



Fleet Primary School

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Year 5 Topic Letter – Spring Term

January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a relaxing winter break. As we start the new term, I am excited to share with you our new topic 'Incredible India'. This term's focus is on geography, delving into both the physical and human aspects of India.

In geography, we will begin by learning about different mountain types, focusing on fold mountains and the incredible Himalayan mountain range. Next, we will learn about different rivers in India, focusing on the Ganges. We will learn about the formation of rivers, environmental issues and the cultural significance of the Ganges. Then, the children will choose an Indian city to investigate and will write a persuasive travel guide. We will use our research to draw comparisons to our own city – London.

In History, we will learn about the British Empire, looking at when, how and why the British Empire was established, the role of the East India Company and the profound impact on the people of India. Additionally, an English unit will shed light on the partition of India post-independence in 1947. A trip to the V&A will support children to learn about the culture of India through paintings, textiles and objects.

Our first unit in English will be inspired by the majestic Asian elephant and the children will express themselves through poetry. For the remainder of the first half term, we will read the novel 'The Night Diary' which offers insights into India culture, including its diverse cuisine, and will help us to understand the impact of the partition of India on families. Post half-term, we will read the short story 'Cloud Tea Monkeys' and will learn about tea plantations in India. Finally, we will read 'Tiger Boy' to spark discussions on wildlife conservation. This will be supported by a trip to London Zoo. Throughout these units the children will complete a range of fiction and non-fiction writing.

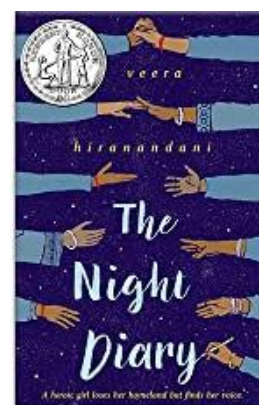
In R.E, our primary focus this term will be Sikhism and we will be learning about sacred places. We will also be visiting BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, which is a Hindu temple.

Ms Wall will continue to teach science and French on a Thursday afternoon. This term they will be completing the unit on 'forces' and then moving on to 'Living things and their habitats'.

In DT, we will cook a range of Indian food including dal, curries, bread and chutneys. We will also build a bridge able to withstand a tsunami. In art, we will be inspired by the wildlife of India, creating beautiful watercolour elephants and colourful banyan trees.

In maths we will follow the National Curriculum, focusing on:

- Multiplication and division – multiplying up to a 4 digit number by a 2 digit number and dividing a 4 digit number by a 1 digit number
- Fractions – multiplying fractions and calculating fractions of an amount



- Decimals and percentages – finding fraction equivalents, ordering and comparing decimals, rounding to the nearest whole and tenth.
- Perimeter and area – finding the perimeter of rectangles and rectilinear shapes, calculating the area rectangles and compound shapes
- Statistics – reading and interpreting line graphs, tables and timetables

Knowing their times tables facts up to 12 x 12 is invaluable in enabling the children to quickly and confidently grasp many areas of the maths curriculum such as fractions, division, ratio and percentages. Please continue to support their learning of their times tables at home and encourage them to go on to Times Table Rock stars for 5 minutes 4-5 times a week.

We will continue to have trumpets and trombones lessons every Thursday morning. Please remind your child to bring their instrument to school every Thursday and to practise regularly at home.

We will have P.E on Mondays, please ensure that they are wearing appropriate footwear and have a change of clothes. For the last two weeks of the term, we will be going swimming. Please make sure that they have a swimming cap and goggles.

The children will have the opportunity to read every day in school, so they should ensure they bring in a suitable reading book and their reading diary every day. Reading diaries must be written in and signed 3 x a week. If it has not been completed then they will have to stay in at lunch time to read for 15 minutes.

Home learning will be given out on a Friday and is due in the following week. It will usually cover a maths objective reflecting that week's learning. Your child should be able to complete their home learning independently.

Important dates:

30th of January: CLC trip

22nd of February: Year 5 Class Tea

23rd of February: Class Assembly

27th February: BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir trip

5th of March: V&A trip

12th of March: London Zoo trip

18th – 20th: Swimming at Kentish Town Pool

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school email admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk. Any help that you can give with our topic will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Asha Sale