



# Fleet Primary School

Fleet Road Hampstead London NW3 2QT  
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Headteacher: Don McGibbon



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## Year 3 Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2021

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September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to back to school! I hope you enjoyed the summer holiday. I am so looking forward to working with this class and seeing them overcome challenges and flourish as they enter Key Stage Two.



Our first topic this year is 'Olympics and Olympus!' - a history and arts based topic which looks at Ancient Greece. We have so many exciting things to learn about and the children are already very engaged! Our topic combines elements of History and Geography with the creative arts such as Drama and Art, in a really exciting way. We will be delving back in time to Ancient Greece and exploring how Ancient Greek culture still influences us today. We will learn about the religious beliefs of the Ancient Greeks and the history of the Ancient Greek civilisation, as well as the climate in Greece today.

To kick off our new Topics, alongside our normal topic letter we are also sending home a 'Topic Snapshot'. This snapshot should be a useful introduction to the key learning throughout this term. It would be great if you could discuss the key facts with your child and help them to become familiar with the vocabulary etc. You could keep it on the fridge to refer back to throughout their learning this term!

In English, we are starting our topic with Elli Woollard's version of 'Aesop's Fables' and using this to inspire our writing. After this, we will look at Geraldine McCaughrean's 'Orchard Book of Greek Myths'. We will be learning about these myths and will build up to creating and writing our own myths. We will also be writing acrostic poems and developing our non-fiction writing through non-chronological reports about mythological characters.

In Maths, we will continue to follow the National Mathematics Framework, building on understanding of place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, so that the children can solve problems using larger numbers. We continue to develop our reasoning in mathematics this term, proving our answers and applying knowledge in different contexts. We will continue to revise and cement our 2s, 5 and 10x times tables, and will begin learning our 3s, 4s, and 8s.

In Science, for the first half of term we will be looking at Light. We will explore reflection and shadows. After half term, we will be conducting investigations to explore Forces and Motion in action.

In Music this term, the children will be learning songs which they will share in our assembly. They will be developing their knowledge of musical notation and begin learning the recorder.

In Computing lessons, the children will be working on Scratch, as well as developing their knowledge of e-safety. This work will be supported by a trip to the CLC later in the term.



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In French, the children will be learning greetings, colours, numbers and asking how someone is!

In Religious Education we will be learning about Jesus, as part of our work on Christianity. We will be looking at Bible stories about Jesus and their importance to Christians. In P.S.H.E we will be looking at valuing everyone, respecting differences and stereotyping.

The children will be doing P.E on **Monday** mornings. For at least the first half term, they will also have Arsenal Football on **Tuesday** afternoons. Please send your child to school in their P.E. kit on these days.

Home learning will be ongoing in Year 3. It will be set on SeeSaw each Friday and be due on the following Wednesday or Thursday depending on the task. This will usually be a Maths task, a Spelling task and a Reading task. Spelling tests following the set Spelling lists will be done every fortnight.

Some important dates:

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September – Class Meeting**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October – October Gallery**

**October 21<sup>st</sup> – Class Tea**

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> – Class Assembly**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November – CLC Trip**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Gospel Oak Methodist Church**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Early Man Showing at Vue Finchley Road**

I will send a letter detailing trips nearer the time. Any offers of help will be greatly appreciated – please sign up to help in the office

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please do not hesitate to contact me or catch me for an informal chat after school. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,  
Sinead Costelloe

## **Ways you can help your child at home:**

### Maths

1) Please continue to help your child with their times tables. Although it is important to know all times tables, we are working through them in this order: 2, 10, 5, 4, 3, 8, 6, 7 and 9. If you would like any suggestions for how you can help your child learn their times tables, please feel free to speak to me at any time.

2) Dice games can be really useful to help your child understand place value. Roll three or four numbers and arrange them to make a three or four digit number. What's the smallest you can make? And the largest? Can you make a multiple of 5? What's the biggest odd number you could make? Etc.



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- 3) Counting games – practise counting in tens from any given two digit or three digit number. Bridging tens can be tricky for children (e.g. 89, 99, 109...) so that's a good area to focus.
- 4) Please support your child learning how to tell the time using both analogue and digital. Questions such as 'It's going to take us half an hour to get home - what time will we get there?' can help your child start to understand time based word problems.

## Literacy

- 1) Your child will be having weekly spelling tests. The lists will be given out for home learning. Our aim is for children to become confident and effective spellers through learning strategies and rules for words in a real and contextual way. This will be explained in more detail in my class meeting and through our home learning drop ins.
- 2) Please continue to read with your child every night for at least 15 minutes and feel free to write any comments in their Reading Diaries. Each week, your child will have one or two sessions where they read in a small group with me; this is part of the reading rotation. During other sessions, they will be involved in lots of other reading related activities. This is also outlined in their reading diaries.
- 3) Encourage writing wherever possible. Emails, shopping lists, diaries and comics are all fun ideas. Whilst keeping it fun, please encourage your child to write in clear sentences with capital letters, full stops and conjunctions such as *with*, *but*, *so*, *while* to link ideas together and stretch out sentences.