



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

Brantwood Rise
Banbury
OXON
OX16 9NH

Tel: 01295 251631

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

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

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 5

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the return to school. I am writing to introduce the Year 5 team and explain what we are going to be learning in Year 5 up to Christmas.

Meet the team

Miss Hoffman - Class teacher
Miss Townsend - Teaching Assistant
Mr Andrews - Teaching Assistant across Year 5

Year 5 Autumn curriculum

Our topic this term is called "*Was there a war in Banbury?*", which primarily links our English, Science, History and Art curriculum.

English
Our writing across both Terms will be inspired by the experiences of children in World War 2 and we will be taking inspiration from the novel, 'Goodnight Mr Tom'. We will be covering a range of genres, beginning with fiction by learning how to create a character in a narrative. We will be exploring how authors use different techniques to bring their characters to life, including using dialogue, descriptive writing, and interaction with other characters. Later in the term, we will be looking at writing from the perspective of a character in the form of letters and diary entries. The children will be revisiting genres they have written before in their topic writing, including non-chronological reports. In Term 2, the children will be writing non-fiction pieces and working to improve their use of a formal tone and technical vocabulary.
Mathematics
In Term 1 and 2 maths, we will be continuing to develop our mental maths strategies and practising tables (up to 12x12). We will focus on ordering and rounding numbers up to 1,000,000 and investigating negative numbers. We will also be re-visiting and learning new formal strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division whilst using these four operations to develop our reasoning and problem-solving skills. Other topics will include aspects of measurement such as length and time and understanding position and direction. In addition, the children will begin to extend their knowledge of equivalent fractions, convert between improper and mixed number fractions and compare and order fractions with the same denominator.
Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)
We will begin the term with a unit of work called "Being my Best!". This will include looking at Queensway as a community and thinking about the class community; we will also be thinking about ourselves and how we become the characters that we are. The children will be encouraged to identify their own strengths and talents and areas that they want to improve. They will learn how each of them has unique skills which make them individuals. Children will also be focusing on the unit of work, 'Me and my relationships'. During this unit, children will be looking at how to work collaboratively, understanding the importance of compromise and what makes strong friendships, including the qualities individuals need. Children will then explore relationships that can be unhealthy, ensuring they have a clear understanding of who they can talk to if they feel unsafe.

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.

What homework to expect and when

- Homework will be given out on **FRIDAYS** to be handed in the following **THURSDAY**. Homework will consist of a Maths, English and Spelling task. We ask that children spend approximately 30 minutes on their Maths and English homework and approximately 15 minutes on their spelling homework. We continue to encourage children to read for 15-20 minutes each day. Please can you encourage the children to keep the same standard of handwriting and presentation as their class books.

Ways you can help your child

- Please make sure that your children are reading at home. We continue to encourage children to read for 15-20 minutes each day. Please come and talk to us if you would like some advice about what your child should be reading.
- Please share and discuss the knowledge organisers for this term, looking at the vocabulary to support their learning.
- Practical activities such as counting money, telling the time and getting involved in cooking at home, weighing and measuring can also be a great way for children to relate their maths learning to everyday life.

PE days

We have two PE sessions for the Autumn term, an indoor session on Wednesday afternoons and an outdoor session on a Thursday morning. Our class will be swimming every Wednesday afternoon for the duration of Terms 4-6.

Indoor Kit: navy shorts, white polo top/ t- shirt and plimsols.

Outdoor Kit: navy sweatshirt and joggers, trainers and a white t- shirt/ polo shirt.

Swimming Kit: Please refer to swimming letter.

Please make sure that all items are clearly named.

Term 1 and 2 shared lessons

- Term 1- Tuesday 20th October from 2-3pm
- Term 2- Tuesday 1st December from 2-3pm

Class assembly

Our class assembly will be on Friday 9th October, 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.

Class blog

Finally, please remember to visit our blog at <https://classroom.google.com/c/ODcyMTE4MzM1Nzky>. This is a great way to find out what we have been up to in our class and to remain up to date.

I look forward to working with you this year, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

With thanks,

Miss Hoffman
(Class Teacher)