



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Monday 13th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely break and have managed to get lots of rest over Easter. For terms 5 and 6, our topic in Year 4 will be 'Tomb Raiders'. I know the children were already bubbling with enthusiasm about this subject, 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 explanation texts. 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 'Egyptian Cinderella.' Children will be creating their own versions of the story, focussing on dialogue and how this needs to be punctuated. They will focus on how this grammatical feature can be used to move the story on. 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. We will also be writing our own poems.

Mathematics

We begin the term by recapping our learning about decimals before applying this knowledge to our understanding of money and problem solving. Then, children will be looking at units of measure such as m and km, g and kg and the children will be learning how to convert between these. This term, the children will also be learning about time and converting between different measures such as seconds, minutes, and hours. 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. This will really improve their confidence and understanding in lessons and is such an important life skill. During this term, we will also be learning about statistics and will be interpreting and presenting data in different ways such as line graphs and bar charts. The children will also be revisiting their learning on addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

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 engaging with the next SCIB unit of work. 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 or on the Class Pages on the school website.

Homework

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

- Reading – 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.
- A spelling investigation, 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. Children should be using a range of strategies such as pyramid words and spelling squiggles to practice their spellings. This should take 15 minutes to complete.
- 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. This should take 20 minutes.

Ways you can help your child

- Please ensure that your child is frequently practising their times tables, by playing on Times Table Rockstars. The children in Year 4 will be taking part in the Government Multiplication Check for Year 4 pupils and more information will follow closer to the time.
- Please ensure that you are encouraging your children to practice telling the time. When asking them to tell you the time, using either an analogue or digital clock, please talk to them about what this means as many have expressed that they are unsure about the concept of time. For example: how many minutes past/to the hour? Is it AM or PM? How long until.....?
- Often when reading with children last term, they would read ahead despite not understanding the vocabulary included in their books. When listening to them read, please discuss any vocabulary that may be unfamiliar to them, encouraging them to use their vocabulary strategies learnt in school.
- 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

Our lessons will take place on **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for both 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 must also be worn for outdoor lessons. Plasters or medical tape should be provided for children who are unable to take their earrings out. Last term, we noticed that many children were forgetting their PE kits or not having a full change of clothing. Please ensure that PE kits are in school ready for the days above.

Shared lessons

Wednesday 13th May at 2pm – In this shared lesson, we will be developing the children's knowledge of Egyptian Pharaohs and their role in Egyptian society before turning ourselves into Egyptian kings and queens.

Multiplication Check meeting

On **Thursday 30th April at 2.40pm** you are invited to a meeting about the multiplication check. The meeting will be about 20 minutes. During the meeting, we will be sharing information about the Multiplication Check and ways you can prepare your child at home. It will also be an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have.

TTRS day

We will be having a TTRS day on **Tuesday 19th May**. The children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite rockstar. This will be a fun day where children can practise ahead of their multiplication screening test, we will be learning some new games and ideas to practise all morning. The children will then have a range of new games to show you over the half term.

Class exhibition

We will be holding a class exhibition on **Tuesday 23rd June**, starting at **2pm**. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to share their Year 4 learning with you, and we would love for you to join us. Please do not bring toddlers and babies if they are going to be a distraction.

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 Macdonald
Class Teacher.

Glossary of key words for Terms 5 and 6

YEAR 4

Word	Meaning
English	
Adverb	A word that modifies 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).
Preposition	A linking word in a sentence, used to show where things are in time or space. For example, 'under', 'after', 'next', 'behind'.
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.
Inverted commas	Punctuation that is used around direct speech.
Maths	
Whole number	A counting number starting at 0 that does not have any fractional parts e.g decimals. For example: 0,1,2,3,4 etc.
Decimal	A decimal is a number expressed in the scale of tens. A decimal is when numbers include a decimal point to represent a whole number plus a fraction of a whole number (tenths,hundredths,etc). A decimal point is a point or dot used to separate the whole part of a number from the fractional part of a number.
Tenth	One out of ten equal parts. This can be expressed as either a fraction $\frac{1}{10}$ or as a decimal, 0.1. It is 10 times smaller than 1 whole.
Hundredth	One of out a hundred equal parts. This can be expressed as either a fraction $\frac{1}{100}$ or as a decimal, 0.01. It is 100 times smaller than 1 whole.
Efficient method	The best and quickest strategy with which to solve a calculation. This can be applied across the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).
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.
Rounding	Adjusting digits up or down to the nearest tens, hundreds, thousands number etc. in order to make the calculations easier.
Coordinates	The numbers which show the position of a particular point in space – for example on a map or a graph. The points are marked according to numbers of the horizontal axis (x-axis) and vertical axis (y-axis).
PSHE	
Rights	Rights for children can be described as things that every child should have or be able to do in order to them be healthy, safe and happy.
Responsibilities	Something that you are expected to do.
Democracy	The word comes from two Greek words that mean "rule by the people." In a democracy the people have a say in how the government is run. They do this by voting, though there are usually rules about who can vote.
Influence	A thing or person that has the power to affect another person.
Compromise	An agreement or settlement of a dispute that is reached by each side making changes.
Hormones	Hormones are chemicals your body makes to help it do certain things – like grow up. Hormones are important when you start to go through puberty, which is when you begin developing into an adult. During this time, you're loaded with hormones that tell your body that it's time to start changing.
Puberty	Puberty is when a child's body begins to develop and change as they become an adult.
Marriage	The state of being united in a legal relationship as husband and wife.
Civil partnership	Civil partnership is a formal legal relationship between same-sex partners and heterosexual partners who will acquire the status of civil partner. This grants rights, responsibilities and obligations similar to those of married couples.