

QUEENSWAY



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Termly Newsletter, Issue 114: October 2022



Head Teacher's News in Brief

- We said farewell to one of our Teaching Assistants in Year 3, Sam Hughes, at the end of September. She has made a significant contribution to Queensway over 11 years, but we wish her well as she goes back into the caring profession.
- We welcome Miss Emma Sharpe to our team of Teaching Assistants who will be working in Year 1 and After School Club.
- School photos are taking place on Tuesday 15th November 2022. This happens within the school day, and we organise for school age siblings to have a photo together as well as individual shots of every child. They are great for Christmas presents!
- The annual flu vaccinations are happening on Wednesday 16th November 2022. This is for all children in Reception through to Year 6. Please refer to the Immunisation letter emailed 18/10/22 for more information.
- At the start of term, I wrote to you outlining our aim for this year, which was to put the heart back into Queensway following the Covid period. I am delighted to report the following:
 - 16 clubs have been running this term with 145 children attending at least one club. The children have thoroughly enjoyed them. Thank you to everyone who persevered with the online booking system. The club timetable will change in January so we will write to you in December with more information.
 - 236 parents have attended a shared lesson this term which is fantastic. We have taken on board parental feedback and will ensure that there is only ever one classes' shared lesson on a given day.
- Class assemblies have also started back up and we have been incredibly proud of the children's efforts. There were certainly some nerves as it has been so long since we have done class assemblies but having the moral support of family and friends made a big difference.
- The bookings for the Year 6 residential are going well, with 23 children already signed up. Please remember to come and speak with us if you require financial support. Closing date for the first instalment is 1st November.
- We also have 23 children signed up for Bikeability which is for Year 6 next May. It is not too late to return your reply slips!
- 26 children are having music tuition through Music for Schools which is a significant increase from previous years.
- Pupil leadership roles within the school are now established: The School Council, The Sports Council and Well Being Warriors. The children have already shown great leadership skills within these roles. Playground Leaders training is happening straight after half term.
- Trips for the year ahead are now all booked-please refer to class letters for details.
- Year 4 have started their weekly integration with a class from Frank Wise school. The children work collaboratively on Character Education tasks- enormous fun is had by all.
- Overall, we have made great strides in implementing our wider curriculum offer and are excited to see this develop further over the course of the year.

Class News

Nursery

What a fantastic start all our Robins have made to the first term of Nursery. We are extremely proud of how quickly they have settled in and are beginning to create some wonderful friendships. As well as getting to know each other we are becoming aware of the daily routine and following our class rules together!

Group carpet times are in full swing with the children singing their hearts out during our 'what's in our song bag' session, singing familiar and not so familiar nursery rhymes. Musical instruments have also played a part in supporting our good listening and communicating skills.



Our favourite stories have included 'Brown bear' and 'Chocolate moose for greedy goose'. The children have begun to repeat key phases from each of these texts not only when listening and joining in but through continuous provision too. We were so happy when during our Welly Wednesday walk, we found several feathers and strongly believe they belong to 'Greedy Goose' which took our excitement to another level.

Discovering the great outdoors has been such a highlight for us all. Being able to explore the school grounds through Autumn walks has given the children opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world by listening to different sounds, leaf collecting and bug hunting.



We look forward to seeing all our Robins in November and hope you all enjoy a lovely half term.

Miss Maskell

Reception Classes

We can't believe we have finished our first term in Reception. The children have settled into life at Queensway so well and we are so proud of everything they have achieved already.

We have started our Phonics lessons this term and the children have just wowed us. They are recognising the sounds that we are learning and have recently started blending them to read and write whole words! We know that you will be just as proud of the children as we are when you hear them reading their Phonics books at home.

Forest School has been a particular highlight for the children in the Owl class. They have been bug hunting, den building, stick collecting, cooking up creations in the mud kitchen, exploring the woods and storytelling. We ended the term with the most amazing campfire and the children absolutely loved it!



We know that the Doves will have an equally amazing time when they venture down to Forest School next term.

Another highlight of the term has been our trip to Crouch Hill to re-tell the story of 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt!' The children had a wonderful time pretending to journey through each of the places in the book. They re-told the story beautifully as well and had just the most amazing morning.



We have loved welcoming people into the classrooms this term for shared lessons. Thank you to the grandparents that attended and shared their memories of their childhood games and toys. The children loved sharing this special

time with you all. Special thanks as well to Maya's Mum for sharing her Indian heritage with us. The children were so excited to learn about India and the traditions and celebrations.



Have a wonderful half term holiday

Mrs Guntrip, Mrs Pile and Mrs Tyler

Year 1

Year 1 have been busy this term with lots of exciting learning. In our topic 'Toy Time Travellers' we have travelled back in time to investigate how toys have changed over the years.

We were visited by Oxfordshire Museum who taught us how to sort old and new toys. We made our own toys called thaumatropes which make pictures move.

The children have impressed us with their counting skills. They have worked hard to improve their number sense and can make numbers to 10 by counting on from 5.

In English, the children have read the story 'Slowly, Slowly, said the Sloth' and have written their own short stories. It has been lovely to see the children sounding out words and becoming confident at writing simple sentences- well done everyone!

In Science, the children have investigated materials. We found out that tissue paper makes a rubbish umbrella, but plastic bags are waterproof! In PE, the children have wowed us with their gymnastics skills. We have learnt how to straddle and pike!

Lastly, it was lovely to see so many parents at our shared lessons; our teddy bear collages look brilliant and will make a spectacular display!



Science lesson: which material will make the best umbrella?

Mr Grant and Miss Fowler

Year 2

What a fantastic start to Year 2. All the children have been trying really hard and are enjoying the topics we have covered. We have been finding out lots about India and comparing the country with the UK. In English, the children wrote some imaginative stories based on a traditional Indian story 'The Tiger Child'. We have also been finding out about harvest today and in the past.

In Maths we have been using a new piece of equipment called rekenrek which the children have been using to support them with their counting. We have also introduced the children to Times Table Rockstars and they will be taking home their log-in details to play at home.

In Science we have been looking around the school for living and non-living objects and the children have gained a greater understanding of these terms. During PSHE they have also been gaining an understanding of what we need to survive.

It is great to see so many children have already received their bronze certificate for reading 5 times a week for 5 weeks. Please remember to sign in their reading diary when they have read at home so the children can gain their stars and certificates.

Finally thank you to everyone who was able to attend our shared lessons. It was great to see so many people supporting the children with their work.

I hope you all enjoyed sharing, sewing, and decorating a puppet. Here are a few of the fantastic puppets. Please log onto Google Classroom to see the rest.



Mrs Lawrence and Miss Dineen

Year 3

This term, we have been busy learning all about the Stone Age. We have become Hunter Gatherers as well as becoming archaeologists, learning all about the past.

In English, the children have been busy writing diary entries as if they were Stone Age boys and girls. The children loved getting in role and in turn, wrote fantastic entries. We then moved on to thinking about instructions, reading, and learning 'How to wash a woolly mammoth' and children have now written their own instructions of how to wash their cheeky mammoths.



We have finished the term with some Autumnal poetry, where children have been focusing on developing their vocabulary.

In Maths, we have been focusing on place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. The children have

been working hard to develop their knowledge of different methods of calculation and have started to answer worded problems, using RUCSAC to support them.

In Art, we started our lessons under the tables, pretending we were in caves and have developed our cave drawing skills. We particularly enjoyed our shared lesson, where we were able to practise these skills alongside you all.



In Science, we have been learning all about light, carrying out investigations as well as learning about the Sun and its harmful ways.

In French, we have developed our confidence speaking aloud and can now hold a clear conversation with our peers.

We certainly have been extremely busy settling into Year 3 and cannot wait to continue our topic of 'Caves, Clubs, Stones, and Bones' after half term. We would like to wish you an enjoyable half term.

Miss Penniston and Miss Hugo

Year 4

We just wanted to say what a great start to the year the children have all had! They have worked hard and have adapted well to their new year group.

Everyone has really enjoyed our topic of Narnia in English, and we have been very impressed by their creative characters and setting descriptions. They have demonstrated great listening skills in taking on board suggestions and risen to the challenge of improving themselves and their writing skills.

Also, this term we have been learning about the Anglo Saxons, where we have made replica brooches and shields, during our shared lesson. We are excited to continue this topic next term.

We are very proud of their resilience and kindness during our Frank Wise integration sessions and have also been impressed with their enthusiasm and commitment to learn Makaton as a way of communicating.

Have a great half term and enjoy a well-earned rest!

Miss Ross and Miss Hoffman

Year 5

What a wonderful half term we have had in Year 5! The children have settled back into school life fantastically and have enjoyed getting stuck into our first topic; World War Two. We have been so impressed with the children's writing this half term and they have particularly wowed us with their character descriptions, diary entries and letters from the perspective of a World War Two evacuee. Working with attention to detail, the children have also created some wonderful artwork, inspired by WW2 artist and sculptor, Henry Moore. They have showed great focus and interest when learning about the key events of WW2, with many continuing their learning at home. With the helping hands of their parents and grandparents, the children enjoyed creating their Blitz artwork. It was lovely to see them working together and being proud of the outcomes of their hard work and effort.

In PE the children have worked on their TAG Rugby and gymnastic skills. We are so proud of how the children represented Queensway School at the Cross Country and TAG Rugby events, all showing fantastic sportsmanship!



Miss Hollidge and Mrs Robertson

Year 6

We have had a fantastic first term and the children have settled into Year 6 amazingly well.

The children have explored a range of genres in their English lessons this term. The children used the poem 'Dancing Poinciana' to create some beautiful poems, they included personification, alliteration, and adventurous language choices. The children were also busy writing narratives set in the Amazon Rainforest! It was a joy to watch the children spend so much time and effort writing and editing their wonderful stories.

In Maths, the children have been working hard with their formal written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. They have used this knowledge to solve a range of problems. They have also recapped simplifying, ordering, and comparing fractions. It has been wonderful to see the children grow in confidence within our Maths lessons this term and we are already looking forward to seeing what the children can do next term!

The children have been very enthusiastic about our topic 'Journey to the centre of the Rainforest'. They have spent their geography lessons learning about the layers of the rainforest and the different animals that live within this habitat. The children also produced some fantastic posters in a group! We also were lucky to have a virtual workshop with the Eden Project. During this session, we looked at how the rainforest is being destroyed and how we can have an impact combating deforestation.

In our DT lessons this term, the children planned, made, and evaluated their own diorama of the rainforest. Thank you to all the families who attended this share lesson, I think you would agree with us when we say how amazing they look!



Thank you for all your support this term, we hope that you have a restful half term.

Mrs Thompson and Miss Jeffries

Afterschool club

This term we have enjoyed welcoming everyone back into After School Club. The weather has been so beautiful, so we have enjoyed playing outside using our fantastic school grounds. We have enjoyed picnics, football games and had lots of fun playing on the adventure playground.

In the run up to Halloween, the children have been making spooky mask and creating some brilliant Halloween pictures, which we hope you are enjoying at home.

Wishing you all a lovely restful half term holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone back in the new term.

Miss Taylor

Debbie's Diary

Sunshine Centre have a Citizens Advice drop-in Mondays & Wednesdays 10-12 for free confidential advice.

Reminder to parents that the school doors open at 8.30am and close promptly at 8.40am (8.45am for Reception classes). This is a legal requirement to safeguard and register every child in school. Being late to school can embarrass your child and disrupt their class.

Arriving 5 minutes late for school every day = 3.4 days of a school year missed.

Children can still attend school if they have a cough/cold and/or are on antibiotics, but if they have a temperature they should stay at home. Medication must be brought to the office and a consent form signed giving details of medication, dose, and time to be given. If your child were to become too unwell to remain in school, you would be contacted immediately.

Check out Orinoco in High Street for daily craft activities during Half Term.

Please contact me directly if you need a Foodbank voucher

Hsclw@queensway.oxon.sch.uk

School Council

This term we have been busy with School Council elections, with lots of very good

Applications. The children have had a tough job on their hands choosing. However, I am pleased to announce that the new School Council members are Megan, Harvey, Marcelo, Melisa, Sophie, Mason, Coleen, Cleo-Iris, Peter and Sylvia.

We will meet fortnightly, to discuss ways in which the school can be improved and organise events, such as Children in Need. Children in Need will be our first big fundraiser event on Friday 18th November. The theme this year is 'Spotacular' which is focusing on mental health. The School Council have decided to ask the children to dress up in spots and pom poms for a minimum donation of £1. The children have lots of other great ideas for the school so watch this space!!!

Sport

We are delighted to announce that we have maintained our Gold Status for the School Games Mark. We would like to thank you for your continued support, especially the KS2 parents who supported their children with their activity diaries.



This term, both staff and children have enjoyed getting back into PE lessons and being active in different ways. We have had a fantastic first term back and most classes have enjoyed outside sports, such as tag rugby and football. Mr Mawn has also been supporting many year groups, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.

Pupils from Year 4, 5 and 6 have enjoyed competing in a Cross-Country event outside of school, where the main value was 'Determination'.



Excitingly, we have multiple individuals who have made it to the final, next month. It was lovely to watch the children support one another and show the key School Games values.

10 Year 5 pupils then also took part in Mr Mawn's tag rugby festival at Banbury Rugby Club, with the main value being 'Respect'. Both Mr Mawn and Mrs Robertson were impressed with the children's confidence and teamwork throughout the day.



Sports Council

Our Sports Councillors are also keen to get set up next term and start setting some active challenges for the school to take part in. We are pleased to introduce you to our new Sports Council members, they are already brimming with great ideas, and they can't wait to share their passion for all things active with you! Congratulations to Tillie, Alfie, Scarlett, Liam, Brooke and Leyla.

PTA

A new term and a new academic year, one in which we are hoping to see the PTA resurrected and running events once more after what feels like a lifetime! These events are all run by volunteer parents of the school to raise additional funds to support our wonderful school and the children that attend.

Until this time have you thought about signing up to the Queensway Lottery? It's quick, easy and you could even win some money! Just follow this link for further information.

<https://www.cherwellottery.co.uk/support/queensway-school-pta>

Wishing you all a lovely half term and we hope to see you in Term 2

Queensway PTA

Side Alley Gate into school

We are aware that the newly fitted maglock and entrance/exit button is making it a little more difficult to enter school with pushchairs and prams, particularly with the weight of the gate. We apologise for any inconvenience, but the safety of our children has always been a top priority. A recent safeguarding review highlighted the need for this additional measure to deter any child from leaving the school site, straight onto a busy road, while the gate remains open for daily drop off and pick up. We thank you for your understanding and help in always keeping our children safe.

Term 1 Dates

24th - 28th October 2022 – **School Closed**

31st October 2022 – School re-opens

19th December 2022 – Last day of Term 2

