



Fleet Primary School

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Year 5 Topic Letter – Summer Term 2020

April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are keeping safe and well in these strange times. Our topic this term is Amazing Advances – we will be learning about key events/movements and important developments in the fields of space and art. We will focus somewhat on significant women in these areas and discuss how women's roles have changed over time too.

This topic letter gives details of the learning that should be covered at home, using the resources set each week on the school website (<http://www.fleet.camden.sch.uk/CorHLY5>), while the school is closed due to Covid-19. If/when the school reopens, the way we approach the topic will change and I will inform you of this.

Our science focus this term is Earth and Space: the Solar System, the Earth's rotation and how this results in day, night and seasons. We'll learn the phases of the moon: what they are and how they occur. This fascinating subject will provide a stimulus for our English for the first half term. The children will research the life and achievements of Valentina Tereshkova, compiling a fact file and writing a diary in role as her during her time in space. Linking with our art theme, we'll study *Starry Night* by Van Gogh and write a poem inspired by this masterpiece, as well as having a go at creating our own *Starry Night* art! Of course, we'll learn about the 1969 moon landing; we'll present our learning in a newspaper report on the event and will imagine our own fictional planet and write a setting description based on this. In DT, the children will create a moon buggy using junk modelling, so please ask them to keep an eye on items in your recycling they might want to keep and use for this.

Throughout the term, we will be learning about Modern Art – we'll study the major art styles and movements since 1870 and this will inspire our writing in the second half term. The children will learn about art movements such as Expressionism, Surrealism, Cubism, Pointillism, Impressionism and Pop Art. As part of this, we will explore the life and work of artists such as Van Gogh, Frida Kahlo and Andy Warhol, leading to us writing poems, stories and biographies inspired by them. A timeline to aid children's understanding is available on the Year 5 Home Learning page.

The children made great progress with their brass learning last term. Please encourage them to practise regularly at home, following the tutorial videos on the school website to help. If your child's instrument is still in school, please let me know by emailing admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk and I can arrange for you to collect it.

In maths, we will follow the National Curriculum, focussing on:

- Geometry – calculate area, identify 3D shapes, distinguish between regular and irregular polygons
- Decimal fractions – ordering and comparing, fraction and percentage equivalents
- Calculation – using all four operations to solve problems; ratio/scaling problems
- Geometry – estimate, measure and identify angles

- Fractions as numbers – equivalency and converting, adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions
- Statistics – interpreting and presenting data using bar charts, line graphs etc.

I will set weekly reading tasks for the children, but they should also read for pleasure for around 15 minutes every day.

Here are some suggestions of activities and resources to support your child's learning at home (many more available on the school's website):

- Practice key maths skills, spelling, grammar and punctuation using www.discoveryeducation.com. Go to 'log in' in the top right hand corner, select 'espresso' and log in with the details: **Username: student21013; password: fleetp**. From the home page you can navigate to a range of activities under the 'Key Stage 2' tab. The children have used this in school so should be familiar with it!
- Use www.mathletics.com to access activities and explanatory videos of all areas of the maths curriculum. Their log in details are stuck in the front cover of their Home Learning Journals. Again, we use this in school so children should be familiar with it.
- Ensure your child is reading every day and that they read a range of genres. Discuss the characters, plots and language used in their books. Reading does really support writing and help to expand their vocabulary and range of ideas.
- Test your child on their spellings (available on the school website <http://www.fleet.camden.sch.uk/CorHLY5>) a few times every week and go over previously learnt ones regularly. If you notice your child struggling with particular words, focus on practising these too.

A reminder - Your child should be able to work on the tasks set mostly independently, although it's always nice for them to discuss their ideas and share what they've achieved with someone. We do not expect every single task to be completed, rather it is a list of ideas to keep them busy and learning, in line with the National Curriculum. Whilst it is important to keep learning key facts, knowledge and skills this is also a great opportunity for your child to explore their interests further and be creative.

Please share a sample of their learning with me every week – a piece of English, Maths and perhaps another piece they are very proud of – by emailing it to admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk with my name as the subject.

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school email admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Holly Kingham