



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 7th January 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy New Year and hope that you all had a restful break. The table below provides you with an overview of our learning for the next two terms. Our overarching topic is entitled Invaders from the North.

English
We will be covering a range of genre starting with non- chronological report writing. This will give us the opportunity to write about other curriculum areas such as Settlements in Geography and Materials in Science. We will then move on to reading and writing stories set in other cultures from around the world. We will also read a range of texts to support each genre in our guided reading sessions on Thursdays.
Mathematics
We begin the term by looking at place value and extend the numbers we count up to. The rest of the term will consist of revising and extending our methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will use these to solve problems presented in a variety of ways, including using money. Furthermore, we will also learn to calculate the area and perimeter of rectangles, learn to read co-ordinates and continue to build on our efficiency in mental maths. Please continue to practice your multiplications.
Science
Our topic this term is States of Matter. Our class really enjoy practical science and making discoveries for themselves. We will learn about solids, liquids and gases and how these can be changed through heating and cooling. We will find out whether these changes are reversible or irreversible through practical investigations.
Computing (IT)
In computing, we will be using a new program to enable us to produce music in our unit "We are musicians." We will learn about layering sounds and using samples of beats to achieve different effects. Children will also work on their word processing skills through cross curricular work on the laptops, developing their digital literacy.
Design & Technology (DT)
We will explore the techniques of weaving, as the Vikings used and will recreate some colourful weaving and sewing patterns. We will also be sewing some Viking inspired purses/ pouches using different stitches.
Art
We will study the portrait work of Pablo Picasso and how his style went through different changes and eras. We will create self- portraits adopting a range of his techniques in collage, paint, oil pastels and pen.
Music
At the beginning of term 3, we will complete a short unit called Viking Rock. Following this, we will be following the interactive Charanga music programme. We will listen and appraise some of the works of the composer Benjamin Britten.
Religious Education (RE)
We will continue to learn about places and times of the year, which are important to the Jewish People, leading into the Passover. Around Easter we look forward to welcoming a guest speaker to answer some of our questions around the celebration and links with the Bible stories.
Physical Education (PE)
We will partake in a gymnastics unit, as well as learning the skills needed for Hockey with Mr Long. The children will think about different ways of travelling across a surface and put these together in order to create a sequence, including balances, jumps and rolls. With Mr Long, the children will take part in interclass hockey games to develop the skills they will learn. In term 4, we will be looking at tennis and dance.
History

Our history this term links nicely with that of last term, connecting the Anglo Saxon work we did to the Viking invasion which took place later. We will learn about how the Vikings lived and settled in Britain, as well as vocabulary and place names that we have today, with Viking origins.

Geography

Linked with our history work, we will look more in depth at settlement patterns and discover why people choose to settle according to specific geographical features. We will learn to identify patterns in both historical and modern day settings and see how they have developed over time. Great opportunities for home projects through Lego or Minecraft!

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)

This term we will be learning all about valuing difference and how to keep ourselves safe. The children will be learning about gender stereotypes and will be thinking about why it is important to challenge these. They will also be learning about what makes people different such as cultural and religious differences. Within our PSHE lessons, we will also be exploring the idea of personal space and why this is important. Alongside our PSHE units, we will also be engaging with the SCIB unit online safety.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

This term we will begin with a recap on last term's vocabulary and developing counting and greetings further, as well as learning phrases around the topic of the classroom and parts of the body.

Homework.

Homework will continue to be set on Tuesdays and is due in the following Monday. Following the homework policy, your child will be given a spelling/ grammar related task to complete weekly- on alternate weeks, there will be a spelling list to learn in preparation for a test on the following Monday or a spelling investigation to complete. In addition to this, there will be a weekly maths activity to consolidate learning in class or to revise previous learning. Please ensure that your child is frequently practicing their times tables, either on paper or by using Times Table Rockstars.

Ways you can help your child.

I am delighted to say that I see a huge improvement with the independence and maturity of many members of our class, especially in terms of home school routines with equipment. However, some parents have expressed that their children often leave reading books at home or school, as well as homework folders. I appreciate that in Year 4 both parents and teachers expect children to be able to manage these routines, but I would ask that you still check your child's book bag regularly. We have found important letters and occasionally accident forms left in bags, which is a serious concern.

PE days

Our outdoor sessions for PE will continue to take place on a Wednesday morning with Mr Long and our indoor sessions will take place in the hall, on Thursday. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for both of these 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.

Forthcoming Events

We are looking into booking a Viking themed day this term, where we will take part in a range of Viking activities! More information to follow!

I look forward to an exciting term ahead! As always, if you have any queries or concerns, do not hesitate to make an appointment to discuss these. I am happy to have a very brief chat in the mornings; alternatively we can arrange a more convenient time after school.

Kind regards,

Miss Ross
Class Teacher.

Glossary of key words for Terms 3 and 4

YEAR 4



Word	Meaning
English	
adverb	A word that modifies a verb, adjective, other adverbs, or various other types of words, phrases, or clauses.
causal	A <u>word</u> (such as because) that expresses a reason or a cause
conjunction	A word that joins two clauses. Co-ordinating conjunctions include 'and', 'but' and 'so'. Subordinating conjunctions include, 'because', 'if' and 'until'.
expanded noun phrase	Is a phrase made up of a noun and at least one adjective.
fronted Adverbial	Is a word, phrase or clause that is used, like an adverb, to modify a verb or a clause.
noun	A word that can be used to refer to a person, animal, place, thing,
possessive pronoun	A pronoun replaces a person, place or thing. For example 'I', 'you', 'he', 'she', 'we', 'they', 'it', 'me', 'him', 'her', 'us', 'them'.
prefix	Letters that go in front of a root word and change its meaning, for example, 'un-' (happy/unhappy), 'dis-' (appear/disappear), 're-' (act/react).
preposition	A linking word in a sentence, used to show where things are in time or space. For example 'under', 'after', 'next', 'behind'.
proper noun	A noun which names a particular person, place or thing. For example 'John', 'London', 'France', 'Monday', 'December'.
similes	A <u>figure of speech</u> in which one thing is compared to another, in the case of English generally using like or as
synonyms	A word or phrase with a meaning that is the same as, or very similar to, another word or phrase.
Inverted commas	Punctuation that is used around direct speech.
Maths	
area	A measure of the extent of a surface; it is measured in square units.
chunking	A method used for dividing large numbers. Children are taught to use rough estimates of how many times a number will go into another number and then to adjust until the right answer is found (working out how many groups of a number fit into another number).
column method	A method of calculation where the numbers to be added or subtracted are set out above one another in columns. The calculation is done by 'carrying' and 'exchanging' numbers from column to column.
commutativity	Addition and multiplication have the property of commutativity – when two numbers are added or multiplied, this can be done in any order and the answer will be the same. E.g. $2 \times 3 = 6$ or $3 \times 2 = 6$
estimate	Sometimes called an 'educated guess'. Estimating is roughly guessing a number of objects or the answer to a calculation based on existing knowledge.
inverse operation	The calculation, which is opposite to a given calculation. Addition is the inverse of subtraction; multiplication is the inverse of division.
multiples	A <u>whole number</u> that can be divided by another whole number with no remainder.
rounding	Adjusting digits up or down to the nearest tens, hundreds, thousands number etc. in

	order to make the calculations easier.
Coordinates	A set of numbers used to locate a point on a line or surface or in space. For example (8,2).
Axis	A number line that helps make up a coordinate plane--it serves as a reference line for measuring coordinates. ... One axis is horizontal (called the x-axis) and one is vertical (called the y-axis), and the two cross each other at the number zero.
Negative numbers	A negative number is said to be less than zero. A negative number is written by putting a minus sign, "-", in front of a positive number. For example, "-3" is a negative number. It is read "negative three" or "minus three" and it means the opposite of 3.
Science	States of matter
Solid	Solids stay in their place and can often be held, keeping their shape. Solids always take up the same amount of space, they do not spread out like gases. Examples of solids include: ice, wood, glass and sand.
Liquid	Liquids can flow or be poured easily. They are not easy to hold and change their shape depending on the container that they are in. examples of liquids include: water, honey and milk.
Gas	Gases are often invisible and they do not have a fixed shape. Gases spread out and change their shape and volume to fill up the container that they are in. Examples of gases include: steam, helium and oxygen.
Temperature	The degree of hotness or coldness that can be measured using a thermometer.
Changing state	Changing between solid, liquid and gases without chemical change. For example: when ice (solid) melts it becomes water (liquid). It can then become water vapour (gas).
Water cycle	The continuous journey that water takes from the sea, to the sky, to the land, and back to the sea.
Evaporation	The process where liquids change into a gas or vapour.
Condensation	The process where a gas changes into a liquid when it touches a cooler surface.
Reversible changes	This is where no new materials are created and the original material can be recovered. For example: freezing water to make ice or melting chocolate.
History	Viking settlers and invaders
Settlement	Places that people live. For example: villages and towns. Settlements can range in size from a small number of dwellings to a large city.
Immigration	Moving to a new country, with plans to live there permanently.
Refugee	People who are seeking somewhere safe to live. Refugees seek protection or safety in another country.
Invasion	The act of an army taking over another's territory.
Conquest	Something that is gotten or gained through force.
Longboat	Seagoing vessels made and used for trade, exploring and raiding. A long oared boat

	created by the Vikings that must have been flat, long and narrow.
RE	Special places and times for Jewish people.
Synagogue	A place of worship for people who follow the Jewish religion. It is sometimes called a temple or a shul.
Pilgrimage	A pilgrimage is a sacred journey, undertaken for spiritual purposes. It is a search for meaning, purpose, values or truth. For example, Muslims may go on a pilgrimage to Mecca or Jews may go on a pilgrimage during Passover, where they travel towards Jerusalem.
Purim	A Jewish holiday celebrated held on the 14 th of the Hebrew month Adar (Usually March or April).
Pesach	This is another name for the Jewish celebration of Passover.
Passover	Passover is a Jewish festival which celebrates the freedom of Jews from slavery in ancient Egypt.
Easter	A Christian celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection. It is usually celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon following Spring Equinox (March 21 st).
PSHE	Valuing difference and keeping myself safe.
Consent	Giving permission for something to happen or saying yes.
Compromise	When a disagreement is settled by people accepting something that is slightly different from what they originally wanted. This may be because of circumstances or because they are considering the wishes of other people.
Negotiation	Reaching an agreement through discussion with others,
Personal space	The space around our body. People will have different levels of personal space where they feel comfortable with people entering their personal body space.
Relationships	A relation between two people. Relationships can be formed with many people, for example: close family members, wider family, friends and acquaintances.
Respect	We accept the things that may make them different to us and don't try to put them down or make them feel sad or uncomfortable because of these differences.
Tolerance	Accepting others who are different in their race, culture, habitats or beliefs.
Stereotypes	An often or unfair belief that many people with particular characteristics are the same. For example, people can be stereotyped based on their gender.
Risk	Something that may cause loss or injury.
Hazard	A potential source of danger. For example,
Dare	When someone dares you to do something they are asking you to do something risky which you feel uncomfortable with and might get you into trouble or cause harm.
Norms	A statistic used to describe something.
Influence	Causing something to happen without direct effort.