



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

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

Monday 5th January 2026

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

I hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas break and wish you all the best for 2026.

Topics

Our topics this term are 'To infinity and beyond!' and 'Fire, fire'. In Term 3, the children will explore the moon landing and learn all about Neil Armstrong, as well as designing and making their own space rockets. In Term 4, the children will be learning about the Great Fire of London. We will be learning all about the fire that took place in 1666 and look at the role of Samuel Pepys and King Charles II.

Year Two Spring Curriculum

English

In Term 3, the children will be covering a range of writing styles and topics. The children will use creative and descriptive language to write a recount about the moon landing. The children will also be comparing famous explorers by writing facts about Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. The children will continue to use conjunctions (when, if, so, because, and, but) to add more detail to their writing. They will be working on re-reading their writing to check that it makes sense and correct any mistakes, as well as using a dictionary to improve the quality of writing.

The children will continue to practise their story writing skills, to write a story based on the book, 'Very Little Red Riding Hood'. The children will use a range of sentence types in their stories, for example the children will use statements, questions, as well as use question and exclamation marks. The children will continue to learn about the correct use of apostrophes. They will learn about the use of a possessive apostrophe to show belonging (Jack's car) and a contraction to show the absence of a letter (didn't).

In Term 4, the children will explore a range of genres based on our topic about the Great Fire of London. The children will learn all about the events which happened during the Great Fire of London during their English and History lessons. They will write a factual report based on the events which took place in 1666. The children will then learn about the features of a diary, before they plan and write their own diary entries in the role of Samuel Pepys. Next, the children will use their knowledge on adjectives, adverbs and similes to write creative poems about the Great Fire of London.

Mathematics

During the spring term, the children will be exploring addition and subtraction, number and place value, money, time, length, fractions, position and direction. The children will build on their previous knowledge of adding and subtracting using concrete objects, pictorial representations, including a two-digit number and ones, a two-digit number and tens and two two-digit numbers. Furthermore, they will be shown the expanded addition and subtraction method. The children will learn to tell the time to the hour, half past the hour, quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times, as well as tell and write the time to the nearest five minutes. They will recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); combine amounts to make a particular value, recognise and know the value of different denominations of coins and notes, find different combinations of coins that equal the same amount of money. They will also solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change.

Whilst exploring length, the children will estimate, compare and measure lengths using standard units (m/cm), whilst using different measuring equipment such as a ruler to draw and measure lines to the nearest centimetre. During the topic about fractions the children will recognise, find, name half, third and quarters of a shape and quantity. They will also learn about equivalent fractions, recognising that $\frac{2}{4}$ is the same as $\frac{1}{2}$.

Finally, as part of the position and direction topic, the children will order and arrange combinations of mathematical objects in patterns and sequences. They will use mathematical vocabulary to describe position, direction and movement, including movement in a straight line and distinguishing between rotation as a turn and in terms of right angles for quarter, half and three-quarter turns (clockwise and anticlockwise).

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

In Term 3, the children will be learning about the importance of valuing difference. They will identify similarities and differences between people and they will learn that what makes us unique should be celebrated. The children will understand and use strategies to show respect for others. They will also be able to explain ways in which people are special to them and recognise how a person's behaviour can affect others. In Term 4, the children will be learning how to keep themselves safe. They will learn about medicine and their uses, as well as how to be safe around medicine. They will also discuss who they could ask for help when they feel unsafe, and understand the importance of talking to a trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable.

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.

What homework to expect and when

Just a reminder that all children should complete their homework.

- **Spelling-** Your child will bring home spellings in their homework booklets every other week with a list of spellings to practise. Please encourage them to look at each word, cover it and practise writing it, then check it or use one of the Queensway spelling strategies to learn the new spellings. They will also have a spelling investigation every other week to complete. Regular spelling practise of a few minutes each night will make a big difference to your child's confidence and ability.
- **Maths-** Children will bring home times table practice every other week. They will also have work linked to maths topics covered in class every other week.

Homework will continue to be sent home on **Fridays** and be **due in the following Thursday**.

Ways you can help your child

- Please listen to your child read and share books with them for approximately **fifteen minutes** per night. 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/c/NzkwMjM0MzcyMTk3> 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 2, 5 and 10 times tables, either on paper or by playing Times Table Rockstars.

PE days

PE will be on **Tuesday and Thursday**. Your child must not wear any jewellery on these days and bring in a hair tie if needed to tie their hair up. Please can you make sure that they have appropriate clothing for PE in school all of the time. As the weather remains cold, please ensure they have track suit bottoms and a hoodie for their lessons. Please ensure that all clothing brought into school is clearly named.

Terms 3 and 4 Shared Lessons

We would like to invite you to two more shared lessons. The first shared lesson will be between **8:45-9:45am** on **Wednesday 28th January** and will be about materials, linked to our Science topic. Our next shared lesson in Term 4 will be based on our History work all about 'The Great Fire of London'. This is on **Friday 13th March** between **2-3pm**. It has been great to see so many of you attending these lessons during Terms 1 and 2.

If you have any questions, worries or queries about any of the above or other matters please do not hesitate to come and see me.

We look forward to another exciting Term!
Best wishes

Mrs Hawkins
Class Teacher