



Fleet Primary School

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Year 6 - Topic Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 6 and what we hope to be a smoother and easier academic year.

Our topic this term is 'Paradise & the Jungle', a historical topic taking us back in time and across the water to Central America during the Aztec and Mayan periods. We have so many exciting things to learn about, including learning the history of chocolate!



Our 'Paradise & the Jungle!' topic combines History and Geography in a really exciting way. We will be finding out about the chronology of the ancient Aztec and Mayan tribes. We will learn about similarities between cultures and key differences in how people lived their lives then, in comparison to now. We will explore key figures who have researched these civilisations and see how these may answer questions we have. We will be developing our knowledge of a different continent and climate to our own.

In English, we are learning about Mayan myths, starting with 'The Chocolate Tree'. We will explore themes, setting, character and events through drama and role play. We will learn what makes an exciting myth and use this knowledge to structure and write our own imaginative Mayan myths. We will be using this topic to inspire us in our poetry writing. Alongside this we will be looking at a variety of non-chronological reports and instructional writing linked to our topic based cooking.

In Maths, we will be spending some time supporting the children in securing skills and knowledge from objectives from the previous year, in order for them to feel confident and comfortable. We will then be continuing to follow the National Mathematics Framework, building on understanding of written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, so that the children can solve problems using larger numbers and multiple steps. The children will be doing regular fluency tasks to support their recall of strategies and methods and keep them fresh in their minds.

In our Science, we will be looking at 'Animals, including humans' and 'Evolution'. We will look at bodily functions, looking in detail at the circulatory system, digestive system and the importance of a healthy diet and lifestyle.

In our Art and Design technology, the children will create a topic based sculpture, which incorporates our cross curricular learning. The children will also be cooking- making their own chocolate, chimichurri potatoes and corn tortillas and salsa.

In Music this term, the children will be learning and creating songs for our winter productions (fingers crossed it can go ahead!) They will be developing their composition skills and knowledge of musical notation.

In computing lessons the children will be working on creating their own AR triggers and stop motion animations and will be exploring our topics using virtual reality headsets.

In Religious Education we will be exploring the religion of Hinduism. We will be finding out about the festivals of Diwali and Holi. In P.S.H.E we will be prioritising supporting the children in processing the big events and lifestyle changes of this year and the impact they have had on us as individuals and as a community. We will be exploring mental and physical wellness in our everyday learning and activities alongside committed PSHE sessions. In addition to this, we will be thinking about how drugs can be used with both positive and negative consequences.

In P.E. children will be doing games with their coach. They will also be continuing to develop their coordination skills and balance skills in other PE sessions.

Home learning has an important role in year 6, now so more than ever. Please encourage your child to remember to bring their completed home learning journal in every week and continue to support your child. The children are still expected to read at home, a minimum of 3 times a week. This should be acknowledged by signing in reading diaries.

Year 6 are fortunate to have support from Sue and Shae this term.

Due to Covid-19, we have had to make some changes to our usual events this academic year. We will be offering a 'Meet the teacher' via an online video in the first few weeks where I will tell you more about Year 6 for your child.

Year 6 Introduction video

For more information about Year 6 please use this link to watch our introduction video:

<https://vimeo.com/456460227/8c1236c416>

Some important dates

Monday 26th-Friday 30th October- half term

Unfortunately at this time, we have paused the educational trips we usually take our children on. This is with the safety of the children in mind and the practicalities of ensuring all children and parents feel comfortable with the learning environment. We will, however, do our best to ensure we bring as much rich, diverse learning into the classroom as possible.

From the Meet-the-parents team: We will be going virtual for our annual Meet the Parents event this year in response to the pandemic. The webinar format will take place on Monday September 28th from 6.30 to 7.30pm. There will be a live online panel of families from the local state secondary schools frankly answering questions about their schools from parents deciding where to send their children for Year 7. Secondaries represented will be Acland Burghley, Haverstock, La Sainte Union, Parliament Hill and William Ellis. You will be able to submit questions online during the event. Parents in all year groups at Fleet are welcome to take part. We will send out details of the zoom link nearer the time. So that we know the level of interest in advance, please register to take part through this eventbrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meet-the-parents-at-fleet-primary-school-tickets-118428186895>

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

Yours sincerely,

Oona Matheson and the Year 6 team