



Fleet Primary School

Fleet Road Hampstead London NW3 2QT

Tel: 020 7485 2028

E-mail: admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk

Headteacher: Don McGibbon

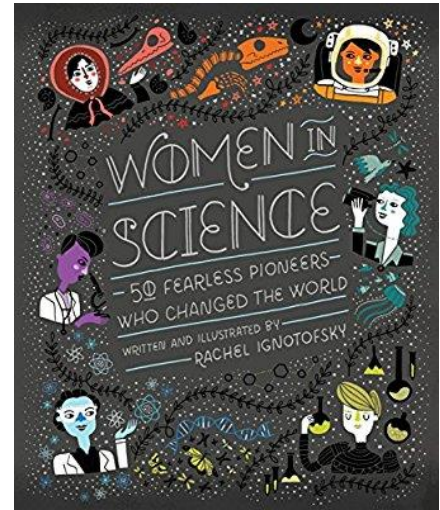


Year 4: Spring 2020

Heroic Humans

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful break and wishing you happiness for 2020. Our new topic this term is Science based and is called Heroic Humans. 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'll explore this idea by looking at both real people from the past and through fiction. To build on this, we will be encouraging the children to develop their resilience.

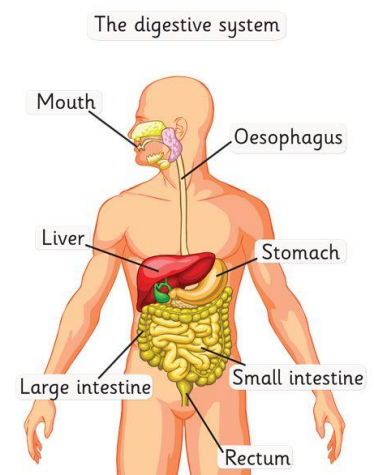


In English we will start by focusing on some inspirational, amazing humans: the children in Year 4! We will explore the idea of identity and what makes us unique and then write some poems. Next, we will write biographies for some inspiring Scientists from the past, including Michael Faraday and Annie Easley. After that we will complete a fiction unit around the book 'Krinklekrax', which explores what it means to be a hero. Finally, as we start our work on 'humans of the future' we will look at Ted Hughes' text 'The Iron Man'.

In Geography we will be looking at different types of settlements. We will contrast cities, towns and villages in the UK, make some maps and looking at compass directions and grid references and the children will design their own settlement. This will be followed up with some orienteering work on the Heath. In History we will be focussing on important people from the 16th Century to the modern day.

In Science this term we will be learning all about the digestive system and human teeth and learning how to keep them clean and healthy! Following on from that we will link our Science lessons to our learning about Robots by starting our electricity unit, investigating circuits and conductors.

In RE we will be looking at Islam focussing on the Qur'an and the Five Pillars. In Art we will link our work on heroes with Pop Art, looking at some artists such as Roy Lichtenstein and designing our own comic strip style panel. In DT, we will be designing and making puppets of our favourite Scientists, linking to our biographies work in English. In Maths the children will continue to follow the National Curriculum and will continue to develop skills around place value, written and mental methods for addition,



subtraction, multiplication and division, handling data and statistics, time and measures and fractions.

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

PE this term is on **Tuesday and Wednesday**. The children will need to make sure they have shorts/ leggings/ tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt and trainers, although it is often easier for PE kit to be left at school for the duration of the half term. Please make a note of the PE days and remind your child to have their kit with them. *It would be really helpful if clothes and PE kit bags are labelled!* We will be starting going swimming on a **Tuesday** at Kentish Town leisure centre so please ensure that children have swimming kit of this day. Our start date is **Tuesday 25th February**. Children will be expected to swim each week unless they have a doctor's note. All the children will need a swimming costume and a towel in a bag, as well as a named swimming hat. It is very helpful if your child's hair is tied up if it is long.

The children will be continuing trumpet and trombone lessons on **Thursday** so please remind them to bring their instrument and music folder on those days. It would also be useful for you to send your child in with a labelled water bottle for school to allow them to get drinks during the day.

Important dates for Year 4 this term:

Friday 24th January: Artist Visit (in school)

Wednesday 5th February: Trip to the Centre of the Cell

Wednesday 29th February: Trip to Talacre

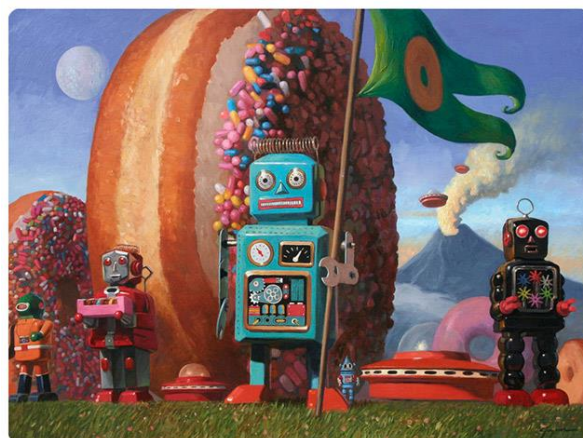
Thursday 5th March: Year 4 Class Tea

Friday 6th March: Year 4 Class Assembly

Thursday 11th March: Parent meetings

Monday 18th March: Trip to the CLC

Friday 27th March: Trip to the Heath for Orienteering session



I will send trip letters out with more details nearer the time. I will be putting a sign-up sheet outside Y4 for you to offer to help on our trips. Thank you to all the parents who helped us with our trips and visits last term, it's much appreciated! 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 contributing to the class reps. Class teas are really important since they help to fund all the wonderful trips and visitors which we have.

Home learning is continuing as it was last term. Home learning journals and reading diaries are updated with new work to complete **every week**, on a **Friday**. Please ensure your child brings both these book with them to school **daily**. Thank you for the support you've given the home learning so far, it really helps your child make progress.

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

Best wishes,

Ruth Hanfling and Lynley Benbetka

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 table and division facts by the time they leave Year 4. Some good online games are available here: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>. If you would like any suggestions for how you can help your child learn their times tables, please feel free to speak to me at any time.

2) Counting games – practise counting in varying steps (e.g. fives, tens or hundreds) from any given 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 work with 4-digit numbers.

3) Please continue to support your child learning how to tell the time using both analogue and digital clocks. By the end of Year 4, children should be familiar with reading all analogue and digital times and converting between the two, as well as reading 24 hour times.

As always, Mathletics is a great place for your children to practise their Maths skills and covers all of the Y4 curriculum. Please encourage them to play at home here <http://uk.mathletics.com/>.

Your child's login and password is stuck in the front of their home learning journal.

Literacy

1) We are continuing to teach spelling on a roughly two week cycle. New spelling lists are sent home at the end of a cycle; please support your child with learning these words. The website <https://spellingframe.co.uk/> links well with our curriculum and can be a good place for your child to practise their spelling words.

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 I can print you one if needed) as well as the additional word list I gave out at parent meetings. If you notice your child misspelling any of these, then please practise them. Additionally, if you notice any words in your child's reading diary or home learning which they are frequently misspelling, please feel free to practise these also.

2) Please continue to ensure that your child is reading **every night** for at least 15 minutes. In Year 4, it's not always necessary for your child to read aloud to you but encouraging discussions around the books they are reading and asking them questions about the texts is a good way to engage with their reading. Children should be filling in their reading diary **every day** with a record of which book they were reading and how many pages and then leaving a short comment **once a week**.

Feel free to add any additional comments if you wish. Children are also given new follow up tasks **weekly** which follow their reading session with me in class. Please remind your child to complete these! The information supplied in reading diaries is a very useful record for us about your child's reading so your support in keeping the diaries up to date is much appreciated.

3) Encourage writing wherever possible. Emails/ letters, diaries, postcards, reviews and comics are all fun ideas.

We also subscribe to the excellent Espresso learning website

(<https://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/what-we-offer/discovery-education-espresso> login: student21013, password: fleetp). This has areas for every curriculum subject but the English area has lots of good ideas for your child to practise their English – the spelling and grammar and punctuation areas are very good.