fluent with their number facts and be able to recall number bonds from memory.

Reading

Please read to and with your child daily. I will read formally with your child each week during a guided reading session where the children will change their books. Children will be given two levelled reading books and they will be able to select two books to enjoy at home. A list informing you which day your child will change his or her books will be placed on the classroom door. Children should bring their Book Bags and Reading Records to school every day. Please note that children will not be allowed to take books home unless they have their Book Bag in school. If your child does not yet have a Book Bag, please speak to Lisa in the school office where you can purchase one. Each child will also have a Reading Record. This is for you to record your comments on your child's reading, for the children to write about their books (eg: whether they enjoyed a book, whether they found it difficult or easy to read and why etc.) and for adults in school to make comments too.



Spelling

Throughout the year, the children will be taught a range of spelling rules. We will let you know our focus for spelling and send home a supporting list of words for your child to practise, as well as suggestions for activities to support their learning.

PE

This term, children will have PE on Monday afternoons with Coach Keeley. Children should wear trainers and comfortable clothes on these days that are easy to move in.

Home Learning

Children will need support to complete their Home Learning roughly every other week. Children will be told when there is new home learning set online. Spellings and Fleet Facts should be practised every week; other home learning tasks will be posted on Seesaw. If you need another copy of your child's Seesaw login, please speak to the office.

Key dates for Year 2 this term

- Thursday 7th October – trip to Chinatown
- Wednesday 20th October – Open Morning
- Thursday 21st October – Trip to the October Gallery
- Thursday 4th November – Trip to the church
- Thursday 4th November – Year 2 class tea
- Thursday 25th November – Parent meetings
- Friday 3rd December – Infant Show

Parent helpers are essential to ensure that trips can go ahead. Please speak to me if you are able to come and help on one of our trips.

This term, my PPA time will be covered by Rhian Mulji on Monday afternoons. On Tuesdays the class will be taught by Rebecca Wall. This year the children will be supported by two class TAs: Lara in the mornings and Alem in the afternoons.

Thank you for a great start to the year. If you have any queries, please feel free to speak to me after school.

Kind regards,
Ruth Hanfling

