

QUEENSWAY



www.queensway.oxon.sch.uk

Termly Newsletter, Issue 108: May 2021

Head Teacher's News in Brief

- Congratulations to Miss Fowler in Year 5 who got engaged a few weeks ago - this is wonderful news, and we wish her and Matt a very happy future.
- For those families new to Queensway, we always re-shuffle the classes each academic year. Teachers use their professional judgement based on what they know of the children within school. We cannot base our decisions on parental requests. We will always make the decision on what is right for the children and the cohort overall. Even if children are in the opposite class to someone they really want to be with, remember, they still have break and lunch times together as a year group. Thank you for your co-operation.
- Some parents have been asking about end of term events which parents would traditionally attend. Due to the current situation with the new coronavirus variant as well as many staff not being vaccinated yet, we will not be having parents at events on site until the new academic year. Year 6 parents have received a letter specifically for them outlining the various events to mark their child finishing primary school.
- After half term, some children in Year 6 may be allowed to walk to and from school without their parents. Parents must sign a contract to state they take full responsibility and if there are any reported incidents of poor behaviour en-route, this privilege will be removed. Year 6 children cannot be responsible for bringing their younger siblings to school.
- We are continuing to operate in cohort bubbles after half term. We have started to introduce assemblies in the hall, one cohort each day, which has been lovely to see and nice for the children to be in a different part of the school. All protective measures we currently have in place will remain for Term 6. Just a quick

reminder that primary age children should not be using the lateral flow tests. These are only for secondary school age children and adults who DO NOT have any symptoms. People with symptoms need to book a PCR test.

- Mrs Adams will remain off work until the end of June following an operation, so Mrs Mulford will continue to cover her in Miss Ross' Year 4 class.
- We welcomed a new cleaner to our team this term; Anna Preweda. She brings a wealth of experience and has settled in smoothly to our dedicated cleaning team. We are currently in the process of interviewing for some new TAs - I will update you on this recruitment next term.

Queensway Nursery Places now available for September 2021

Families can access their free Early Years' entitlement from the term after their child's 3rd birthday. Nursery places are available for September 2021 for children who are 3 before 31st August 2021. For more information, please contact us on 01295 251631 or email: nursery@queensway.oxon.sch.uk

Universal Early Education Funding (15 hours)

The 15-hour provision is for 5 mornings (8:30-11:30am) or 5 afternoons (12:00pm-15:00pm), 5 days a week, term time only.

30 Hours Extended Childcare Entitlement

Families meeting certain eligibility criteria are now legally entitled to a funded early years place of 30 hours per week. Information on this entitlement is available at

www.childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk

This provision will be from 9.00am - 15:00pm, 5 days a week, term time only.

Class News

Nursery

Term 5 has flown by, and I cannot believe that some of our children only have one more term in Nursery. All our new starters have settled in brilliantly, quickly learning the routine and making new friends. It has been a great term, packed full of lots of wonderful learning.



The children have enjoyed our topic 'In the garden' and have loved having the opportunity to grow plants and find out lots of interesting facts about different flowers and bugs. The arrival of real caterpillars in our classroom brought

about much excitement and it has been amazing to watch them get bigger day by day. The children had some great discussions about how they themselves have changed since they were babies and what helps them to grow.

We have been working hard with our mark making and pencil control and it has been wonderful to see how the children's drawings and name writing have really taken off.



In Maths sessions we have been practising matching numerals to groups of objects and comparing the heights and lengths of different objects.

All the children have worked so hard with their phonics, trying really hard to hear and say initial sounds in words and some children even



starting to orally blend and segment simple words. Tales Toolkit sessions continue to be very popular, and the children have become very good at making

up their own imaginative stories. We have explored lots of wonderful quality texts including 'The very Hungry Caterpillar' which everybody enjoyed acting out.

I hope everybody has a great half term break and I look forward to welcoming the children back for the beginning of term.

Mrs Marsh

Reception Classes

Wow - What a busy term it has been! We have had lots of fun learning about and exploring stories and activities all based around plants, farms, and food. We have been working so hard with our writing this term and lots of us have been busy birds at the writing tables. Jack and the Beanstalk has been a particular favourite this term, and the children even helped make an enormous beanstalk to stay in the classroom. They enjoyed telling the stories with masks, characters and we had lots of big, loud giants saying 'Fee Figh Fo Fum!' The children also enjoyed learning about plants and naming the parts on a plant. We were great gardeners



too when we went outside and potted some flowers. Please keep an eye on our Google Classroom page as we regularly post images and updates about our learning. We cannot wait to carry on being Busy Birds next term!

Mrs Scales, Mrs Pile and Mrs Tyler

Year 1

The children have continued to work hard this term and have especially enjoyed the Science topic all about plants. Our beans have now become plants and are ready to be planted outside. We have found out lots about the school grounds and all the plants that grow in it.



Not only have the children been finding out about our school grounds but we have been looking at different continents and countries. In our imaginations we have travelled as far as Australia and we tried some original aboriginal art.

In English, our imaginations travelled even further as we have been reading and writing about 'The Three Little Aliens and the Big Bad



Robot'. The children have amazed us with their ideas for aliens and the types of planets they would like to live on.

Our Maths has been out of this world as well. The children have been working on their counting in 2s, 5s and 10s forwards and backwards. We have also been looking at direction and giving instructions. It might be fun to ask your child to show you a quarter turn, half turn, three quarter turn and a whole turn. We hope you all have a great half term. Well done, Year 1.

Mrs Lawrence & Miss Robinson

Year 2

What another fantastic term! We have been incredibly busy this term with lots of fun learning about our topic 'Animals around the World'.

In English, the children have looked at a range of genres, including poetry, riddles, adverts, and narrative story writing. We started off looking at the beautiful book 'Leaf' by Sandra Dieckmann. The children used this text to write

character and setting descriptions, as well as a lovely story based on the book. Next, the children channelled their creativity when they wrote some wonderful mini-beast poems based on the poem 'Hurt No Living Thing' by Christina Rossetti. After that, the children used their geographical knowledge to write a factual non-chronological report about the climate and landscape features in Kenya, Iceland and England. Finally, the children took on the role of an Estate Agent when they wrote habitat adverts. The children thoroughly enjoyed this and considered the reader when writing.

This term in Maths we covered two new topics, temperature and position and direction. We also learnt how to solve division number sentences and problems by using a number line. We have recapped all the skills we explored during online learning and the children have mastered the expanded method, column subtraction and finding the difference using a number line method. Finally, we revisited the topics fractions, time and money. The children have covered so much in Maths this term and have remembered lots of the concepts we taught during live lessons, which is excellent to see. The children are getting quicker at recalling their halves, doubles and times table facts. Please continue supporting the children with their times tables on Times Table Rock stars.

On Friday 7th May, the children took part in a French day. The children had a brilliant day and learnt lots of new French vocabulary, including the days of the week, classroom objects and body parts. They learnt about France, including its geographical features and landmarks. The children enjoyed looking at a range of French story books over the course of the day, as well as listening to a story in French! The children even made their own French flag as a year group which we celebrated in our French assembly at the end of the day!



We would like to thank all our Year 2 families for their continued support. We hope you all enjoy your break, and we are looking forward to welcoming you back for our final term in Year 2!

Miss Jefferies and Mrs Bibi

Year 3

Year 3 have been really busy this term with lots of exciting learning. We have enjoyed being in cohort bubbles and seeing the parallel classes at playtime and in year group assemblies. It has been lovely to watch the children rekindle old friendships.

In English, the children explored animal poetry and used their descriptive writing skills to appeal to the reader. We explored endangered



animals and persuaded people to protect our precious wildlife. Next, mysterious creatures invaded our classrooms and the children explored what happened using the book 'Tuesday' by David Weisner. The children blew us away with their own imaginative adventure stories! Finally, Henry VIII paid us a visit and we put him on the spot with some great questions. We used our notes to write a biography about Henry's life. The children got a good measure of Henry and remembered so many facts!

In Maths, the children have been incredibly busy with lots of practical Maths. We have revised place value and challenged ourselves to compare 3-digit numbers. The children have learnt how to read scales in kilograms and grams. This was a great way to practise counting in 2s, 5s, 10s, 25s, 50s and 100s. Next, despite the spillages, they learnt how to measure capacity and enjoyed estimating and finding the actual capacity of containers. The children are now confident at reading and interpreting data from pictograms and bar charts. They collected their own data and presented it using a pictogram and bar chart with beautiful presentation! Finally, we learnt about shape including 2D and 3D properties.

They can now describe a range of shapes confidently and can make a basic net for a 3D shape!

In other subjects, we have enjoyed lots of new learning, such as, French Day, where the children amazed us with their knowledge of counting, colours, and food. We loved



pretending to order food in French. In art, the children have amazed us with their skilful portraits of Tudor monarchs. We were impressed with their sketching and water colour choices.

Overall, the children have, once again, showed resilience and positive attitude towards their work. Enjoy a well-deserved week off everyone!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Grant and Miss Penniston

Year 4

Well done to Year 4 for completing another busy and exciting term. You have all continued to work incredibly hard and we are very proud of you!

We are thoroughly enjoying our topic of Ancient Egypt so far - you are asking so many questions and coming into school with fascinating facts that you want to share with us from your own research. You have written up your amazing knowledge about the topic using formal language in our non - chronological reports, which is not easy. Well done!

You have learned how to write your names in hieroglyphics inside a cartouche, drawn Tutankhamun's death mask and researched all about Howard Carter's wonderful discovery and its importance to our understanding of the ancient world. Your fantastic Egyptian travel brochures are really taking shape in our Computing lessons this term and we look forward to printing off the finished versions very soon. You are very persuasive and both Miss Ross and I are tempted to take a quick trip there, due to your descriptions of the relaxing

activities and delicious foods we might try on holiday! Ahhh...

We would all agree that the highlight of this term has been one particular investigation we completed in Science, to help us learn about the digestive system! It started with a banana sandwich, a foil tray, and a pair of scissors... We think the photographs say it all!



Thank you for another great term Year 4. We hope for warmer, sunnier days ahead for your break.

Enjoy a well-earned rest with your families.

Miss Ross and Mrs Thomas

Year 5

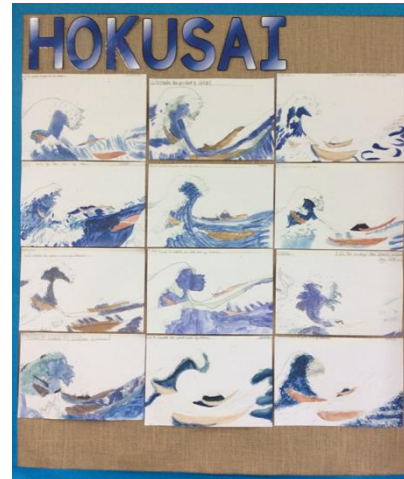
Year 5 have had a very busy term and have really impressed us with how resilient they have been during their first full term since returning to school. They have worked extremely hard, and this can be seen in the amazing work that they have produced.

The children took part in a French themed day this term which they all thoroughly enjoyed. They had a chance to taste a selection of French food, learnt how to say their favourite foods in French and expressed their likes and dislikes. The children battled it out, in teams,



with a French quiz to test their knowledge of the country and its capital city, Paris.

This term we have been learning all about Extreme Earth: volcanoes, earthquakes, and tsunamis. We have learnt about the structure of the Earth and why these natural disasters occur in certain places on our planet. We have also imagined what it would have been like to experience the famous Mt. Vesuvius eruption in Pompeii in 79AD and used this to inspire our writing. Linked with this discovery, in Art the children have been creating beautiful watercolour pictures inspired by the Japanese artist, Hokusai. They began by drawing the outline in pencil, then thought carefully about which warm and cool colours they wanted to



use to bring their pictures to life. These paintings really capture the style of Hokusai's art through their use of colour and brush techniques.

The children have

impressed us with their investigations into air resistance and gravity. We have been practising how to be 'real scientists in the field', writing predictions, considering different variables, recording our results, and thinking about what our findings mean.

Miss Hollidge and Miss Fowler

Year 6

We have had such a busy and productive term in Year 6! The children have been thoroughly absorbed by the text we have been studying in English this term, 'The Island' by Armin Greder. Please ask them about it if they haven't already told you. Through our work on the text the children have produced the most amazing writing including: a newspaper report, a narrative, and a persuasive speech.

We have been recapping the key strategies in Maths and the children have been working hard on developing their problem-solving skills.

They have been busy exploring and making different electrical circuits in Science and we will continue to investigate electricity next term. In Art this term, the children have created designs based on the work of the artist Georgia

O'Keeffe. In Term 6, they will be using these designs when they complete their textiles work using the technique of batik.

We really finished the term on a high with careers days this week! Although a little nervous, the children had such a great time selecting jobs to apply for, completing application forms and eventually being interviewed for a new career. The children took the day very seriously and showed just how mature and responsible they all are.



We hope you have a lovely, and well-deserved rest at half term, and we are looking forward to a fun-filled final term at Queensway when we return.

Mrs Newman & Miss Hoffman

After School Club

Come rain or shine, being outside playing ball games, and exploring the adventure playground is what we love to do best in After School Club.

Our talent shows have taken centre stage for our younger after school group. They have all been extremely creative by making their signs and tickets too!

Here at After School Club our children clearly have an eye for detail when it comes to Lego construction. We have all been wowed with the intricate models the children have produced

with a model of the Queen sat on her throne being a favourite by all.

Teatime continues to be a lovely social time throughout After School Club, children enjoy sharing their stories or chatting about the activities of the day. It really is a lot of fun! We are all looking forward to our last term together and hopefully more sunshine to play in. We hope you all have a great week and look forward to welcoming you back in Term 6.

The After School Team

Debbie's Diary

Family Fun Day – Wednesday 2nd

June. Start at The Sunshine Centre. Please see link below for further information.

https://www.facebook.com/SunshinecentreBanbury/photos/pb.841407175956462.-2207520000../3820769241353559/?type=3&eid=ARCLwWrDWcd8RSdkUtFvI3y82shoiSaPXu3u6FvwJuaOQYsXkUtM_i_IDNmKQpQvqRpNj0hd9YEsVcuo

Lots of Half Term fun also at **Banbury Museum** – please click on the link for further information:

<https://www.banburymuseum.org/may-half-term-2/>

Please contact me if you need any help or advice, or to access the Foodbank by contacting the office or emailing me direct.

hsclw@queensway.oxon.sch.uk

Or you can contact CAB on 0300 330 9037 for a referral. You can also visit the Community Fridge in Merton street which is open 24/7.

Have a lovely half term break.

Debbie Taylor

PE

This term, the children have enjoyed spending some time outside exploring their PE lessons. The children have continued to develop their skills and confidence with the different sports and for some children, they focused on sports/ skills they had not yet experienced at Queensway. This has been very exciting!



Years 3 and 5 have enjoyed having Mr Mawn, our PE coach, once a week and have used his specialist top tips and support to develop their personal best in athletics. Mr Mawn has been very impressed with the children's focus, determination, and ability to work with different children, supporting one another.

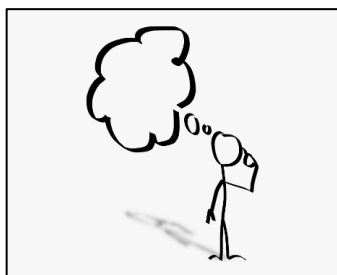
Another exciting announcement, which you may have seen from the Sports Council announcement is that two siblings, Jaylen, in Year 4 and Kree, in Year 2, entered a Slazenger competition, winning our school lots of new tennis equipment. We are all very grateful and cannot wait to put the new equipment to good use in Term 6.



Sports Council are already thinking about new challenges to set the different year groups in Term 6, and we cannot wait to see their ideas develop into lots of active fun!

School Council

After a few busy terms organising events to raise money for charity, we are hoping to meet next term in our new outdoor classroom! The children are going to be discussing and reflecting on different areas of school as a group.



PTA

The PTA has been very quiet in Term 5, but we hope that this will change by the time we come back in September. However, whilst we are unable to hold events to raise additional funds you could support the school by doing the Cherwell Lottery. It is quick, easy and you could even win some money! Just follow this link for further information.

<https://www.cherwelllottery.co.uk/support/queensway-school-pta>

Wishing you all a lovely, sunny half term holiday.

Queensway PTA

Governors

The Governors have been really pleased to hear how well everyone is settling in back at school. Now that Queensway has been open for a few months and the end of lockdown is in sight, it is important that the children keep up with fantastic learning habits. Let us keep up the good work to make sure everyone can achieve their potential by attending school every day and arriving on time.

Best wishes, and fingers crossed for lots of warm weather at last.

Queensway Governors

Term 6 Dates

31st May - 4th June 2021 – **School Closed**

7th June 2021 – School re-opens

11th June 2021 – Whole school class photos and Black & white individual portraits for reception and Year 6.

22nd July 2021 – Last day of Term 6

