



# Fleet Primary School

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## Year 3 Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2023

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September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school! I hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday. I am so looking forward to working with this class and supporting their development across this academic year. We have a really exciting term ahead.

Our topic for this term is – **'Fierce Earth'** This is a humanities based topic, focussing on: rock formation, volcanoes and the Stone Age. Our topic combines elements of History and Geography with the creative arts, allowing for an immersive and engaging experience where children will develop their subject knowledge and enhance their investigative skills. We will be delving back in time to the Stone Age and making comparisons between prehistoric civilisations and our own. Our English lessons will further supplement this as we cover texts such as *'UG- Boy Genius of the Stone Age'* and *'Pebble in my Pocket'* to inspire our writing. We have a variety of trips booked related to our topic including a Stone Age Survivor workshop and a volcanoes interactive experience at the National History Museum! If the children have any items of interest relating to the topic at home, please feel free to bring them in and share them with the class.

In addition to this topic letter, you will receive a *'Topic Snapshot'*. This snapshot should be a useful guide 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 content and vocabulary.

### **Curriculum overview for the term ahead:**

- Maths:** Number (Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division)  
**English:** Literary Study of Texts to Inspire Writing ('UG', 'Escape from Pompeii', 'Pebble in My Pocket' & 'Stone Girl Bone Girl')  
**Science:** Rocks and Soils/ Animals Including Humans  
**Computing:** Coding Using Scratch/ CLC  
**Topic:** 'Fierce Earth' (Volcanoes, Rock Formation & the Stone Age)  
**RE:** Judaism

**PE:** Coach Keeley/ Arsenal Coaches  
**French:** Greetings, Colours, Numbers  
**PSHE:** Family and Relationships  
**Music:** Recorder/ Rhythm and Notation

P.E will take place every **Monday** with coach Keely. For the first half-term, the children will also have a session with the Arsenal football coaches every **Tuesday**. Please send your child to school in their P.E. kit on these days.

Home learning will be ongoing in Year 3; set on 'Seesaw' each **Tuesday** and due on the following Tuesday. This will usually consist of a maths task and a reading comprehension task.

Spellings will be set every **Tuesday** on 'Seesaw' to be memorised for a spelling test on the following Tuesday.

**Important dates:**

*13<sup>th</sup> September - Class Meeting*

*21<sup>st</sup> September - Stone Age Survivor Workshop (trip)*

*5<sup>th</sup> October –Camden Learning Centre (trip)*

*18<sup>th</sup> October- National History Museum (trip)*

*2<sup>nd</sup> November – Class Tea*

*3<sup>rd</sup> November – Class Assembly*

*14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Show*

Further details regarding the trips will be sent out at a later date. Volunteers to accompany us will be greatly appreciated – please sign up to help in the office.

I hope to build a strong relationship as I work with you to ensure the success of your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries throughout the year. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Stella Nnochiri

## Ways in which 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: 2s , 10s , 5s , 3s , 4s , 11s, 9s , 6s , 7s , 8s , 12s. 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) 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 on.

3) 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 during our class meeting.

2) Please continue to read with your child every night for **at least 15 minutes**. Twice a week, your child will have sessions where they read in a small group with an adult; this is part of the guided reading rotation.

3) Encourage writing wherever possible. Emails, shopping lists, diaries and comics are all nice 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.