



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

Brantwood Rise
Banbury
OXON
OX16 9NH

Tel: 01295 251631

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

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

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year One

We are all excited to be back and are looking forward to the year ahead. We hope you have enjoyed the summer break and we are looking forward to hearing what you have all been up to! This newsletter will give you more information about the children's learning during the Autumn terms, up until Christmas.

Meet the team

Miss McLaughlin – Class Teacher
Mrs Walker - Teaching Assistant
Miss Vessey - Teaching Assistant

Topics

Our topic this term is '**No Place Like Home**', which links our English, Science, Geography and Art curriculum primarily. The children will be finding out about the UK and looking at human and physical features.

In Term 2 our topic will be '**Toy Time Travellers**' where we will be comparing old and new toys.

Year One Autumn curriculum

English

We will be covering a range of genres starting with labels, lists and captions. The children will then go on to learn to read and write poetry, stories, instructions, and recounts. We will be exploring the different sounds around school taking inspiration for the poem 'Sounds' by Irene Rawnsley. In Term 2 we will be writing instructions on 'How to Trap a Dragon!' The children will be focusing on sentence structure and the use of capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

Mathematics

In Maths we will be focussing on place value, counting reliably to 20 and ordering numbers. Furthermore, we will explore addition and subtraction. The children will be using different equipment to support their understanding and a range of mathematical terms to explain their understanding. We will also start to explore 2D and 3D shapes at the end of Term 1 and then in Term 2 we will be exploring different measurements. Throughout the year we will be using 'Rekenreks' to help the children consolidate their number knowledge and allow children to become more fluent with their number bonds.

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

We will be looking at: 'Being my best' and 'Me and my relationships'. We will explore how to look after ourselves through being healthy and taking care of our body e.g. brushing our teeth and cleaning ourselves. We will also be supporting children returning back to school and looking at how we can help each other to be part of our school community. In our lessons we will be learning about school rules, how to be a good friend and all about our emotions. We will be using our zones of emotions every day to explore a range of emotions and how to help regulate our emotions when we become overwhelmed.

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.

Homework

We really appreciate your help with homework as the work set consolidates the learning that has happened during the week in school. Homework is given in a homework folder on Fridays and is due back into school the following **Thursday** to be checked.

- **English**-Children will receive phonics homework weekly. This will incorporate an aspect from their weekly phonics lessons.
- **Maths** – Children are set one piece of maths homework to consolidate the work we have been doing in class that week.

Ways you can help your child at home

We hope your child will enjoy reading with you at home. They will choose one book from our class library for you both to share, and we will also be sending home reading scheme books. These books will be changed once a week, so it is important that your child brings his/her book bag every day. If your child would like to change their reading book during the week (on a day other than their normal reading day), they can put their book bag into the large box labelled 'Book Bags' in class and a member of staff will then change their book.

Class assembly

Our class assembly will be on **Friday 17th October**, starting at **2:30pm**. We would love you to join us.

Term 1 and 2 shared lessons

Each term we will be having a shared lesson, where parents and carers are invited to come into school and take part in a lesson with their child. In term 1, this lesson will focus on reading for pleasure and in term 2 our shared lesson will focus on our topic 'toys',.

Term 1 'Reading' shared lesson: **Wednesday 8th October 2025 2pm-3pm**

Term 2 'Christmas Crafts' shared lesson: **Thursday 4th December 2025 2pm-3pm**

PE days

PE will be outdoors on a **Wednesday**. Your child must not wear any jewellery on these days. Please can you make sure that they have appropriate clothing for PE in school all times. As it will be getting colder; warm outside kit is particularly important as we will go out each week unless we have extreme weather.

Indoor kit: Navy shorts and plain white T-shirt. Indoor lessons are done in bare feet or plimsolls.

Outdoor kit: Plain navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms and plain white T-shirt plus plimsolls/trainers. You can also provide a navy fleece or tracksuit top for cold weather.

Please ensure that all clothing brought into school is clearly named.

Forest school

Children will have the opportunity to take part in forest school on Fridays every other term. We will be taking part in forest school in **Terms 1 and 5**. We will send out a separate letter describing the details of forest school nearer the time.

Snack

In Year 1 the children can bring their own morning snack to school with them. This must be a healthy snack of vegetables or fresh or dried fruit. They will still receive a free piece of fruit every day in the afternoon.

Finally, please remember to visit Google Classroom. This is a great way to find out what we have been up to in our class. We upload weekly photos our award winners and 'wow' moments. We send you a hard copy of your child's Google login during the 1st week back at school.

If you have any questions about anything, please ask us at the door or email the office.

We look forward to the year ahead,

Yours sincerely,

Miss McLaughlin
Class Teacher