



Fleet Primary School

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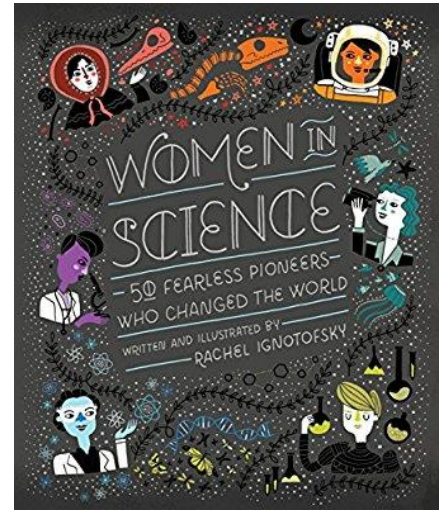


Year 4: Spring 2022

We Are Heroes

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful break and wishing you happiness for 2022. Our new topic this term is Science based and is called We Are Heroes. We will be exploring different aspects of being human, with an emphasis on what it means to be heroic. What qualities make someone a hero? We'll explore this idea by looking at both real people from the past and through fiction. To build on this, we will be encouraging the children to develop their resilience and vlogging about our experiences.

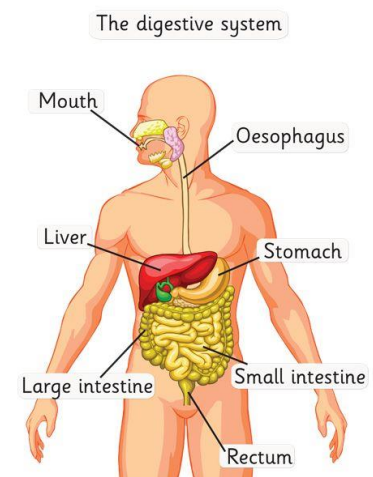


In English we will start by focusing on some inspirational, amazing humans: the children in Year 4! We will explore the idea of identity and what makes us unique and then write some poems. Next, we will write biographies for some inspiring Scientists from the past, including Michael Faraday and Annie Easley. After that, we will look at Ted Hughes' text 'The Iron Man'. Finally, we will complete a fiction unit around Kiran Millwood Hargrave's book, 'The Girl of Ink and Stars'.

In Geography we will be looking at different types of settlements. We will contrast cities, towns and villages in the UK, make some maps and looking at compass directions and grid references and the children will design their own settlement. This will be followed up with some orienteering work on the Heath. In History we will be focussing on important people from the 16th Century to the modern day.

In Science this term we will link our lessons to our learning about Robots by starting our electricity unit, investigating circuits and conductors. Following on from that we will be learning all about the digestive system and human teeth and learning how to keep them clean and healthy!

In RE we will be looking at Islam focussing on the Qur'an and the Five Pillars. In Art we will link our work on heroes with Pop Art, looking at some artists such as Roy Lichtenstein and Frida Kahlo and designing our own comic strip style panel. In DT, we will be designing and making wire sculptures of our favourite Scientists, linking to our biographies work in English.



In Maths the children will continue to follow the National Curriculum and will continue to develop skills around place value, written and mental methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, handling data and statistics, time and measures and fractions.

If you have anything at home that relates to our topic, do feel free to bring it in!

PE this term is on **Mondays and Fridays**. The children will need to make sure they have shorts/ leggings/ tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt and trainers, although it is often easier for PE kit to be left at school for the duration of the half term. Please make a note of the PE days and remind your child to have their kit with them. *It would be really helpful if clothes and PE kit bags are labelled!*

The children will be continuing trumpet and trombone lessons on **Thursday** so please remind them to bring their instrument on those days. It is essential for you to send your child in with a labelled water bottle for school to allow them to get drinks during the day.

Important dates for Year 4 this term:

Tuesday 18th January: Trip to the Centre of the Cell

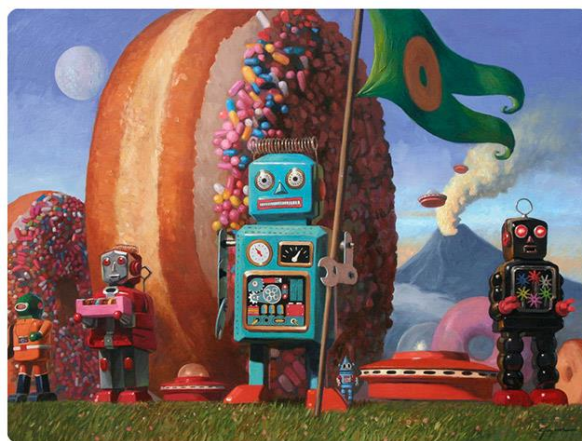
Thursday 4th March: Year 4 Class Tea

Friday 5th March: Year 4 Class Assembly

Week beginning 7th March: Parent meetings

To be confirmed:

- Trip to the Heath for Orienteering session
- Trip to Science Museum



I will send trip letters out with more details nearer the time. If you are able, please make sure your child brings in their voluntary contribution of **£2** for each trip and support our class tea by baking, buying or contributing to the class reps. Class teas are really important since they help to fund all the wonderful trips and visitors which we have.

Home learning is continuing as it was last term. Seesaw and Mathletics will be updated with new work to complete **every week**, on a **Friday**. Please support your child to ensure they complete their tasks. Thank you for the support you've given the home learning so far, it really helps your child make progress.

Ways you can help your child at home:

Maths

1) Please continue to help your child with their times tables. The children should be fluent in all their times table and division facts by the time they leave Year 4. Some good online games are available here: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>. 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 varying steps (e.g. fives, tens or hundreds) from any given four digit number. Bridging tens can be tricky for children (e.g. 89, 99, 109...) so that's a good area to focus. In Year 4, children are expected to be able to work with 4-digit numbers.

3) Please continue to support your child learning how to tell the time using both analogue and digital clocks. By the end of Year 4, children should be familiar with reading all analogue and digital times and converting between the two, as well as reading 24 hour times.

As always, Mathletics is a great place for your children to practise their Maths skills and covers all of the Y4 curriculum. Please encourage them to play at home here <http://uk.mathletics.com/>.

Literacy

1) We are continuing to teach spelling on a roughly two week cycle. The spelling lists are all on Seesaw and your child knows which list they are learning. Please support your child with learning these words. The website <https://spellingframe.co.uk/> links well with our curriculum and can be a good place for your child to practise their spelling words.

Your child should also be confident spelling the first hundred high frequency words (a list of these can be found online at <http://www.highfrequencywords.org/first-100-high-frequency-word-lists.html> or I can print you one if needed) as well as the additional word list on Seesaw. If you notice your child misspelling any of these, then please practise them. Additionally, if you notice any words in your child's home learning which they are frequently misspelling, please feel free to practise these also.

2) Please continue to ensure that your child is reading **every night** for at least 15 minutes. In Year 4, it's not always necessary for your child to read aloud to you but encouraging discussions around the books they are reading and asking them questions about the texts is a good way to engage with their reading. Children should be **recording on Seesaw** which book they were reading and how many pages and then leaving a short comment **once a week**. Feel free to add any additional comments if you wish. Children are also given new follow up tasks **weekly** which follow their reading session with me in class. Please remind your child to complete these! The information supplied on Seesaw is a very useful record for me about your child's reading so your support in keeping this up to date is much appreciated.

3) Encourage writing wherever possible. Emails/ letters, diaries, postcards, reviews and comics are all fun ideas.

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

Best wishes,

Lynley Benbetka