



Fleet Primary School

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Year 1 Topic Letter - Spring Term

(January 2021)

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to this new term, a new way of learning (and teaching!) and lots of new adventures!

I hope you will all be as excited as me to begin our Science-based Spring topic, **Wild**. We will be focussing on the natural world and our learning will link closely with our cross-curricular STEAM adventures (STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths). To begin our journey, we are going to be thinking about what we already know about the natural world and what we would like to know. We will then combine Science and Music, listening to Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* and sketching in response to the music. In the weeks to come, we will be reading a variety of high-quality texts relating to the natural world, including the wonderful story *Wild*. As always, I will be reading the children an array of stories, poems and non-fiction texts throughout the term, using these as a springboard for our learning across all curriculum subjects.



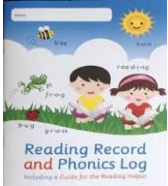
In **History**, we will focus on **Naturalists** as significant historical figures and link this with our learning in Science and Art by studying the findings and illustrations of **Beatrix Potter** and **Maria Sibylla Merian**. Our **Art** lessons this term will look at the connections between outside and inside, focussing on **Eco Art**. In **Science**, we will learn about the **seasons** and the **life cycles** of plants. **Geography** will involve studying the similarities and differences between urban and rural environments, looking at **human and physical geography** as well as employing our **geographical skills** to navigate and map. Combining our learning in Science and Geography, our **DT** lessons will involve **researching, planning, designing and creating** objects and spaces to help attract wildlife. **Computing** will run throughout all subjects as we learn about using technology safely across the curriculum to research, plan and create.





Maths

We will continue to go wild for Maths in Y1 this term! Following the National Curriculum, we will use the Mastery approach, focussing on key Big Ideas. The children will have lots of opportunities to apply and develop their mathematical language, fluency and understanding as well as to further develop their problem solving and reasoning skills.



Reading

We will continue with our Remarkable Reading this term. Please **read to and with your child on a daily basis for 15 minutes** and complete your child's **Reading Record and Phonics Log** regularly for when we return to school.



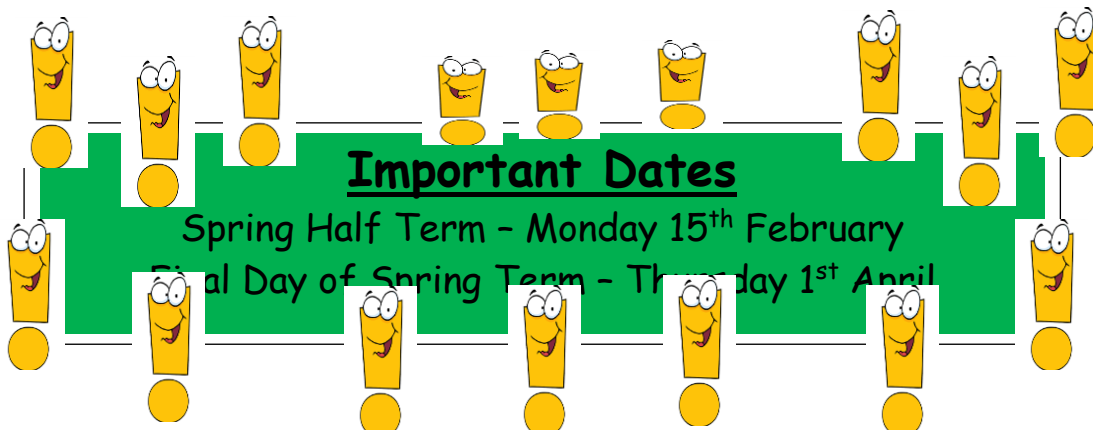
Phonics

There will continue to be daily Phonics activities to support us with our reading and writing.



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.





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](https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)
- [phonicsbloom.com](https://www.phonicsbloom.com)
- [wordsforlife.org.uk](https://www.wordsforlife.org.uk)
- [lovelybooks.co.uk](https://www.lovelybooks.co.uk)
- [childrens.poetryarchive.org](https://www.childrens.poetryarchive.org)
- [teachhandwriting.co.uk](https://www.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)



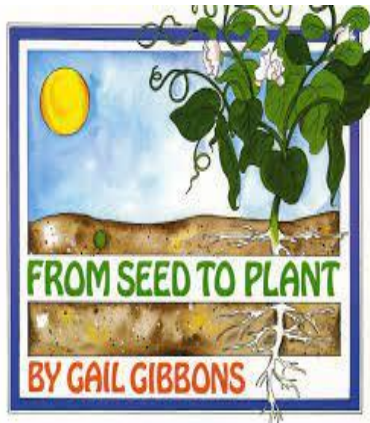
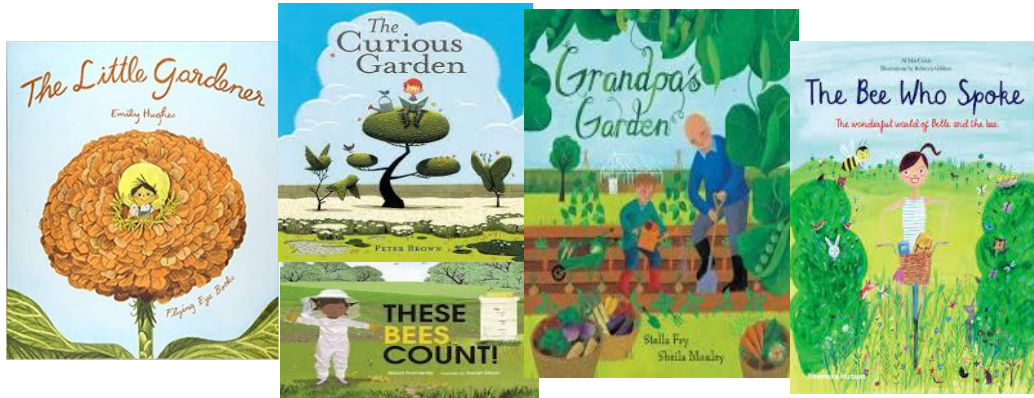
Maths

- 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>
- mathsat home.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)





I hope you will become as enthused as I am about our new topic! We had such a fantastic Autumn term: Y1 put so much effort into every lesson and challenge and it has been my pleasure watching them grow from tiny seeds into thriving plants! I am confident that, despite all the changes, we will have an equally wonderful Spring term full of learning and fun!

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 safe, happy and successful Spring term!

Karen Coulter
Y1 Class Teacher