



31st March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Knowledge Organisers

To support your child's understanding of the curriculum, we are introducing Knowledge Organisers next term. You will be able to use Knowledge Organisers to support your child's learning at home and we will be using them to support your child's learning at school.

What is a Knowledge Organiser?

A knowledge organiser contains all the important information from a particular learning topic, summarised in just a few pages. It includes key words, important facts, diagrams, methods and skills relating to the topic.

Who uses them?

The school: To give a clear overview of what the children learn in each subject. To help children develop conceptual understanding. To set clear expectations of what children should learn in the long term. Children will use them throughout the half term with the aim to master the content by the end of the topic of learning.

The children: To quiz themselves in lessons and at home. To practice spelling key vocabulary. To further research people, events and processes. As a way to trigger memories from lessons about key information.

Parents and Carers: To understand exactly what their children should understand and remember. To know what language they should use when discussing learning at home. To know how to support their child in learning about a topic.

How they can be used at home?

Ten ways you could use knowledge organisers at home:

1. As a conversation starter with your children to find out what they have learnt at school.
2. As a support for your child to carry out their own research around the topics.
3. To visit your local library, museums and trips to explore the topic.
4. To learn the specific vocabulary and what the terms mean.
6. Self-quiz at home.
7. You could prompt your child to turn some of the information on the knowledge organiser into a different format.
 - A word list could become flashcards.
 - Facts could be transformed into a mind map to show links between ideas.
 - Information could become a song, story or comic strip.
 - A diagram could become a poster, a collage or a model.
8. You could ask your child to teach you about something on the knowledge organiser. Having to explain information to someone else, and answer their questions about it, is a great way to reinforce their knowledge and identify areas they need to go back to and revise again.
9. You could suggest turning the information into a multiple-choice quiz. This task requires them to process the information to write questions and come up with correct and incorrect answers.



10. You could then use it to test their knowledge or to host a quiz with family or friends, either at home or online.

Where can I find the knowledge organisers?

Knowledge organisers for each year group can be found in your child's year group curriculum page. [Please click on the Year group towards the bottom of the page.](#) They are set out half term by half term and relate to the Curriculum Map for the year group on the same page. The knowledge organisers will replace the Curriculum Newsletters and will provide more detailed information about your child's learning each half term. You will find a knowledge organiser for each subject being taught next half term, except for RE and Reading.

What are the benefits of using knowledge organisers?

The children will have the knowledge organisers introduced to them at the start of term and have easy access to them at their desk throughout the term. This will allow them to be used as a reference tool and a revision aid as they learn. This will allow 'spaced practice' and will help your child learn the key knowledge and vocabulary over time and improve retrieval. Every time you use them at home, you will be supporting your child's learning.

If your child can build up a large store of factual knowledge in their long-term memory, their short-term 'working memory' will be more equipped to learn new knowledge and apply the knowledge stored in the long-term memory more readily. Take the example of times tables. A child that has learned their times tables is far more likely to get to grips with equivalent fractions as all their working memory can attend to the fractions. A child, on the other hand, who is not secure in their multiplication facts will have to juggle both multiplication facts and their relation to equivalent fractions in their working memory.

If your child can master the information in the knowledge organisers each half term, they will make strong links across their current learning and with their previous learning. In school, we discuss their 'learning links' throughout each topic of work. We are helping them to build strong schema and continued progress.

There is lots of research available if you are interested in finding out more about building schema, learning and memory. This [article](#) is a good starting point.

As we go through the summer term, we would love to hear more from you about how the knowledge organisers are being used successfully at home and how they support your child's learning. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to know more or have any feedback to share. Thank you, as always, for continuing to support your child's education.

Yours faithfully,

Mr J. Lane, Headteacher