



# Fleet Primary School

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Headteacher: Don McGibbon



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## Welcome back - key Information for tomorrow's return to school and this term

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17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope you are all well and have had a good break. To those of you fasting for Ramadan I hope it has been going well. Not long now until you can break your period of fasting and your Eid celebrations can start. The staff and I are busy in school today preparing to welcome back your children tomorrow.

### Topics and Curriculum:

The new topic letters and topic snapshots will be sent out next week via Parent Hub (with a hard copy of the Topic Snapshot going home with your child). Please ensure you keep the Topic Snapshot to support your child with their Topic learning for this term. It represents the key factual data the children need to have absorbed by the end of the topic and will be referred to throughout the term in class and for homework.

### Communication:

We continue to use Parent Hub for all our parent communications. This continues to save us a large amount of money by avoiding paper and photocopying costs as well as the large cost associated with sending communications by text message. If you have not yet got the Parent Hub app installed or are having any problems with receiving notifications please do contact us. Instructions on how to install the app and register your child are in the Wednesday Community Notices Newsletter which, as well as being sent out every week, is on the newsletter page of the website.

### Attendance:

Regular attendance is vital to your child making progress. Please ensure your children are in school every day and on time. Children should be in their class ready to start the day by 9am – not arriving onto site at this time. If your child is unwell, please ensure you phone the school as soon as possible to inform us. You need to do this every day they are absent, not just the first day.

If your child needs to attend a medical appointment please request that it be out of school hours. If this is not possible they should come into school before and/or after depending on the timing. It is rare an appointment would require a full day to be missed. Thank you for your continued support in maximising the time your child has to learn in school and in helping them build resilience and a positive learning attitude.

### Lunches:

If you plan to change your child's lunch – either from packed lunch to school dinner or the other way round, please do communicate any change straight away to the school office so you are not over-charged. The kitchen prepare meals for children each day based on the information we have. If a lunch is prepared for a child it will be charged for.

Caterlink, our lunch provider, will be holding an after school 'Taster Session' for all parents and carers to have the chance to taste the food they provide later this term. We will send out details once we have the date set.

The price of a Caterlink lunch has increased from 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to £2.52 per meal (£12.60 per week). These increases are necessary due to significant and unprecedented food inflation, as well as a wage increase, in the last year. The Council recognises the challenges with the cost of living faced by both the

schools and parents/carers and, as a result, have kept the price increase in primary schools to the minimum.

#### **Equipment and things needed to be brought in:**

- **Water:** Please send your child in to school with a water bottle (put their name on it) so that they have access to water throughout the day. They will be able to refill their bottles throughout the day. We know hydration is very important to support attention and as we move into Summer even more important.
- **Stationary:** As is usual, all writing equipment and exercise books are provided by the school. If children do want to bring in their own pencil case and stationary items they are free to do so but it is not required.
- **Clothing:** The weather at this time of year is notoriously changeable. Please ensure that children come into school dressed appropriately. That includes raincoat if rain forecast/likely. Children will be out in the playground running around and so should not be wearing flip flops or sliders when the weather is hotter – strapped sandals are acceptable. It is important that they have sun cream put on before they come to school and have a sun hat when the sunnier weather arrives – there is little to no shade in the playgrounds so this is really important.
- **PE Kit:** Children need to have PE kit to wear on the PE day. Coach Keleigh's sessions with Y1-Y6 will continue to be Mondays. Up to Year 4 are free to wear PE kit to school rather than need to change if they prefer. Year 5 and 6 need to bring in a change of clothes for hygiene reasons.
- **Swimming:** The class going swimming this term will be Year 6. They will go every day for a two week period from the 19<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June. More details will be provided to Year 6 families closer to the time.
- **Brass – trumpets and trombones:** Year 4 and 5 will be continuing with their brass lessons this term. They should be taking their instrument home with them to practice in between sessions. Their sessions with Rod the brass teacher happen on Thursday mornings so please ensure they bring in their instruments on a Thursday.

#### **Homework and Home learning:**

In Year 1-6 we continue to use 'Seesaw', the online learning platform, to deliver homework. We also continue to use 'Mathletics' and 'Times Table Rockstars' to support learning in school and for children to practice key skills at home.

Obviously to access these online learning resources children will need access to the internet and a suitable device (not a phone!). If you have any problems in this area please speak to us and we can try to arrange support so the children do not miss out through lack of access. If your child is unsure of their individual login details for any of the online learning resources please consult their class teacher via the office.

#### **Clubs:**

Clubs will start from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April. The link to the google form to sign your children up went out before the holidays. There are some places left so please contact the office as soon as possible if you have not yet requested any spaces in after school clubs and would like to. We will be sending out confirmations to those who have applied in the next couple of days.

At Fleet we try to run as many of our clubs using volunteers and in school staff as possible so that we can continue to offer them at a low price and make them as accessible as possible. Thank you to those parents and our staff who continue to support in this capacity. Please contact the office if you are able to offer anything for future terms.

#### **Class Assemblies:**

These fantastic class performances continue this term. The first one this term is Year 5. While we endeavour to stick to these dates, should any need to be changed we will inform you as soon as we can.

Provisional dates for this term are below. As usual these will all start at 10am and are usually on Fridays (except reception (Thursday) and the Y6 leaver's (Friday but 2pm)– see below):

- **Year 5** – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May
- **Year 4** – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May
- **Year 3** – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June
- **Year 2** – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- **Year 1** – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June
- **Reception** – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July
- **Year 6 – Leaver's Assembly** – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July (@2pm)

#### **End of Year Reports and new class teacher announcement:**

Towards the end of the Summer term (**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July**) you will receive your child's end of year report. This will detail their work throughout the year and include targets for English and Maths moving forward into their next year. While we do not hold formal parent meetings this term in light of the report, should there be anything in the report you want to clarify or don't understand we would encourage you to drop in to discuss with the teacher. On **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July from 3.45-5pm** we will hold a teacher drop in after school. This is an opportunity to visit your current class teacher to ask any questions you have around the report or to introduce yourself to your child's class teacher for the following school year.

#### **Whole school events this term:**

- **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April** – Dr Bike – get your bike serviced for free (book a place via Lisa in the office – only 20 places available!)
- **Date to be confirmed** – After School Eid Celebration
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May** – International Food Evening 5-7pm – bring a dish to share!
- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June** – STEAM week
- **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July** – Wellbeing Week
- **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July** – Sports Day on the Heath

#### **Trips and Visits:**

Details of the trips for your child's class for those already booked will be shared in topic letter coming home next week. We will send reminders in advance of any trips via parent hub. As is usual, we are dependent on parent and carer support on trips to enable us to offer them. Let your child's teacher know if you are able to support on any upcoming trips.

#### **Term Dates:**

This year's dates are up on the school website at the following address. For your information I include the dates for this term below, including the two bank holidays this term:

<https://www.fleet.camden.sch.uk/about-us/dates>

<b>First day of term</b>	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
<b>May Day bank holiday</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2023 – school closed
<b>King's Coronation bank holiday</b>	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 – school closed
<b>Half term (inclusive)</b>	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023
<b>Last day of term</b>	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023 – finish at 2pm

#### **Ongoing Strike Action by National Education Union (NEU):**

As you are aware last term we were disrupted by 4 days of strike action by the NEU which led to school being closed. I am sorry to say the latest pay offer from the DfE has been rejected by the union and they have announced further strike action for the coming term. At present two dates have been announced – the **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April** and **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**. While I do not yet know the intentions of the teaching staff here at Fleet, as they are all members of the NEU and participated in the previous strike dates I think it

likely we will be affected as we were before. As soon as I have more information I will send out a communication to all families if we are going to be open, closed or partially closed on these dates.

**Office:**

Most enquiries can be dealt with either over the phone or via email ([admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk)). Myself, or other members of the school Senior Leadership team are on hand during drop offs and can also pass on any messages you might have for the class teachers. Please bear in mind that the busiest periods for the office are the beginning and end of the day – dealing with enquiries either in person, or replying to emails/phone calls, may take longer at these times.

I'd like to thank you for your continued support and trust as we prepare for another successful term. I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow when we welcome back the children.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don McGibbon', written in a cursive style.

Don M<sup>c</sup>Gibbon - Head Teacher