



Fleet Primary School

Fleet Road Hampstead London NW3 2QT

Tel: 020 7485 2028

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

Headteacher: Don McGibbon

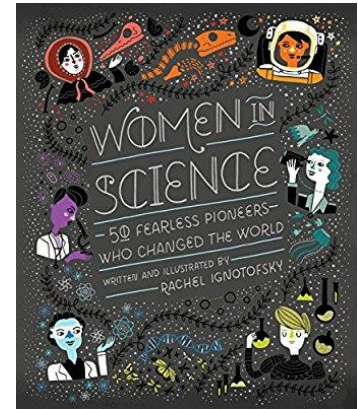


Year 4: Spring 2021

Heroic Humans

Dear Parents/Carers,

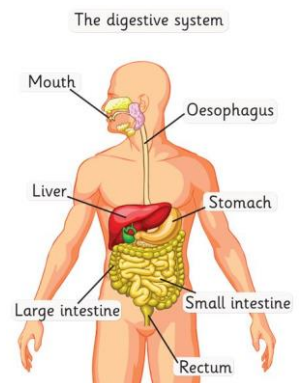
Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful break. Our new topic this term is Science based and is called Heroic Humans. We will be exploring different aspects of being human, with an emphasis on what it means to be heroic. What qualities make someone a hero? We'll explore this idea by looking at both 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 May Jemison and Annie Easley. After that we will complete a fiction unit around the book 'Kindlekrax', 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 key important people from the 16th Century up 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.

We will also have a Mosaic workshop starting every Monday afternoon with Deborah and Jo from the School of Mosaic to create a large scale mosaic for Fleet.

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

PE this term is on **Tuesday and Wednesday**. The children will need to come into school wearing suitable PE clothes, including trainers or other suitable footwear. Please make a note of the PE days and remind your child to dress appropriately on that day.

The children will be continuing trumpet and trombone lessons on **Thursday** so please remind them to bring their instrument on those days. It's important that your child is practising their instrument at home during the week, even 10 minutes per day! This will also help to stop slides and valves from sticking!

It is **essential** for you to send your child in with a **labelled water bottle** for school to allow them to get drinks during the day. They are not able to use the drinking fountains in the playgrounds so this is the only way for them to have a drink.

Important dates for Year 4 this term:

Thursday 11th March: Parent meetings

TBC: Trip to the Heath for Orienteering session

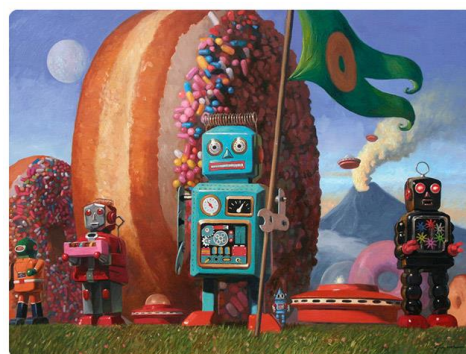
If you are able, please make sure your child brings in their voluntary contribution of **£2** for each trip or virtual visit.

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 via the office 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.