



# Fleet Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable Winter break despite the circumstances. At the time of writing, we know the school will be closed until half-term, so the first 6 weeks' learning will be delivered online. **As before, weekly tasks will be set on the school website – these tasks are not optional.** I have endeavoured to set tasks which the children can access and complete independently as I appreciate you are busy enough! We will have a short Zoom call at 9.15am Monday to Thursday when I'll talk through that day's learning and children can ask any questions. This will be supported by phone calls from Lisa or myself (Monday – Thursday) for if your child has any other questions.

Our topic this term is 'To India and Beyond!' This is a geography-based topic which will involve us learning about a range of countries around the world, with a focus on India. We will learn about the geography – human and physical – of India and explore the significance of landmarks, both natural and manmade, in Indian culture. We will study the land use of India and compare this with other countries. Hinduism will be studied, with a focus on key beliefs, festivals and traditions. Of course, no topic on India would be complete without learning about and cooking some authentic dishes, which hopefully we can do in school after half term!



Throughout the term, we will be reading traditional tales and stories from India, which will inspire our writing. We will write poems encompassing the energy and brilliance of an Indian sunrise and will create pieces based on Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book* and Mal Peet's book, *Cloud Tea Monkeys*. The famous Indian elephants will inspire some art and we will research the ivory trade and how this is affecting the elephants and farmers of India, writing a persuasive piece on the subject.

We will consider the impact of the 2004 tsunami on India, then aim to design and build bridges able to withstand a tsunami. As well as learning about India's history, we will be studying how our local area has changed. In science, we will be learning about the properties and changes of materials.

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

- Fractions as numbers
- Decimals – ordering and comparing
- Negative numbers
- Fractions and percentages of amounts

- Solving problems involving multiplication, division, addition and subtraction
- Converting and calculating measures
- Geometry – 2D shapes

We will also do a range of problem-solving activities to develop the children’s skills in this area and their ability to use and apply their knowledge in a variety of contexts. Knowing their times tables facts up to 12 x 12 is invaluable in enabling the children to quickly and confidently grasp many areas of the maths curriculum such as fractions, division, ratio and percentages; please continue to support their learning of their times tables at home.

**After half-term:** The children will continue to **have trumpets and trombones lessons every Thursday morning**. Please remind them to bring their instrument to school every Thursday and to practise regularly at home.

We will also have a class P.E. session on **Wednesday** which they need to be dressed in appropriate clothing for.

Here are some suggestions of activities and resources to support your child’s learning at home:

<b>English</b>	<p><b>Reading:</b> The children must be reading each evening at home, ideally for a minimum of 15 minutes. They should read a range of genres. Reading does really support writing and help to expand their vocabulary and range of ideas. Discuss the characters, plots and language used in their books.</p> <p><b>Spelling:</b> Test your child on their spellings a few times every week and go over previously learnt ones or words they find tricky regularly.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p><b>Mental maths:</b> Please continue to support your child in learning and practising their times tables and finding division facts from these eg. <math>4 \times 6 = 24</math> so <math>24 \div 6 = 4</math>. They should also practise doubling and halving numbers.</p> <p><b>Fractions, decimals, percentages:</b> This is often an area which children feel unsure of. Try to use these terms in everyday settings to familiarise them with the language, concepts and relationship between them e.g. You can eat 50% now and the other half later!</p> <p><b>Useful maths websites:</b> <a href="http://www.mathszone.co.uk">www.mathszone.co.uk</a>, <a href="http://www.topmarks.co.uk">www.topmarks.co.uk</a>, <a href="http://www.mathletics.com">www.mathletics.com</a></p>

Dates:

- Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February – Half term
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April– Last day of term, 2pm finish

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please do not hesitate to contact me via an email to the school office. Thank you for your ongoing support in these unusual circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

Holly Kingham