



# Fleet Primary School

Fleet Road Hampstead London NW3 2QT  
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Headteacher: Don McGibbon



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## Year 5 Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2024

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September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your families had a restful and fun summer holiday. Our topic this term is 'Valiant Vikings'. In this history-based topic, we will be studying the life and times of the Vikings.

In **English**, we will begin by reading the book 'Viking Boy' which is a historical fiction novel about a teenage boy who goes on a journey to Valhalla. This unit will support the children in strengthening their reading skills and will be a springboard for a number of written pieces such as, letters, diary entries and narratives. Next, we will study an adapted version of Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. In this unit we will explore drama, write in role as a character and write our own scenes. After half term, we will learn about the famous Viking raid on Lindisfarne Monastery and we will write newspaper reports from both an Anglo-Saxon and a Viking perspective. Finally, we will read the epic poem 'Beowulf' which will give us an insight into Anglo-Saxon myth writing and will inspire the creation of our own monsters. Class reads will include Catherine Johnson's 'Race to the Frozen North' and 'Odd and the Frost Giants' by Neil Gaiman.

In **Maths**, we'll be looking at Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division and Fractions. Along with securing calculation skills, the development of reasoning and problem-solving skills will be embedded into lessons. Our Autumn Term objectives are:

- Understand Place value in numbers up to 1,000,000 and with up to 3 decimal places
- Round numbers to the nearest given amount e.g. nearest tenth, nearest thousand
- Add and subtract using mental methods and the compact columnar method
- Use times table knowledge to identify multiples and factors, recognise prime numbers
- Multiply and divide whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000
- Use short and long multiplication, and short division
- Compare and order fractions, identify equivalent fractions, add and subtract fractions, convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions

In **Science**, our focus this term will be 'Properties and Changes of Materials', where we will be using our knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to compare, group together and separate everyday materials. We will be conducting exciting experiments to find out which materials dissolve in liquids and to explore reversible and irreversible changes.

In **History**, we will build our knowledge of Viking life. We will learn about when and where the Vikings lived, why they voyaged to other countries and how they did so. We will learn about famous Viking raids on England: how they attacked, the weapons they used and the impact of this on England. We will then study the areas the Vikings settled in and find out more about their lifestyle, including homes, diet, trade and religion.

In **Geography**, we will learn about Scandinavia. We will study the weather and climate, physical features and make comparisons to Britain. Then, we will study an area in Britain that was invaded by the Vikings and compare land use then and now.

In **Religious Education**, we will be learning about Christianity this term. We will be looking at Advent, the cross and the events of Holy Week. In **PSHE** we will be learning about mental and physical health, with a focus on respectful relationships and healthy eating.

In **Music**, year 5 will continue to learn the trumpet or trombone with a specialist teacher. The first session will be on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Please encourage them to practise regularly at home and to bring in their instrument every Thursday morning and take it home on Thursday afternoon. As it is compulsory, if your child forgets to bring in their instrument more than twice in a term, they miss a lunch break. If there is a reason why your child cannot participate in a session, please let me know in the morning.

In **Computing**, we will begin the term by developing our knowledge of how to stay safe online. Later in the term we will be developing our programming skills. This will include a programming workshop in school delivered by Gillian from the CLC on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October.

**P.E.** sessions will be on Monday and Wednesday. The children will need to make sure they come into school wearing shorts/ leggings/ tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt and trainers.

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 without having to leave the classroom.

**Home learning will be set on Seesaw on Friday and is due the following Friday.** The home learning will be explained at school and will cover a maths objective (usually reflecting that week's learning). Each week it will include:

- Spellings
- Reading
- Mathematics
- Times Table Rockstars

#### **Important dates:**

- *September 10<sup>th</sup> - Class Meeting @6pm*
- *Date TBC – British Museum*
- *September 30<sup>th</sup>-October 11<sup>th</sup> – Swimming*
- *October 1<sup>st</sup> – CLC Programming Workshop*
- *October 9<sup>th</sup> – Open Reading Morning*
- *October 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> – Sayer's Croft*
- *November 7<sup>th</sup> – Class Tea*
- *November 8<sup>th</sup> – Class Assembly*
- *November 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> – Parents Evening*
- *December 12<sup>th</sup> – Junior Christmas Show*
- *December 17<sup>th</sup> – Theatre Trip*

Your child should be able to complete their home learning independently. The children will be given **spelling lists** to work through and they will be **tested every two weeks**.

The children will have the opportunity to read every day at school, so it is essential that **they bring in a suitable reading book and their reading diary every day**. It is expected that your child reads for around



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15 minutes at home every day and that their reading diary is signed off by an adult at home at least three times a week.

In just a few weeks' time, **Year 5 will be off on our school journey to Sayers Croft (Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> of October)**. This is a fantastic trip: the children will take part in a range of activities led by trained instructors, such as, archery, pond dipping, orienteering, shelter building and night walks. The children love it and get so much out of the trip! You will receive a letter soon with more details.

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school email: [admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fleet.camden.sch.uk). Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Kat Grant

*Here are the spelling lists for this term. Spelling tests will be held every Friday. Each list will be tested for two weeks in a row before we move on to the next one. Please review both the spellings and meanings of the words with your child each week.*

## Autumn 1

conscious	ambitious	adorable	reasonable
gracious	cautious	adorably	reasonably
ferocious	infectious	considerable	reliable
malicious	nutritious	considerably	reliably
delicious	pretentious	tolerable	lovable
suspicious	fictitious	tolerably	lovably
precious	superstitious	changeable	applicable
vicious	conscientious	changeably	applicably
atrocious	fractious	dependable	comfortable
luscious		dependably	comfortably

## Autumn 2

antisocial	confidential	visibly	horrible
artificial	essential	visible	horribly
beneficial	partial	impossible	incredible
commercial	influential	impossibly	incredibly
official	residential	sensible	possible
special	substantial	sensibly	possibly
financial	torrential	legible	responsible
social	initial	legibly	responsibly
crucial	potential	flexible	terrible
superficial	sequential	flexibly	terribly



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