



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Four!

I hope you have all had a happy and relaxing summer and I am thrilled to welcome you to our new Year Four class! I am writing to introduce the Year Four team and explain what we will be teaching up to Christmas.

Meet the team

Miss Ross – Class Teacher

Mrs Robertson – Trainee Teacher, working on Fridays for Term 1 and Thursday and Fridays in Term 2.

Mrs Gregg – Teaching Assistant

Year Four Autumn curriculum

Our topic this term is called “Time Travellers” which links our English, Science, History and Art curriculum primarily.

English

We will be covering a range of genres this term, starting with poetry where we will be focussing on creating images using descriptive language. This will feed into a longer unit of work looking at ‘Stories Set in Imaginary Worlds’. Our focus text this term will be ‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis’, and the children will be focussing on the author’s use of language to create fantastic settings and larger than life characters. They will have the opportunity to apply some of these techniques within their own stories. Later on in the term, we will look at using persuasive techniques to promote and encourage healthy eating as well as non-chronological reports to inform the reader about their healthy eating choices.

Mathematics

We will begin this term with a recap and revision of previous learning, then we will work on a range of mental and written strategies for the four rules of number, applying these to real life worded problems. This will allow children to develop their mathematical vocabulary and understanding of what maths looks like on a daily basis. It would help enormously if children could practice their times tables at home. Please ensure your children are playing on Times Table Rock Stars and practicing all their multiplication facts as often as possible.

Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)

This term, we will be thinking about how to be our best, setting ourselves goals and exploring ways to express emotions and resolve conflicts. We will also be looking at what makes a healthy relationship and how to develop and maintain these. In Term 2, the children will be completing work as part of our SCIB project.

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

Your child will be set weekly homework tasks on Fridays, due in the following Thursday, giving families the option of completing the tasks midweek or at the weekend.

- 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:

- Hearing your child read and enjoying books with your child for approximately fifteen minutes per night, recording comments in the reading journal provided.
- Please share and discuss the knowledge organisers for this term, looking at the vocabulary to support their learning.
- 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

We have two outdoor PE sessions for the Autumn term and they will take place on Wednesday mornings with a visiting coach, Mr Mawn and Friday mornings. 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.

Finally, please remember to visit our blog regularly at: <https://classroom.google.com> or via the app. This is a great way to find out what we have been up to in our class.

Please feel free to come and ask questions of the staff in Year 4 if you need to. We would ask that you avoid the mornings as this is a busy time and we need to start lessons promptly.

I look forward to working in partnership with you all this year.

Best wishes

Miss Ross
Class Teacher

Glossary of key words for Terms 1 and 2

YEAR 4



Word	Meaning
English	
adverb	A word that modifies (changes) 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 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.
Inverted commas	Punctuation that is used around direct speech.
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.
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
synonyms	A word or phrase with a meaning that is the same as, or very similar to, another word or phrase.
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.
perimeter	The sum of the distance of all the lengths of the sides of an object.

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.
PSHE	'Being my best' and 'Me and my relationships'
Assertive	The ability to speak up for yourself and others in a way that is honest and respectful
Unique	Comes from the Latin word meaning 'one' and means being the only one of its type.
Qualities	A special, distinctive or essential characteristic for somebody.
Similar	When someone or something has qualities that are the same or in common with something else.
Different	When something is not the same as something or someone else.
Early Warning Signs	Early Warning Signs are signals that we get in our body which tell us if we are feeling unsafe, worried or scared.
Choices	The act of making a decision between two or more things.
Community	The people who live in a specific area (e.g Banbury) and the area itself. People in a community live and work together to
Relationship	A relationship is how two or more people are connected. For example: through friendships or family.
Consequence	Something produced by a cause of following from a condition
Compromise	To settle by agreeing that each side will change or give up some demands.
Collaborative	When people work with each other to complete a task.
Tease	The act of making fun of or repeatedly bothering a person.
Pressure	A force or influence that cannot be avoided.
Refuse	Politely saying no to things you do not need.
Reduce	Using less of something.
Recycle	Many products are now recyclable, which means that they can be turned into something else. Paper, metal, glass, plastic and clothes are among many items which can be recycled.
Re-use	Using things more than once, as opposed to throwing them away after one use. For example: reusable water bottles.
Rot	Letting waste food turn into compost to be used in the garden.
Re-think	Think about different ways to do things. For example: manufacturers may use less plastic to package their products in order to protect and look after the environment.
Repair	To fix something which may be broken, rather than throwing it away.