

This term Year 4 are reading The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf

This is the story about how one ordinary nine-year-old child and three classmates are full of empathy for Ahmet, a boy that comes to their school as a refugee from Syria (he is the boy at the back of the class).

Through their sensitivity, curiosity, ingenuity, bravery and innocent niceness, they make a massive impact on Ahmet's life, friends, class, school, community and wider world. There's a lovely lack of stereotyping on gender and backstory for the narrator, which adds to the message of not judging people before you know them.

An inspiring and sweet tale that will help children think about what it is to be a good person whatever your circumstances (the narrator is from a poor background with a single parent mum who struggles to make ends meet), and challenge prejudice and push for fairness, whenever possible.

We will be using compound and complex sentences in our work, as well as fronted adverbials, persuasive language and writing in chronological order. We will be using this text to write our own persuasive letter and a non-fiction text.

It will be helpful for your child to have access to this book during the term so that they can read the story.

Please find attached at the back of this letter a word mat with key vocabulary we will be using this term.

Some useful links for these skills can be found on Espresso and BBC Bitesize:

Present perfect tense compared to simple past tense:

https://central.espresso.co.uk/espresso/primary_uk/subject/module/video/item361713/grade2/module305324/collection361833/section361756/index.html?source=search-all-all-all&source-keywords=present%20perfect%20tense

Pronouns:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwwp8mn/articles/z37xrxw>

Fronted adverbials:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwwp8mn/articles/zp937p3>

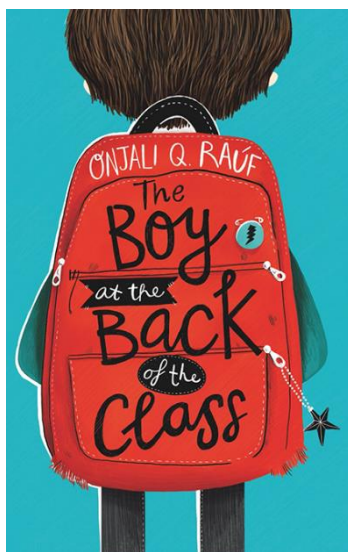
Complex Sentences:

<https://www.educationquizzes.com/ks2/english/complex-sentences/>

Conjunctions/Compound sentences:

<http://www.funenglishgames.com/grammargames/conjunction.html>

During the first week back after the holidays, Year 4 will be taking a spelling test of all the year 4 spelling words. Please encourage your child to practise their spellings, which have been sent home with them along with times tables.



gangly
insightful
glances
blurt
sneer
scowl
pomegranate
sneak
outcast
befriended

Year 3 and 4 Statutory Spellings

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| accident | caught | eighth | heard | minute | possible | strange |
| accidentally | centre | enough | heart | natural | potatoes | strength |
| actual | century | exercise | height | naughty | pressure | suppose |
| actually | certain | experience | history | notice | probably | surprise |
| address | circle | experiment | imagine | occasion | promise | therefore |
| answer | complete | extreme | increase | occasionally | purpose | though |
| appear | consider | famous | important | often | quarter | although |
| arrive | continue | favourite | interest | opposite | question | thought |
| believe | decide | February | island | ordinary | recent | through |
| bicycle | describe | forward | knowledge | particular | regular | various |
| breath | different | forwards | learn | peculiar | reign | weight |
| breathe | difficult | fruit | length | perhaps | remember | woman |
| build | disappear | grammar | library | popular | sentence | women |
| busy | early | group | material | position | separate | |
| business | earth | guard | medicine | possess | special | |
| calendar | eight | guide | mention | possession | straight | |