



# Fleet Primary School

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## Let's Grow!

### Nursery Topic Letter

### Summer 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break. It's lovely to be back with all the children. We're so pleased with how quickly they have settled back into the nursery routines and are enjoying all the new learning opportunities.

This term our topic is called Let's Grow! As the title suggests, it is a growing themed topic based around books. We have already begun by looking at the book Titch and created our own fabulous flowers for our topic display, as well as enjoying role play in the Fleet Nursery Garden Centre. We have also begun to plant some seeds and think about what they need to grow. Each week we will use a different book as a focus for the learning, which will stimulate opportunities for mark making, art, maths, speaking and listening amongst others. Our topic will include some classic stories - The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Jack and The Beanstalk, and Supertato. We will also introduce the children to lots of new stories too. We are very excited by this topic and know that, as well as being lots of fun, it will support the children's learning in lots of ways across the curriculum.

### Reading

This term in nursery, we will be promoted more and more reading behaviours such as looking for the text on the page, using a pointing finger on the words, turning pages independently, looking for known letters, using the first sound of a word to think about what it could be and thinking about what the words might be saying. Please remember our book changing days are Tuesday and Thursday, but don't worry if your child would like to keep the same books for longer, listening to familiar stories is so important. The continuation of the Little Wandle phonics programme will support this learning too.

At home you can help your child by:

- Taking time to talk with your child
- Reading together every day
- Visiting a library to choose books to share
- Reading yourself where your child can see you
- Letting your child handle the book and turn the pages

- Giving books as rewards
- Listening to books online
- Playing board games together
- Re-reading favourite books again and again
- Reading recipes together and baking

## Writing

This term we will be supporting the children moving to Reception in September, to write their name and continue to associate meaning to the marks they make. If your child is keen to write their name at home please can you give them their name card, as we do at school, to support this. Please let us know if you'd like another copy. We will also continue to practise drawing pre-writing shapes using the message monster as well as using Scribble Club to also support this. Our daily phonics sessions will now focus on letter sounds and the correct letter formation for the focus sound. Please don't worry if your child isn't able or interested in this yet. Some children haven't developed the necessary fine motor skills yet, and we will continue to support this in nursery. The most important thing is that the writing is fun and we will provide lots of opportunities to write throughout the day, through both play and when working with an adult.

### Ideas for home...

- **Get Messy!** Cover a kitchen worktop/table with flour and use fingers to write in it.
- Put bubble bath mixture in the bottom of the bath. Draw or write in the mixture before filling it up with water.
- **Squirt Sounds** - Fill a water bottle up then go outside and squirt letters on the concrete. This is fun for drawing too. Can they write their name before it dries up?
- **Chalk Fun** - Fill up the pavement with lots of letters and drawings. They could also practice writing numbers.
- **Draw/write with a glue stick.** Sprinkle anything from your kitchen cupboard over the glue, or maybe even glitter.
- **Salt Dough** - Make the letters from their name using salt dough. Cook, paint and decorate.

Ingredients - 1 cup salt, 2 cups flour, 1 cup luke warm water. Mix it all together.

## Mathematics

Mathematics activities will link to our topic wherever possible. The children will continue to count objects to 10, and beyond, using interesting concrete materials as motivators. They will continue to represent numbers using their fingers, marks on paper and begin to write numerals. We will begin to describe a sequence of events,

using words such as first, then etc. Positional language will also be a focus this term such as; above, below, behind and in front. We will continue to learn about shapes, as well as combining shapes to make new ones eg an arch, a bigger triangle, etc. We will also make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity, as well as looking for and creating repeating patterns. The children will continue to sing number songs to get them thinking about number sequences, both forwards and backwards.

### **Promoting independence**

We are continuing to foster all the children's independence and there are a number of ways you can help your child with this:

- Please can your child come to nursery, and can you send in, clothes that they are able to change out of and into with minimal support. Please can you regularly check that your child also has spare clothes in their bag under the coat area.
- Shoes with Velcro are great to foster this independence, particularly as the children can enjoy numerous dressing up changes during the day. **Please only send your child in laces if they are able to fasten them themselves.** Also, as we move into summer, please ensure your child's choice of footwear enables them to safely use our climbing equipment. Pumps/trainers or sandals with a covered toe and are great for this.
- In addition to coats, please can you label items of clothing children are likely to take off as the weather continues to get warmer eg jumpers, cardigans etc. It makes it a lot easier to ensure they make it home.

### **Important Nursery Dates**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - Camden City Learning Centre (CLC)

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May - Kentish Town City Farm

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2.50-3.20pm - Reading Open Session

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Trip to Hampstead Heath Education Centre

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July - Nursery Class Tea

### **Transition into Reception**

In preparation for this we are now eating lunch in the hall, all the children are doing so well with this. Also throughout this term, but particularly after half term, we will begin to create links with Reception for those children leaving us in July. This will help support the transition into the main school.

Thank you for your continued support and don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

The Nursery Team