



Fleet Primary School

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Amazing Adventures

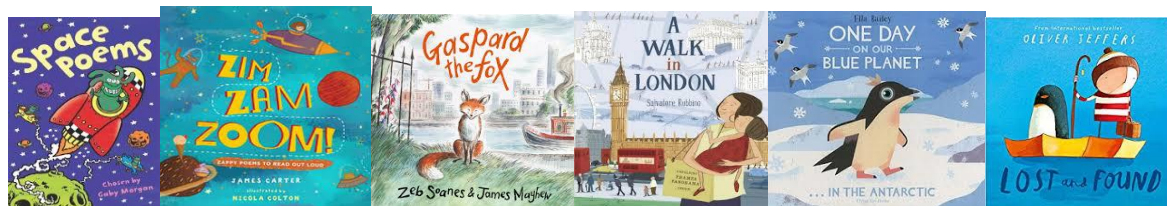


Year 1 Topic Letter - Autumn Term

(September 2020)

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school and to Y1! I hope you have all managed to enjoy the summer months. My lovely Teaching Assistant (TAs) this year is **Emma Swan**. **Rhian Mulji** will cover my Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time on Monday afternoons, during which she will teach the children Science. Please be assured that, even more than usual, your child's wellbeing is our primary focus. We aim to make their transition to Key Stage 1 (KS1) as smooth as possible by, initially, running Y1 along similar lines to Reception, using the Integrated Learning (IL) approach, which is strongly supported by the broad and balanced creative curriculum integral to Fleet. Moreover, in the first two weeks of this term, the children will be involved in an exciting whole-school collaborative project, based on Oliver Jeffers' wonderful *Here We Are*, and we will continue, throughout the year, to enjoy a variety of wellbeing sessions as part of Fleet's ongoing Happiness Project.



The children are settling into our new routines as we get to know one another and we are all very excited about our Geography-based Autumn topic: **Amazing Adventures**. We have begun preparing for our adventures already by discussing and writing about what we will pack in our Adventure Backpacks, to be taken with us on all our journeys this term. We begin our adventures here on Planet Earth and then launch into the Solar System after which we return to this planet to explore our great city of London. We will then sail off on the high seas, exploring ocean life and (in)famous pirates, and, finally, finish our adventures in the icy-cold Antarctic. Throughout the term, we will look closely at a variety of fun, high-quality texts relating to each of our adventures, including fiction, poetry and non-fiction, and using these as a springboard for our learning across all curriculum subjects.



In **History**, we will focus on astronauts and pirates as significant historical adventurers, including the marvellous Mae Jemison and the infamous Irish explorer of the high seas, Anne Bonny. Our adventures in History will also include using our knowledge of present day London in order to navigate its exciting past. Linking our learning across curriculum subjects, we will study the journeys and findings of Charles Darwin, the famous Scientist. More specifically in **Science**, we will learn about the human body, the senses and the seasons. Our **Geography** learning will include using geographical skills and fieldwork, looking closely at the countries, capital cities and flags of the United Kingdom (UK), and the surrounding seas, as well as national seasonal weather patterns. Travelling further afield, we will learn about hot and cold areas in the world, including a specific focus on the Antarctic. We will use our knowledge in Geography and Maths and connect this with learning in **Computing**, coding in order to navigate different places and spaces. Linking our Computing learning with **Art**, we will use the iPads to take photographs of ourselves and fashion these into 3D images of our astronaut alter egos. We will also use different art techniques to create Emperor Penguins. In **DT** we will use junk-modelling techniques to construct rockets and a figurehead for our pirate ship and we will design, create and evaluate our own weather-measuring instruments.



Maths

In Maths we will become Mathematical Adventurers following the National Curriculum using the Mastery approach. We will focus on key Big Ideas and the children will have lots of opportunities to apply and develop their mathematical language, fluency and understanding as well as to solve problems and extend their reasoning skills.

Reading

We will have daily Reading Adventures in class, with a combination of whole-class, shared, guided and individual reading. I will read formally with your child once every week in their **Guided Reading (GR)** group, during which their GR book will be changed. Please note that the **children must have their Book Bags in school every day. It is crucial at this stage in your child's development that they read regularly, at school and at home.** As such, please **read to and with your child on a daily basis** and write **an accompanying short note in their Reading Record/Phonics Log**, which the children should bring to class **every day** in their Book Bag.



Phonics

Phonics will be taught in class **daily** with observational assessment and with the help of Y1's famous Sassy Sentence Snake!



P.E.

This term, we are really lucky to have **P.E. every Wednesday** with fabulous Coach Keeley and **every Thursday** with coaches from Arsenal on our fabulous Top Pitch! On both of these days, children should wear trainers and comfortable clothing in which they can easily move - there is no need for a PE Kit at this stage in KS1.





Supporting Your Child's Learning



Literacy

- Read **every night** to and/or with your child for **at least 15 minutes**.
- Encourage writing wherever possible. A special writing book and pens can help with motivation as can writing for real-life purposes (eg: shopping lists, postcards, letters etc.) Whilst still keeping it fun, please help your child to write in clear sentences with a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.



- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>
- phonicsplay.co.uk
- wordsforlife.org.uk
- lovelybooks.co.uk
- childrens.poetryarchive.org
- teachhandwriting.co.uk



- <https://www.busythings.co.uk> (individual username and password required - see Ms Coulter)
- <https://discoveryeducation.co.uk> (Espresso = username: student21013/password: fleetp)

Maths

- Help your child to learn all Number Bonds to 20.
- Help your child to tell the time by knowing o'clock and half past and to relate times on clocks and watches to daily routines.
- Working with measures supports many areas of Maths (eg: help your child to add small totals of money, work out change, measure ingredients when cooking or baking etc.)



- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>
- mathsathome.lgfl.org.uk
- nationalnumeracy.org.uk
- ictgames.co.uk
- primarygames.com



- uk.mathletics.com (individual username and password required - see Ms Coulter)
- <https://www.busythings.co.uk> (individual username and password required - see Ms Coulter)
- <https://discoveryeducation.co.uk> (Espresso = username: student21013/password: fleetp)

Special Request: Water Bottles



In Y1, we ask you to **provide your child with a water bottle**, which they should bring to school **every day**. We do not provide cups and water in Y1. The children can refill their bottles during breaks.

Topic Snapshot



The Topic Snapshot attached to this letter is an introduction to the **key learning** throughout the term. Please **read and discuss this with your child** and help them to become familiar with the vocabulary etc.

Class Trips

In order to keep your children as safe as possible, there will be **no class trips using public transport this term**. Trips outside of school this term are all within walkable distance. Other sessions, which would usually be outside trips, we have arranged to be delivered live online or led by a visiting speaker in school. So, we'll still have the excitement and fantastic learning provided by our usual adventures but nearer to school and/or presented in a slightly different format.



Important Dates



Class Meeting - Class Meeting video available on school website.

The October Gallery - TBC

ZooLab Interactive Online Workshop - Tuesday 13th October

Hampstead Heath - TBC

Camden City Learning Centre (CLC) - Thursday 15th October



Finally, if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me (admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk FAO Ms Coulter/Y1). Here's to a happy and successful first term!

Karen Coulter
Y1 Class Teacher