



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 I 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 Traders?' as we focus mainly on The Vikings.

English

We will be covering a range of genres over the next two terms, including narrative writing, focusing on a video clip from Literacy Shed, as well as developing our formal writing, by creating our own non-chronological reports. 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. Through our text explorations, we will also write descriptions as well as getting in role and writing diary entries in the view point of different characters.

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 about fractions and decimals in more detail. 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. Next term, we will be exploring 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' and alongside this unit, we will also be engaging with learning from SCIB.

The children in Year 4 will also be participating in 'buddy reading' each week, on a Friday afternoon. This is a fantastic opportunity where the children will visit a younger year group, to read and share a book with them and listen to one another reading.

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.

- 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 brief comment and sign the book when they have read with their child, if this is possible.
- A spelling 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 mini quiz 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.

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 Thursday and our indoor lessons will take place in the hall on a Monday. 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.

Terms 3 and 4 shared lessons

- Term 3 Maths: Wednesday 4th February at 8:45am
- Term 4 Geography: Tuesday 24th March at 2pm.

Forthcoming trips

Our class trip to Science Oxford will be taking place on Wednesday 14th January, where the children will consolidate their learning on two of our science topics: electricity and states of matter. During this very exciting day, children will have time to explore the exploration zone at the centre, as well as taking part in a workshop and science show. Children will be learning how to use simple equipment to safely heat different materials with a small flame and will manage their own experiments and focused recording. Children will then focus on developing their scientific understanding by thinking 'What, Why and How?' trying to work out what has happened and why?

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,
Mrs Lawrence
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.
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	A phrase made up of a noun and at least one adjective.
Fronted adverbial	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.
Perimeter	The distance all the way around the outside of a 2D shape. To calculate the perimeter you add the lengths of all the sides of the shape together.
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.
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 views regarding 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 people 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, snow and ice on the playground.
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.