



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

Monday 15th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely break and have managed to get lots of rest and relaxation over the Easter break. 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 before finishing for the break, 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 free flow poetry.

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. Is there a clock or watch that they can see at home? Ask them to tell you the time as part of everyday life. 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 (Stream section) 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 – please refer to the letter which came out prior to the end of term encouraging reading for pleasure. Reading records will still be monitored.
- 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.

- 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 Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. 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 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. 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

- **Thursday 23rd May 2024 at 2-3pm** – 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.

Class exhibition

We will be holding a class exhibition on **Friday 3rd May**, starting at 2:30pm. 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 Ross
Class Teacher.