



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 are going to be teaching up to Christmas.

Meet the team

Mrs Thomas - Class teacher
Miss Taylor - Teaching assistant
Mrs Mulford - 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 and apply these to real life worded problems, allowing 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 and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

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.

Due to Covid19, the children did not receive their Protective Behaviour lessons. Therefore, alongside our PSHE lessons this term we will be completing the Year 3 Protective Behaviour objectives before moving on to the Year 4 objectives at the end of the year. Within these lessons, the children will think about: what being safe feels like, early warning signs, body awareness and privacy (including giving the correct name for all body parts), understanding how to manage risky situations, identifying who they can talk to if they feel worried and practicing problem solving skills.

Modern Foreign Language (French)

We will begin with a recap on last year's vocabulary and developing counting and greetings further, as well as learning phrases around the topic of the classroom and parts of their body.

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 per day for 5 days per week and this 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 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.
- In line with our homework policy, each activity should take approximately fifteen minutes to complete.

Ways you can help your child

- Hearing your child 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 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 at 8.35am. Due to Covid- 19 regulations, parents are not able to enter the school building, including the cloakroom but we know that children are amazing at settling into routines and organising themselves very quickly. Should they need any support, our staff will be there to help them.

PE days

We have two outdoor PE sessions for the Autumn term and they will take place on Tuesday afternoons and on Wednesday mornings with a visiting coach, Mr Long. 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 new blog. Details of this was given on a separate letter. This is a great way to find out what we have been up to in our class, keep in touch and have access to work set in school.

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

Best wishes,

Mrs Thomas (Class Teacher)