

## Subject Knowledge Banks

In school we have begun to use subject knowledge banks with the children in different units of work. The purpose of these is they outline the key knowledge and vocabulary that we want the children to learn in a particular unit.

We then learn this key knowledge by going over it in class through using fun mini quizzes. We don't keep score, just the very fact that they are thinking about the knowledge will help them learn it.

The knowledge that is learnt is then used to help understand the different skills that are important in each subject.

As you will have seen these subject knowledge banks have been sent home either as paper copies or using class Dojo. They are all also available on the school web site. New subject knowledge banks will be produced every term.

An example of a subject knowledge bank is below

Key vocabulary  
Children learn what each word means.

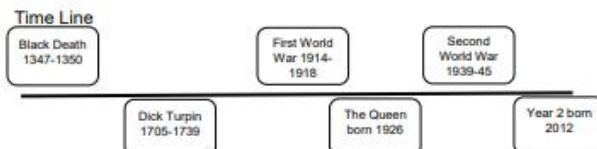
Selby Community Primary School Subject Knowledge Bank

History		Year 2	
<b>Focus:</b> The Black Death			
<b>Age related historical vocabulary</b>			
<b>argument</b>	A disagreement as to what has happened.	<b>significance</b>	Something important.
<b>contribution</b>	Something that someone has helped with.	<b>achievements</b>	Something good that happened.
<b>Plague</b>	A disease that killed many people carried by fleas on rats.	<b>Primary source of evidence</b>	Gives you information about the past that was from the time it happened.
<b>Secondary source of evidence</b>	Gives you information about the past that has been created after it has happened with the help of primary sources of evidence.	<b>Disease</b>	A serious illness.
<b>Locality</b>	Near where you live.	<b>Chronological</b>	Putting things in order depending on when they happen.
<b>events</b>	Something that happens.	<b>Identify</b>	Find out.



Knowledge  
Children learn this so that they can apply it when learning skills.

Key Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Black Death is the name for a terrible disease that spread throughout Europe from 1347 to 1350. There was no cure for the disease and it was highly contagious.</li> <li>The plague likely started in Asia and travelled westward along the Silk Road. The disease was carried by fleas that lived on rats. Historians think that black rats living on European merchant ships caught the disease, eventually bringing it to Europe.</li> <li>During this period, it had killed at least one third of the people in Europe and probably more. In some cities, it is estimated that around 800 people died a day.</li> <li>There were so many dead that they could not bury them. They had to carry them to massive pits.</li> <li>The people in the Middle Ages didn't know that the disease was carried by rats. This made larger cities and towns, which were very dirty during the Middle Ages, especially dangerous as there were many rats there. Sometimes entire towns or villages were wiped out by the plague.</li> <li>Many people at the time believed that the Black Death was caused by bad smells so they tried to prevent it by using fragrant herbs or eating raw onions to get rid of the smell but this didn't work. They also burned down houses and even entire villages to try and stop the disease.</li> <li>Today we call this disease the bubonic plague. Very few people get the disease today and most of those that do recover fine. When people got the disease in the Middle Ages, they almost always died. People would get really sick including black and blue blotches all over their body.</li> </ul>



### How can you help?

Go over the key knowledge and vocabulary with the children, quiz them on it.

Can they tell you what the words mean?

Are they able to talk about the key knowledge?