



Fleet Primary School

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Year 4 Topic Letter –Spring Term 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a relaxing break. Our new topic this term is called 'Hope and Heroes' and is science-based. 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 will explore this idea by looking at real people from the past and through fictional characters. The children will think about their own personal goals and consider what it means to be resilient and to persevere!

To begin, in English, we have written acrostic poems about everyday heroes and poems spelling out our names. Next, we will write biographies about famous scientists and inventors. After that, we will explore a fictional hero from the book '*Krindlekrax*' by Philip Ridley.

After half term, we will read Matt de la Peña's '*Milo imagines the world*', which explores identity and stereotypes. The children will take part in a debate and will use their imaginations to create their own picture book. Following that, we will read Ted Hughes' '*The Iron Man*' and write a newspaper report.



We will continue visiting Keats Library. Please remind the children to read the books they take out before our next visit so that they can pick out a new book.

In Geography, we will look at different types of settlements, contrasting cities, towns and villages in the UK. The children will study maps and use their knowledge to design their own settlements.

In History, we will look at heroic people from the 17th to the 21st century – please see the topic snapshot for more information.

In Science, we will complete the unit 'Sound' before moving on to 'Electricity'. We will look at inventors, including Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell. The children will make electrical circuits and conduct experiments to determine which materials are conductors and insulators.

In RE, we will be studying Hinduism, focusing on how Hindus worship and how marriage is celebrated within the religion. To deepen our understanding, we will also visit a Hindu temple.

In Art, we will look at inspirational artists such as Frida Kahlo, Roy Lichtenstein, and Eric Joyner and look at superhero comic art. In D.T., we will make our own wire sculptures.

In Maths the children will continue to follow the National Curriculum. The objectives that we will cover this term are:

Multiplication and division:

- Identify factor pairs
- Multiply and divide by 10 and 100
- Multiply 2- and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers (short multiplication)
- Divide 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers

Length and perimeter

- Measure length
- Calculate the perimeter of rectilinear shapes

Fractions

- Compare and order mixed number fractions
- Convert fractions
- Add and subtract fractions

Decimals

- Recognise decimals as fractions

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

PE this term is on **Wednesdays and Fridays**. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in the Platform Cricket program. Cricket lessons will take place on Friday mornings, led by experienced coaches. Please ensure that your child comes to school on those days in trainers and loose-fitting clothing (T-shirts and leggings or tracksuit bottoms) so that they are comfortable and can join in. Dates for each cricket session can be found below. After half-term, we will have a two-week block of swimming lessons. More details will be provided closer to the date.

The children will be continuing trumpet and trombone lessons on **Thursday** so please remind them to bring their instruments on those days. It is important that they practice for around 5 minutes most days - this will help them make progress and make the lessons more enjoyable.

Important dates for Year 4 this term:

Wednesday 15th January – Trip to Keats Library

Wednesday 22nd January – Trip to Science Museum

Tuesday 11th February – Trip to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

Half Term – Monday 17th to Friday 21st February

Monday 24th February to Friday 7th March – Swimming

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day

Thursday 6th March – Class Tea

Friday 7th March – Class Assembly

Friday 21st March – Trip to Centre of Cell, Queen Mary University

Cricket Sessions:

Friday 17th January

Friday 24th January

Friday 31st January

Friday 7th February

Friday 14th February

Other trip dates to be confirmed. I will send letters out with more details nearer the time and I will be putting a sign-up sheet outside Y4 for you to offer to help on our trips. 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 helping organise. Class teas are really important as they help to fund all the wonderful trips and visitors which we have.

Home learning is continuing as it was last term. An optional Reading/Writing activity will be set on Google Classroom **every week**, on a **Friday**. Times Tables Rockstars and Mathletics will be updated with new work to complete **every week**, on a **Friday**. It is expected that your child reads for around 15 minutes a day. They must write down what they have read in their reading diary and bring it in to be signed, **every week**, on **Thursday**. Please support your child in completing these tasks. Thank you for the support you've given home learning so far; it really helps your child make progress.

Similar to last term, children will receive weekly spelling lists to work through. These lists will be available on Google Classroom. It is important that your child practices their spellings regularly and understands the meaning of each word in context so that they can progress through the lists. We will have spelling quizzes **every Friday** before moving on to the next list.

Spelling list for the Spring Term:

Spring 1

bought	taught	brochure	scheme
ought	caught	chalet	chorus
thought	distraught	chef	chemist
fought	daughter	chute	echo
rough	laughter	machine	character
tough	naughty	parachute	stomach
enough	draught	sachet	monarch
through	haughty	quiche	school
dough	laugh	chauffer	anchor
though	fraught	niche	chaos

Spring 2

interact	measure	poisonous	outrageous
international	treasure	dangerous	serious
intercity	pleasure	famous	obvious
interact	enclosure	various	curious
intercept	creature	tremendous	hideous
interview	furniture	jealous	spontaneous
intervene	picture	humorous	courteous
interject	nature	glamorous	anxious
interrupt	adventure	vigorous	adventurous
interlace	culture	courageous	cautious

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please email: admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk or come and see me in my classroom before or after school.

Best wishes,

Abida Tanjum

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 tables and division facts by the time they leave Year 4. Encourage them to go on Times Table Rockstars regularly and test them on the timetable they are working on.

2) Counting games – practice counting in varying steps (e.g. fives, tens or hundreds) from any given three or 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 write and read 4-digit numbers.

3) Please continue to support your child in learning how to tell the time using both analogue and digital clocks. Start by looking at o'clock and half past, then work on quarter to and quarter past and next focus on filling in the other times. You could also look at reading 24-hour times.

Literacy

1) 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 we can print you one if needed). If you notice your child misspelling any of these, then please practice them. Additionally, if you notice any words in your child's reading diary or home learning that they are frequently misspelling, please feel free to practice these also.

2) Please continue to read with your child **every night** for **at least 15 minutes**.

3) Encourage writing wherever possible. Emails, shopping lists, diaries, postcards 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. We have been working on enriching sentences by looking at, for example, varied verb and adjective choices, adding adverbs and changing pronouns. Children should be familiar with recognizing verbs, adjectives, nouns and adverbs, but it can be helpful to reinforce this learning by looking for examples as you read or write together.