



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy New Year and hope that you all had a restful, relaxing break. The table below provides you with an overview of our learning for the next two terms. Our overarching topic is entitled 'Raiders or Traiders?'

English
We will be covering a range of genres, starting with narrative writing focussing on stories set in other cultures from around the world such as 'Mufaro's beautiful daughters'. We will then be moving onto non-chronological report writing. This will give us the opportunity to write about other curriculum areas such as The Vikings in History. We will also read a range of texts to support each genre in our guided reading sessions on Wednesdays.
Mathematics
We begin the term by looking at place value and extend the numbers we count up and down to, including negative numbers. The rest of the term will consist of revising and extending our methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children will have opportunities to develop their fluency with methods such as the grid method and chunking on a number line before developing their reasoning and problem-solving skills. We will use these written methods to solve problems presented in a variety of ways, including using money. Furthermore, we will also learn to read co-ordinates and continue to build on our efficiency in mental maths. The children will continue to practice their times table skills weekly to build up their confidence and recall.
Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)
This term we will be learning all about valuing and celebrating differences and how to keep ourselves safe. The children will be learning about gender stereotypes and will be thinking about why it is important to challenge these within society. They will also be learning about what makes people different such as family structures, cultural and religious differences. Within our PSHE lessons, we will also be exploring the idea of personal space and why this is important. Alongside our PSHE units, we will also be engaging with learning from SCIB.

The children in Year 4 will also be continuing to integrate with Frank Wise children on a fortnightly basis (Wednesday afternoons), working on their communication and team work skills with Commando Joe's.

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.

Homework

Homework will continue to be set on a Friday and due in the following Thursday. In addition to this, there is a Year 4 homework club every Thursday lunch time which is a great opportunity for the children to come and discuss any issues they have had with their issues and to complete any outstanding work before handing it in.

- Reading: 15 minutes a day for 5 days per week which 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 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.

- In line with our homework policy, each activity should take approximately fifteen minutes to complete

Ways you can help your child:

- Please listen to your child read and share books with them for approximately fifteen minutes per night, recording comments in the reading journal provided. Asking your child questions about the book they have read will help to develop their comprehension skills.
- Please share and discuss the knowledge organisers for this term, looking at the vocabulary to support and extend their learning.
- Please remember to regularly visit our blog at: <https://classroom.google.com> or via the app, using your child's log in details. This is a great way to find out what we have been up to in our class.
- 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

Our outdoor lessons will continue to take place on a Wednesday and our indoor lessons will take place in the hall on Thursday afternoons. 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.

Term 2 and 3 shared lessons

- **Monday 30th January (2-3pm)** – In this shared lesson, we will be learning about the Vikings and creating a Viking inspired purse.
- **Tuesday 28th March (8:45-10:15am)** – Using our learning in Geography about settlements, we will be designing and creating an early settlement, identifying the needs and wants of settlers such as the Anglo Saxons and Vikings.

Forthcoming trips

Our class trip to Hillend will be taking place on Wednesday 22nd March, where the children will immerse themselves in Anglo Saxon and Viking life. The final payment of the trip, which is £19.04, is due by **Monday 16th January**.

I look forward to an 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 Hoffman
Class Teacher.

Glossary of key words for Terms 3 and 4

YEAR 4



Word	Meaning
English	
adverb	A word that modifies a verb, adjective, other adverbs, or various other types of words, phrases, or clauses.
causal	A <u>word</u> (such as because) that expresses a reason or a cause
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).
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
metaphor	A word or phrase that is used to describe something as if it was something else. For example: a wave of terror crashed over him. Terror isn't actually a wave, but this is a good way to describe the emotion.
synonyms	A word or phrase with a meaning that is the same as, or very similar to, another word or phrase.
inverted commas	Punctuation that is used around direct speech.
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.
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.
Coordinates	A set of numbers used to locate a point on a line or surface or in space. For example (8,2).
Axis	A number line that helps make up a coordinate plane--it serves as a reference line for measuring coordinates. ... One axis is horizontal (called the x-axis) and one is vertical (called the y-axis), and the two cross each other at the number zero.
Negative numbers	A negative number is said to be less than zero. A negative number is written by putting a minus sign, "-", in front of a positive number. For example, "-3" is a negative number. It is read "negative three" or "minus three" and it means the opposite of 3.
PSHE	Valuing difference and keeping myself safe
Consent	Giving permission for something to happen or saying yes.
Compromise	When a disagreement is settled by people accepting something that is slightly different from what they originally wanted. This may be because of circumstances or because they are considering the wishes of other people.
Negotiation	Reaching an agreement through discussion with others,
Personal space	The space around our body. People will have different levels of personal space where they feel comfortable with people entering their personal body space.
Relationships	A relation between two people. Relationships can be formed with many people, for example: close family members, wider family, friends and acquaintances.
Respect	We accept the things that may make them different to us and don't try to put them down or make them feel sad or uncomfortable because of these differences.
Tolerance	Accepting others who are different in their race, culture, habitats or beliefs.
Stereotypes	An often or unfair belief that many people with particular characteristics are the same. For example, people can be stereotyped based on their gender.
Risk	Something that may cause loss or injury.
Hazard	A potential source of danger. For example,
Dare	When someone dares you to do something they are asking you to do something risky which you feel uncomfortable with and might get you into trouble or cause harm.
Norms	A statistic used to describe something.
Influence	Causing something to happen without direct effort.