

Friday 11th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,



Along with this letter, your child is bringing home their first Knowledge Organiser of the year. This document contains the essential knowledge that children will need to know as part of the new topic they will be studying in class. With every new topic, your child will receive a new Knowledge Organiser. They will also be available on the school website.

As well as being used in lessons, these Knowledge Organisers are designed to be used at home by parents to help children learn the information contained within. We want every pupil to be able to recall the information on these sheets off by heart by the end of the topic. At the end of every topic, the children will complete an End of Topic Quiz to assess their knowledge.

Over the course of each term, the teacher will periodically set a small section of the Knowledge Organiser to be learned by heart for homework. This knowledge will be quizzed in class at some point over the following week. Please note that children do not have to learn the exact wording of the definitions and facts included, although this should be encouraged where possible. If they can put the information in their own words, this is acceptable.

Below are some fun ways that children can use the Knowledge Organiser at home to learn the contents:

- **Definitions:** read some of the vocabulary from the Knowledge Organiser and ask your child to tell you what it means.
- **Fact match:** write out or cut up bits of the Knowledge Organiser and match them up correctly. This is particularly useful with timelines and definitions of new vocabulary.
- **Flashcards:** make and use flashcards containing information from the Knowledge Organiser. For example, write a date on one side and the corresponding event from the timeline on the other.
- **Heads up:** hold a flashcard on your head and ask your child to explain what it is/means/tell you information about it.
- **Spill It:** children write or draw everything they can remember from a section of the Knowledge Organiser.
- **Test me:** an adult/sibling holds the Knowledge Organiser and asks the child questions about it.
- **Tell me a story:** point to a picture/diagram on the Knowledge Organiser and ask your child to tell you the story behind it.
- **Just a minute!:** how many facts can your child recall from the Knowledge Organiser in just one minute? Time them and count!

In order to learn the contents of the Knowledge Organiser by heart and be confident recalling it, children should practise such activities regularly; a short amount of practise each day is much more effective than spending a length of time looking at something just once.

We are confident that these Knowledge Organisers will help our children to develop knowledge on a wide range of topics and will **significantly improve their vocabulary**. This, in turn, will make them more confident in class and help to develop their reading and writing skills.

If you have any further questions about how we plan to use Knowledge Organisers, or about how you can use them to support your child at home, please do not hesitate to get in contact in the usual ways.

Many Thanks,

Mrs Lizzie Christopher

