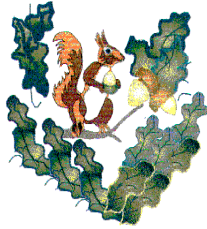


Fleet Wood Lane School



Headteacher
Michelle Parker LLB(hons) PGCE NPQH

Fleet
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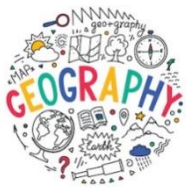
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Monday 26th February 2024

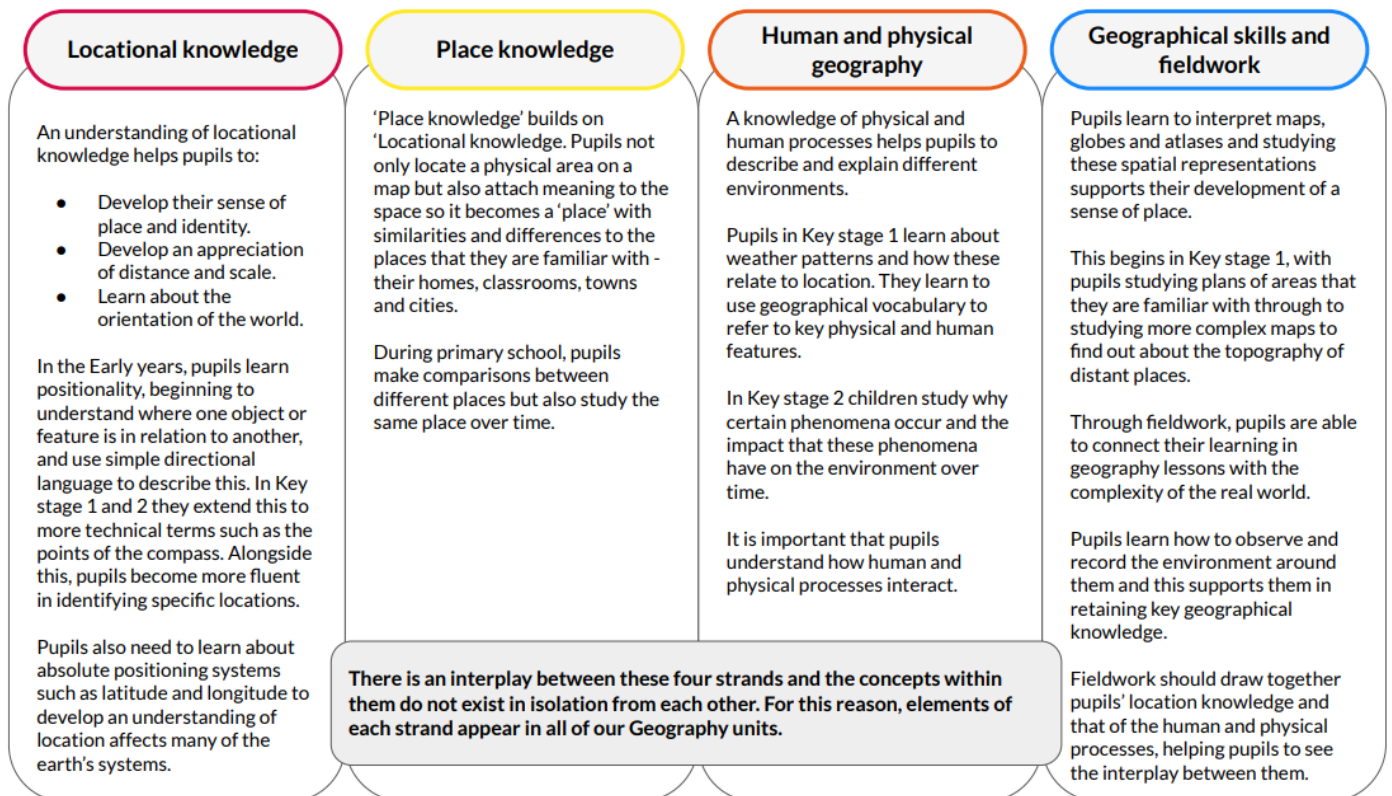
News in School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the new term. The children settled back quickly to the routines in class and have been busy completing mid-year assessments ahead of parents evening. Teachers report that the children have done very well, and they are proud of the progress they are making – so well done to everyone.



There is lots of exciting learning to look forward to. This term's topic learning takes a geography focus with the children being encouraged to learn about and celebrate the wonderful world we share. Our geography curriculum aims to ensure that the children know more and can remember more about the world that they live. It is organised to ensure that the children's learning takes account of locational knowledge, place knowledge, human and physical geography and geographical skills and fieldwork.



It is important that pupils consider the ways that geographers question and explain the world and begin to 'think like a geographer.' For this reason we will use an enquiry cycle to encourage pupils to ask geographical questions and learn how geographers reach their answers through enquiry.

Our geography curriculum also ensures that the children learn about the significance of climate change we feel it is crucial in understanding geographical interconnections. As stated by the Department for Education's 2023 guidance, educating children on our planet's evolving conditions is vital. They aim for all schools to enact a climate action plan by 2025, fostering sustainable learning environments. We hope that through engaging pupils in this endeavour it will spark enthusiasm for positive change by broadening their understanding of sustainability.

This term's topics are framed around investigating and answering the following geographical questions.

The focus for Dormice learning is the local area and Hedgehogs are learning about the weather in different places in the world, in order to answer the question. 'What is the weather like in the UK?'. Otters will be looking at the question "Why is our world wonderful?" and Robins will travel in their learning journey to Antarctica to consider, 'Who lives in Antarctica?'. Bats will be travelling the globe (metaphorically speaking) to investigate, 'Where does our food come from?'. I expect that they will learn a lot about food miles and the impact this can have on our environment. Foxes are entering the seas in their learning about the oceans and coral reefs. They are scheduled to take a trip to the Deep, in Hull, to enhance their understanding and ability to answer the question, 'Why do oceans matter?'. Owls are looking at our impact on the planet via their investigations relating to 'Where does our energy come from?'. They have lots to learn about renewable and non-renewable energy sources.

Reading

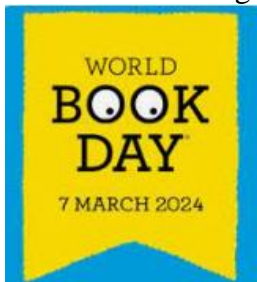


Being able to read is fundamental to accessing the world we live in, it is for this reason that we, and Ofsted, prioritise this area of learning. To ensure that children have the best possible opportunity to secure this essential life skill – the children need your help at home to practise the skills taught in school. As a minimum, we request that children read to an adult at home three times a week. We monitor home reading levels and collate these against our reading assessments, and we know that the children who are supported to practise reading at home make quicker progress. It makes perfect sense that those who practise more and are

enabled to speak about the books they are reading, learn to read quicker. In addition, we know that when children read more confidently, they make accelerated progress across the curriculum when compared with their peers who do not. So please do prioritise just 20 minutes three times a week – as 20 is plenty.

Things to look forward to

Wednesday 6th March – West End in Schools will bring the story of 'Alice in Wonderland' to life. Every class will be taking part in a drama workshop that will immerse them into Alice's magical world.



Thursday 7th March – World Book Day



We will be celebrating Mother's Day in school on Friday 8th March at 2.15pm. with a whole school assembly focussed on the special ladies in our lives.

Monday 25th March and Tuesday 26th March – Parents Evening

We will be concluding the term with an Easter Church service. This will be held at 2pm on Thursday 28th March at Mary Magdalene Parish Church. Robins will be leading the event as they take us through the Easter story.



Last day of term – Thursday 28th March

We return after the Easter holidays on Tuesday 16th April 2024.
Height and weight checks for Reception Class and Owls – Tuesday 16th April 2024.

Headlice

We have been advised that we may have an outbreak of nits in the school. To ensure that this is not the case, please can we ask that every parent checks their child's/children's hair thoroughly so that if they have unfortunately picked up this common school nuisance that you can treat immediately. We rely entirely on parental support to limit the impact of nits in school, and as every member of staff is also susceptible to picking them up (if we do have them in school) we would be personally grateful for your assistance with this. Many thanks.

Medicines in School

If your child has a long-term medical condition that requires ongoing medication or action in school, you are required to complete a Medicines in School Health Care plan. This ensures that we have the correct information to support a child's needs. If your child has a short-term medical condition that requires administration of prescription medicine during the day, please contact the office who will provide you with a administration of medicine form. Please be aware that we are only able to administer medication that is provided under a prescription. Over the counter medication cannot be administered by staff. Please ensure that all medicine brought into school enters via the office please. Office staff will ensure that it is stored safely and correctly. Please ensure that creams/lotions etc are not sent into school unless this is absolutely necessary. If your child needs to apply creams or lotions, please ensure that you contact the office and they will ensure that the item is stored safely and accessible only to your child.

Squirrels Breakfast Club and After School Care

Please remember that bookings for breakfast and afterschool club need to be made in advance via your parentpay accounts. Please also remember that if you have not used the service before, you do need to complete the Squirrels agreements before your child can attend. Thank you.

Staff News

I am pleased to advise that Mrs Speed has been appointed to her new position of Business Manager in the school. Many of you will know her from her position as EYFS class TA. This sees Mrs Speed bring her previous accounting and finance skill to enhance our finance and office systems. Mrs Cozens has replaced Mrs Speed in EYFS and is very much enjoying this.

We also have news to share which is sad and joyful in equal measure. Mrs Parkin and Mrs Hill will both be leaving the school at Easter, which is sad for us but exciting for them, as they look forward to new adventures. Mrs Parkin has secured a part time post much closer to home so is looking forward to a 10minute commute rather than her current 50 minute journey. Mrs Orrey, will also be leaving at Easter. She, like Mrs Speed, is returning to an earlier vocation. She will be taking up a management role in hospitality. We wish them all well as they look forward to the future.

We will be busy over the next few weeks with recruitment and appointment, keen to secure the best people for the best children!

As always, if you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, or any other aspect of the school's operations, please get in touch with the office so that we can assist.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs M Parker
Head Teacher

20 is plenty!

Children who read for
20 minutes a day...



Will have a world of
imagination & creativity
opened to them



Will be exposed to 1.8
million words a year



Will have better
general knowledge




Will improve critical
thinking skills



Will improve their
communication skills



Will have a broad
vocabulary



Will have reduced
stress levels



Will learn how to
develop empathy



Will improve their test
results

