



# Fleet Primary School

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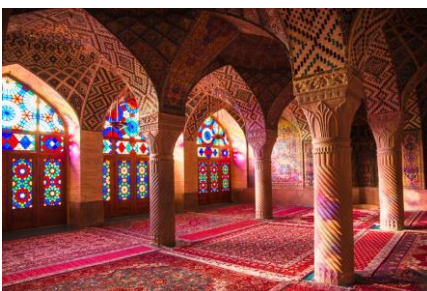
Year 2 Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 2; I hope you all had a relaxing summer break. This term, our class topic is '**All Around the World**' - a Geography based topic focusing on the seven continents of the world. It will be a great opportunity to learn about different places in the world and for the children to share their own global connections. We are spending our first two weeks in Europe, starting with a familiar setting – London! During the first half term, Year 2 will explore the continents Europe, Asia and Africa. We will study some of the wonders of the world, compare cultures and learn about different traditions. We will link History, Art, DT and Science throughout the term for each country we visit. After half term, we will continue our journey to the other continents: North America, South America, Oceania and finally end up in Antarctica.

In English, we are starting with some poetry and postcard writing focussed on landmarks in London and around Europe. For our fiction work, we will start by reading the Julia Donaldson version of the Chinese tale '*The Magic Paintbrush*'. The children will rewrite the story with their own original ending. We will also study '*Lila and the Secret of Rain*', set in Kenya, and '*The Great Explorer*', which is about the Antarctic. For our non-fiction work, our first focus will be on writing instructions. The children will first learn how to make a kaleidoscope before writing instructions to teach a friend. The children will link their DT cooking work to writing recipe instructions. After half term, we will write some fact files about Amy Johnson as part of our work around Oceania.



Art and DT this term will be mainly inspired by our visits to Asia and Africa. We will be making art work inspired by our focus countries, such as Japanese cherry blossom trees or Kenyan Kente cloth. Our first Design and Technology project will be to make Kaleidoscopes inspired by the colourful Nasir-ol-molk Mosque in Iran. We will also be doing some cooking. In History, we will study the Great Fire of London during our work around Europe. We will also look at key historical figures such as Amy Johnson and Matthew Henson. The children will have lots of opportunities for Geography work – for example, map work around

continents and oceans, looking at flags and exploring human and physical features. Our RE focus will be Christianity.

Our Science learning this term will be on Living Things and their Habitats, developing our observation and classifications skills through practical activities and recorded learning. We will then move on to Animals including Humans, exploring what animals need to survive and thrive, after half term. We will be linking our learning around specific animals and habitats to the various locations that the children are learning about in their topic.

We will continue to use the 'White Rose' planning as our primary source in Maths. This term, our focus units will be place value, where children will begin to understand numbers up to 100 and learn to count in different steps, addition and subtraction, where the children will begin to use written methods to add and subtract 2-digit numbers, and shape, where the children will learn about properties of 2 and 3D shapes.

Please read to and with your child daily. Nic or I will read formally with your child each week during a guided reading session. Books will be changed once per week, usually Thursdays or Fridays. Children will be given two levelled reading books (which may include the book they read at school that week) and they will be able to select two books to share with you at home. Children should bring their Book Bags and Reading Records to school **every day**. Please note that children will not be allowed to take books home unless they have their Book Bag in school. If your child does not yet have a Book Bag, please speak to Lisa in the school office where you can purchase one. Each child will also have a Reading Record. This is for you to record your comments on your child's reading, for the children to write about their books (e.g.: whether they enjoyed a book, whether they found it difficult or easy to read and why etc) and for adults in school to make comments too. *Please note that there will be a charge for any lost guided reading books this year.*



This term, children will have PE on Monday afternoons with Coach Keeley and with the Arsenal coaches Wednesday afternoon. Children should wear trainers and comfortable clothes for these sessions.

Year 2 will start 'Fleet Facts' this year, a school wide initiative to help children develop their mathematical fluency. This will take place on Tuesdays or Wednesdays with Nicola. Please support your child practicing these at home, alongside reading every day.

**Key dates for Year 2 this term**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Trip to Chinatown (morning only)**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Open morning at school**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Trip to the October Gallery (morning only)**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Computing workshop (in school)**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Parent meetings**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2 class tea**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Infant Show**

We always appreciate offers of parental help on trips. Please speak to me if you are able to come and help on one of our trips and I will sign you up where there is space.

We have a great team in Y2 this year. On Tuesdays and Wednesday afternoons the class will be taught by Nicola Budd. This year the class will be supported by four class TAs: Fiza and Mags in the mornings and Alem and Anna in the afternoons.

Thank you for a great start to the year. If you have any queries, please feel free to speak to me after school or email the office at [admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk) and they will pass it on to me.

Kind regards,

Ruth Hanfling

