

Friday 27th March 2020

## Message from the head:

Where does one start in such strange times. Firstly, I hope this newsletter finds the Fleet community and their loved ones safe, healthy and well. Last week we had to abruptly end the school term and that was extremely difficult for us all and we continue to have to adjust to new ways of working, learning and keeping in touch.

My staff, our children and you our families have lots of different emotions at this time. Having attempted myself this week to juggle keeping on top of everything to do with school remotely, keeping in touch with staff, calling families to check in with them, keeping on top of the website and all while I try to 'home school' my 3 children—7, 10 and 13 years old—it's not easy. I know many of you are in exactly the same situation—while having to do the 'home school' side without being a trained teacher like me!

Please let me try to alleviate some of your worries. Firstly, this is an emergency situation—the whole world is being affected—this is not normal circumstances to be 'home schooling'. You can only do what you can do and we know everyone, from the staff, children and you parents and carers, are doing your best. There are no rights and wrong here. As a school we had very little notice to put plans in place and we hope what we have managed so far is helping. Teachers are trying their best to send home, via the website, regular updates of work for the children and lots of links to different activities—when they work they are great, but occasionally they won't—the link may go down; your internet may be too slow; any number of reasons might make it problematic to use everything—we don't expect you to. Don't worry—pick something that does work and go with it. All the teachers and I just want you to be reassured that you have ideas and work to do.

So please bear in mind the following:

- You are the first and best educator of your child—you will know when they have had too much of something. You will know how to encourage them and when to let them rest/play. We know some children will love all the activities we've sent home—others might prefer some types over others—and some would prefer to do nothing we've set! Use your judgement as a parent—engage them when you can, in activities that enthuse them—don't stress or worry at this point about the ones that they are reluctant or don't want to do
- Your child will not fall behind if they do less than others say they are doing. That's why we have schools and teachers in the first place. We will sort all of that out when we get back
- All learning is valuable—playing with lego, baking, singing, dancing, games—all have a place and are as important as any written worksheet
- If you've got a few children at home of different ages and stages of education then try to get them to do as much independently as possible but don't stress—it's hard! Remember to relax and try to also get them to do things together such as free writing or playing games.

As head teacher I would suggest that over the forthcoming weeks—for however long this situation remains—do the following:

- Some practical maths through baking, maths games, counting, tables practice
- Lots of reading—either independently or sharing stories with you or with siblings
- Some art/craft activities (try to tolerate the ensuing mess!)
- For the younger children lots of imaginative play
- Some form of exercise every day
- Lots of talking and listening to each other

The main thing is to try, as much as possible, to enjoy the time you have with your children, turn it into an opportunity to do things you may not have done due to the busy lives we all lead.

We will continue to put ideas and work up on the website for you all and send messages to keep you up dated. Teachers will keep calling a couple of times a week to chat to you and the children (we need it as much as you—we miss them so please be tolerant of us calling!) and we will constantly be checking the school twitter feed and the school email address for work and projects you've been doing so we can celebrate what creativity is going on in your homes. If you need anything just message us and we'll do what we can to support you.

Email us at [admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk) with any questions or concerns you may have or just to check in—if you put your child's teacher and class in the title we can make sure it gets to them quickly.

Stay safe and well.

## Easter Egg Competition

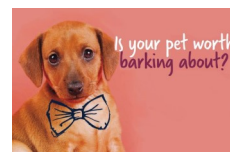
Just because we are not in school is no reason why the annual 'Fleet Egg-stravaganza' cannot still take place. As usual the rules are simple. Take a boiled egg and decorate it in any way you see fit—make it into a character or whatever takes your fancy. Some like to create a scene to go with it and some like to have multiple eggs—the choice really is yours. Remember we like egg based puns—we think they are eggs-cellent! Send in a picture of your creations to the school admin email address shown above or tweet them using the school twitter account @FleetPrimary We can't wait to see what you come up with this year. Send pics to us by the 20th April so we can pick our favourites.



## Message from Year 5—The Editorial Board of the 'Fleet Beat': Pet Mania!

Have you got a gorgeous goldfish, a handsome hamster, an adorable dog or a cute cat? Then enter this competition! We are looking for Fleet's cutest pet. Send in a photo of your pet to

[fleet.beat@fleet.camden.sch.uk](mailto:fleet.beat@fleet.camden.sch.uk) along with the pet's name, age, breed and a little bit about its personality. The photo must include a piece of paper saying 'Fleet' in it so we know it is a real pet and not from the internet! If you don't have a pet, you can use a friend's pet. All entries must be emailed by 3rd April. Good luck!





On this page: work from Finn, Musa, Jasmine, Rocco, Summer, Hunter, Jarod, Maxence, Mason, Arin, Penny, Iffy, Nida, Peter, Maureen, Nommi, Frankie, Luke and Ava!

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