



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely break, have managed to get lots of rest and relaxation and plenty of opportunities to take in the days of sunshine over the Easter break. For terms 5 and 6, our topic in Year 4 will be 'Ancient Egypt.' I know the children were already bubbling with enthusiasm about this subject before finishing for the break, so I am looking forward to two exciting terms ahead!

English

We will be covering a range of genres this term such as stories set in other cultures and non-chronological report writing. This will give us the opportunity to write about other curriculum areas such as Ancient Egypt in History or the digestive system in Science. We will start the term by reading a wonderful book called 'Pepi and the Secret Names.' Children will describe the different animals from the book and create a new character for the story. They will be introduced to hieroglyphics and will be challenged to crack a hidden code within the text. We will be revisiting a lot of the grammar and spelling patterns from previous terms, to ensure that we are all confident with these objectives.

Mathematics

We begin the term by revisiting addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. This is to ensure that children's confidence levels to work independently in all of these areas is high. We will revisit decimals and use this knowledge to solve problems involving money and finish this term learning about time. If you know that your child struggles with time, the best way to support them is to do little and often each day at home. Is there a clock or watch that they can see at home? Ask them to tell you the time as part of everyday life. This will really improve their confidence and understanding in lessons and is such an important life skill.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)

This term, we will be learning all about our rights and responsibilities and growing and changing. As part of this and alongside our PSHE curriculum, we will be learning the content of the Year 4 Protective Behaviour scheme. We were very impressed with the openness and maturity of the children at the start of the year, when we presented the Year 3 Protective Behaviour unit that they had missed due to lockdown. The children will be learning more about their early warning signs and physical sensations that they may feel in a range of situations. They will be taught strategies and explore consequences of choices that can be made in different scenarios, giving them plenty of opportunities to discuss these properly.

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 class blog (Stream section).

Homework

Homework will continue to be set on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday.

- Reading 15 minutes per day for 5 days per week and this 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 a Maths activity linked to class work one week and the next week a multiplication focused task, either using Times Table Rockstars or an activity sheet.
- In line with our homework policy, each activity should take approximately fifteen minutes to complete.

Ways you can help your child:

- Please ensure that your child is frequently practising their times tables, either on paper or by playing on Times Table Rockstars.
- Often when reading with children last term, they would read ahead despite not understanding the vocabulary included in their books. When adults listen to children reading, they can have fantastic discussions about new words and have links made to real- life situations, resulting in a firmer understanding. As a result, the child is far more likely to use this vocabulary in their written work also.
- Please support your child to be as independent as possible with organising their equipment. Please allow them to pack their bags for school, carry their own belongings to school and bring items such as their reading book and journal and homework into school when it is needed. Children thrive when they are given these responsibilities.

PE days

Once again, we will endeavour to do all of our PE sessions outdoors this term, with the exception of very poor weather. Our lessons will take place on Monday afternoons and Friday mornings. 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. Plasters or medical tape should be provided for children who are unable to take their earrings out.

I look forward to another 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.