



# Fleet Primary School

Fleet Road Hampstead London NW3 2QT

Tel: 020 7485 2028

E-mail: [admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Don McGibbon



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## Easter Holiday Update

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to extend my best wishes to you all at this time and hope that you and your loved ones are all safe and well. We have now started the summer term, and as expected, schools remain closed to the majority of children.

On Friday, we sent home via text, the topic letters for your child's class along with the topic snapshot – the key fact and learning from the topic. If you have not received these, please check the 'Parent Hub' app and ensure your notifications are switched on. If you cannot find it please mention it to the class teacher when they call next or email the admin account (address in the header at the top of this letter).

Obviously, the implementation of our curriculum will look very different under the current home learning conditions than it would if we were in school as normal and the museum and galleries of London were open as usual. As before the holidays, we will attempt to give you each week a number of different activity ideas that the children can work on throughout the week in lots of different subject areas and with the theme of their topic at the heart.

Please be reassured that whatever you are able to do is enough. Some people's personal circumstances will mean they can spend more time and they might have a go at everything while others will find it difficult to manage working from home themselves with supporting and supervising many of the tasks. Many of you will be somewhere in between. We want to support you and the children but do not want you or them to feel overwhelmed. The most important thing is that you and your family are able to be safe and secure while having enough to keep you going.

During the weekly phone calls, a couple of parents have asked about teachers doing live online video lessons. At this point in time we are not looking to move into that way of working. We understand from our conversations that there are many of the Fleet families for whom this would be very difficult in terms of access to devices at prescribed times, sharing devices and internet between siblings and parents working, and would be logistically impossible to avoid teachers broadcasting at the same time to minimize such problems. Our teachers are also working from home, which brings in their own internet capacity problems with this style of working. Teachers will be, and have been, uploading resources and videos to support the children, which can be accessed as and when they are doing a specific piece of work. The phone calls each week are your opportunity to ask any specific questions or get any pointers you and your child might need. I hope you can understand this logic.

I would encourage you, perhaps through the contact lists in your class What's App groups, to make time each week for your children to get together with their friends using online video call apps. I know my own children have been doing that using apps such as Zoom, What's App, Skype and House Party. The socialising the children are missing not being at school is an area that the home learning cannot address.

You may have noted the announcement by the education secretary in the news this week that said the dates that had been circulating in some of the media that suggested school's were reopening in May, and in some cases were stating dates as if they were fact, were incorrect. At this time there is no date being discussed as a number of conditions need to be met before they can consider schools returning. It is also likely when they do get to that point there may be some kind of phased return with not all children

returning at once. In light of this, we will be continuing to plan our weekly task lists for you to work on at home and call you for check ins each week as we have been. As soon as we hear any announcements from the government, we will of course communicate those to you to ensure that everyone is fully aware of what is happening.

I'd like to thank you for the positive feedback we've been receiving in this challenging time about the approach we have taken – the teachers and support staff really have been doing an amazing job to continue to be able to work in this new way that no one ever thought we'd have to do.

Please continue to share the work the children are doing so we can celebrate it when we call and through the Friday newsletter and twitter.

Continue to take care of yourselves and each other. Don't forget the office can still be contacted via email and we will respond as quickly as we can.

With best wishes for you and your loved ones,



Don McGibbon  
Head Teacher