



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

Brantwood Rise
Banbury
OXON
OX16 9NH

Tel: 01295 251631

Head Teacher: Mrs Sarah Horbury- Jakeman
BA Hons (QTS), NPQH

Email: office.2057@queensway.oxon.sch.uk

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Four!

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

Meet the team

Miss Penniston - Class Teacher
Mrs Lannigan - Teaching Assistant

Year Four Autumn curriculum

Our topic this term is called 'Time Travellers' which links our English, History and Art curriculum primarily.

English
We will be covering a range of genres this term, starting with poetry where we will be focussing on creating images using descriptive language. This will feed into a longer unit of work looking at 'Stories Set in Imaginary Worlds'. Our focus text this term will be 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis, and the children will be focussing on the author's use of language to create fantastic settings and larger than life characters. They will have the opportunity to apply some of these techniques within their own stories. Later in the term, we will look at using persuasive techniques to promote and encourage healthy eating as well as non-chronological reports to inform the reader about their healthy eating choices.
Mathematics
We will begin this term with a focus on the place value of 4-digit numbers whilst recapping and revising previous learning. From here, children will then develop a range of mental and written strategies for the four rules of number before applying these to real life worded problems. This will enable children to extend their mathematical vocabulary and understanding of what maths looks like on a daily basis. It would be enormously helpful if children could practice their times tables at home using Times Table Rock Stars as often as possible.
Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)
This term, we will begin by looking at the SCARF unit 'Being my best' where the children will set themselves goals and exploring ways to express emotions and resolve conflicts. Our second PSHE unit is entitled 'Me and My Relationships' where we will be looking at what makes a healthy relationship and how to develop and maintain these. In Term 2, the children will also be completing work as part of SCIB looking at substance misuse. In Year 4, we will focus on smoking and vaping and the children will explore the effects on their immediate and future health and safety, alongside identifying why some products have age restrictions.

To find out what we are learning in all the other subject areas please look at the '**Knowledge Organisers**' which can be found on the school website and the class blog.

What homework to expect and when

Your child will be set weekly homework tasks on Fridays, due in the following Thursday, giving families the option of completing the tasks midweek or at the weekend.

- Reading: 15 minutes a day for 5 days per week which is to be recorded in their reading journals. Adults are asked to write a comment and sign the book when they have read with their child.

- A spelling or grammar activity, designed to support, practise, or revisit something we have learned in class will be given weekly. Every other week, a spelling list will be given in preparation for a test the following week.
- In Maths, the children will be given an activity linked to class work one week and the next week a multiplication focused task, either using Times Table Rockstars or an activity sheet.

Ways you can help your child

- Hearing your child read and enjoying books with your child for approximately fifteen minutes per night, recording comments in the reading journal provided.
- Please share and discuss the knowledge organisers for this term, looking at the vocabulary to support their learning.
- Please ensure that your child is frequently practising their times tables, either on paper or by playing a times table themed game such as Times Table Rockstars.

PE days

We have two outdoor PE sessions for the Autumn term and they will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for both sessions. This consists of a plain white polo t-shirt and navy shorts for indoor sessions, with the addition of a navy sweatshirt and jogging bottoms for outdoor lessons. Trainers are the most appropriate footwear for outdoor PE, as they provide far more cushioning and stability than plimsolls.

Integration with children from Frank Wise School

This year, the children will have an exciting opportunity to work alongside children from Frank Wise school once a fortnight. During this time, the children will develop social and communication skills and will take part in team building and problem-solving activities. We are hoping to begin this within the first few weeks of term.

Term 1 and 2 shared lessons

Over the next two terms, we would like to invite you to share your child's learning with them through some exciting shared lessons. We will be exploring life as an Anglo Saxon and creating Christmas Crafts. We can confirm that these shared lessons will take place on Friday 13th October 2023 at 8:45am-9:45 and Monday 11th December 2023 at 2-3pm.

Class assembly

Our class assembly will be on Friday 8th December, starting at 2:30pm. We would love you to join us. Please do not bring toddlers and babies if they are going to be a distraction for the children performing.

Forthcoming trips

We are currently in the process of arranging a school trip, which will link to two of our history topics this year, the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. We will provide further information, including dates, costs, etc, in the next few weeks. This will be arranged via Parent Pay, where there will be the option to pay in instalments.

Finally, please remember to visit our blog regularly at: <https://classroom.google.com> or via the app. 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,

Miss Penniston (Class Teacher)