



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 3rd September 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Four!

I am writing to introduce the Year Four team and explain what we are going to be teaching up until Christmas. Our topic this term is called 'Time Travellers' which links our English, History and Art curriculum primarily and focuses mainly on the Anglo Saxons.

Meet the team

Miss Macdonald – Class Teacher

Mrs Lannigan and Mrs Shaw - Teaching Assistants

Year Four Autumn Curriculum

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 focusing 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 some non-fiction writing, including children writing their own non-chronological reports based on sound, including all the key information we will have learnt in our science lessons.
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 operations 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 explore 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.

- 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 for 15 minutes a day for 5 days per week is recommended so that children are able to consistently practice their reading skills and develop a love for reading through exploring different books/ stories.
- 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 Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for both sessions. This consists of trainers, 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.

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 Thursday 3rd October at 8:45am-9:45am and Tuesday 3rd December at 2pm.

Class assembly

Our class assembly will be on Friday 13th December, starting promptly 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 one of our topics this year, such as science or history. 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 Macdonald (Class Teacher)

Glossary of key words for Terms 1 and 2

YEAR 4



Word	Meaning
English	
adverb	A word that modifies (changes) a verb, adjective, other adverbs, or various other types of words, phrases, or clauses.
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).
suffix	Letters that go at the end of a root word and change its meaning, for example, 'care/ careless'.
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.
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.
perimeter	The sum of the distance of all the lengths of the sides of an object.
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.
PSHE	'Being my best' and 'Me and My Relationships'
Unique	Comes from the Latin word meaning 'one' and means being the only one of its type.
Qualities	A special, distinctive or essential characteristic for somebody.
Similar	When someone or something has qualities that are the same or in common with something else.
Different	When something is not the same as something or someone else.
Early Warning Signs	Early Warning Signs are signals that we get in our body which tell us if we are feeling unsafe, worried or scared.
Choices	The act of making a decision between two or more things.
Five Ways to Wellbeing	The 5 ways to wellbeing can help to keep you active and boost your mood. They include: keeping active, taking notice, connecting with others, keep learning and give to others in need.
Community	The people who live in a specific area (e.g Banbury) and the area itself. People in a community live and work together to
Refuse	Politely saying no to things you do not need.
Reduce	Using less of something.
Recycle	Many products are now recyclable, which means that they can be turned into something else. Paper, metal, glass, plastic and clothes are among many items which can be recycled.
Re-use	Using things more than once, as opposed to throwing them away after one use. For example: reusable water bottles.
Rot	Letting waste food turn into compost to be used in the garden.
Re-think	Think about different ways to do things. For example: manufacturers may use less plastic to package their products in order to protect and look after the environment.
Repair	To fix something which may be broken, rather than throwing it away.