



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 3rd September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Five

I am writing to introduce the Year Five team and explain what we are going to be teaching in Year Five up to Christmas.

Meet the team

Mrs Thomas- Class teacher Monday- Thursdays.

Ms Carnevale – Class teacher Fridays.

Ms Adams-Teaching Assistant (full time).

Mrs Thorpe Higher Level Teaching Assistant (Wednesday afternoons).

Year Five Autumn curriculum- 'Was There a War in Banbury?'

English

We will be covering a range of genre starting with how to create a character in a narrative-we will be looking at how authors use different ways to make their characters come to life, including dialogue, descriptive writing and interaction with other characters. Later in the term, we will be looking at narrative writing in general and creating a narrative through letter writing. We will be writing diary entries through the eyes of another character and exploring emotions We will be writing informal letters, again in character. The children will be revisiting genres they have written before in their topic writing, including non-chronological reports. All of our writing will be based around children's experiences in World War Two. In addition, we will be exploring the stories of "Goodnight Mr Tom," "Letters from the lighthouse" and "Carrie's War."

Mathematics

In maths we will be continuing with counting activities that involve counting in steps of fractions and decimals, steps of 10, 25, 50,100 and practising tables (up to 12x12). We will be working with numbers up to 1,000,000-ordering, knowing place value and rounding. We will also be investigating negative numbers. Before Christmas we will be looking at mental methods and more formal strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Other topics will include length, shape and direction.

Science

In science we will be learning about life cycles of both plants and animals. We will be using a number of scientific techniques to further the children's understanding of these processes. The children will be planning and carrying out investigations into the germination of seeds. In term 2, we will study light and how it travels.

Computing (IT)

We will be building on the skills learned last year and advancing the children's knowledge of computer programming. The children will be creating their own computer programs which will link in with other areas of the curriculum, including, history or science, for example. We will also be learning more about the importance of e-safety.

Design & Technology (DT)

During term two, children will design and create their own Anderson bomb shelters, focusing on using and combining materials, strengthening them and adapting their designs to ensure they are fit for purpose.

Art

In art, we will be studying the sketches of the artist Henry Moore. He was a semi- abstract artist who recorded events during the Second World War and worked through a variety of mediums. The children will gain experience of working with these and re-create a piece in his style.

Music

We will be learning songs from World War two and preparing for our Christmas Carol concert in term 2.

Religious Education (RE)
The children will find out about how people's beliefs respond to global issues, we will be studying Fair Trade, the harvest and the Five Pillars of Islam.
Physical Education (PE)
In terms one, two and three, we will be having swimming lessons on Wednesday afternoons at Spiceball Leisure Centre. On Tuesday afternoons, we will be taking part in tag rugby and football outside.
History and Geography
Our topic focuses on the impact of war on children and general life in World War Two, although there will be an opportunity at the end of the topic for your child to produce their own small mini topic about an aspect that interests them personally. We will look at the timeline of events, why the war started and who was involved, The Blitz, evacuation, rationing and cooking, and women's role in the war-to name a few sessions! If you have any books, information or artefacts it would be great to share them. We also look at the impact on Banbury of the Civil war. Geography will be linked to the World War and an understanding of who was involved and where events happened. We will also be looking at the area of the battle of Edgehill.
Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)
We start the term looking at "Being my best." This will include looking at Queensway as a community, thinking about the class community; we will also be thinking about ourselves and how we become the characters that we are. On-line safety will be taught in both PSHCE and computing.
Modern Foreign Language
In French, the children will be developing vocabulary relating to finding their way around town, they will begin to write simple French phrases.

What homework to expect and when

English and Maths homework will be given out on **THURSDAYS** to be handed in the following **TUESDAY**. In year five the children have homework books and are expected to have them back in school by Tuesday. Please can you encourage the children to keep the same standard of handwriting and presentation as their class books. We will be trying to promote independence this year so if there is a problem with homework, we encourage them to bring it back before it is due in to ask for help-this is a great habit to get into in preparation for secondary school.

Spelling homework will also be given out on a Thursday, to be handed in the following Tuesday. This will consist of either a spelling investigation or a list of words to learn for a spelling test the following week. This homework will be related to the spellings we are learning that week and will form an important part of building knowledge of different spelling patterns.

Ways you can help your child

- Please make sure that your children are reading at home-we will be sending home ways that you can help them by discussing their books. Please come and talk to us if you would like some advice about what your child should be reading. Don't forget we still have a library in our local area-it's free to join and is a great resource for topic books as well as novels.
- Practical activities such as counting money and getting involved in cooking at home, weighing and measuring can also be a great way for children to relate their maths learning to everyday life.
- If there are any problems with homework, please do not worry and have a really stressful weekend trying to get it done! We are always happy to have children bring the homework back **BEFORE** it is due in to talk through with us. We try, as the children move into the last two years of primary school to encourage independence as much as possible.

Please feel free to come and ask questions of the staff in year Five if you need to. We would ask that you avoid the mornings as this is a busy time and we need to start lessons promptly at 8.40am. We like the children to begin their journey of independence-we ask that parents do not come into the classroom but leave the children to organise themselves.

PE days

On Wednesday afternoons, in Terms 1, 2 and 3, children will need their swimming kits. This includes an appropriate costume, a towel and a swimming cap (which can be purchased from the office at a cost of 75p). We will have our other PE lesson on Tuesday afternoons which will be an outdoor session. Please ensure that your children have the appropriate clothing according to the weather.

Forthcoming trips

We are hoping to arrange a visit to Banbury Museum after October, when they launch their new workshop entitled 'Banbury and the Battle of Britain,' more details to follow. Please remember that any visits can be paid in instalments via Parentpay.

Finally please remember to visit our blog at : **mrsthomasqueensway**. This is a great way to find out what we have been up to in our class.

I look forward to working in partnership with you all this year.

Best wishes

Mrs Thomas and Ms Carnevale (Class Teachers).