

Autumn 1st Half Term Curriculum Letter

9th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4! We are looking forward to the new school year and working with your children! We have an exciting year of learning and growth planned, filled with engaging activities to help them thrive.

Key Dates:

- Trip to the British Museum: TBC
- Ash Class Assembly: Wednesday 14th October
- Half Term: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

English 	Over the next 8 weeks, the children will engage with "The Ancient Egypt Sleepover" to inspire their writing, focusing on the features of newspaper reports in the initial weeks, followed by developing their skills in crafting imaginative fantasy narratives, and dedicating one week to exploring and writing poetry.
Reading 	This half term, through reading <i>The Ancient Egypt Sleepover</i>, children will develop key comprehension skills by exploring the vocabulary related to museums and Ancient Egypt, practicing retrieval of key facts about Mo's adventure, using inference to understand characters' feelings and motivations, explaining events and why characters acted as they did, and summarising the exciting plot to retell the mystery.
Mathematics 	Over the Autumn 1 term, the children will be building their foundational understanding of place value for numbers up to 100, alongside developing fluency in addition and subtraction using various strategies. They will also begin to explore the concepts of multiplication and division through grouping and sharing, and will start to grasp area by counting squares. Additionally, they will have a dedicated 20-minute times tables lesson each week to support their recall of multiplication facts.
Science 	During this half term, in Science, the children will explore the topic of electricity where they will name components in a circuit, construct a simple circuit and understand what conductors and insulators are.
RE 	This half term in RE, we will explore big questions like "What is real?" Children will learn how different people understand the world—some through faith, others through facts. We will encourage respectful discussion and personal reflection.
Spanish 	In Spanish this half term, the children will learn key vocabulary and phrases to describe "all about me" (introductions, likes, and dislikes) and identify objects within "my classroom".

PE 	In PE this term, the children will develop their fundamental movement and team game skills through netball during outdoor sessions, while indoor PE will focus on
Art 	In art this term, the children will explore 3D sculpture , drawing inspiration from the works of artist Antony Gormley , particularly his human-form sculptures, to create their own expressive and textured pieces using various modelling materials.
Humanities 	This term, in history, the children will embark on a journey back to Ancient Egypt , exploring where and when this fascinating civilisation lived, investigating the importance of the River Nile , delving into the lives of pharaohs , understanding their beliefs about gods and the afterlife (including mummification), and discovering the incredible achievements of this ancient culture such as the pyramids and hieroglyphics.
Computing 	This half term in computing, the children will review the Queenswell Schools computing and online safety expectations. In computer science, they will learn to write code that includes variables.
PSHE 	In PSHE this half term, following the new PSHE curriculum, we will be learning about mental wellbeing and relationships with others (e.g. friendships).
Music 	In music this half term, children will explore the Baroque period through Tarquinio Merula's "Ciaccona," focusing on identifying recurring musical patterns (ground bass), recognizing different instrumental sounds, and responding to the varied moods and tempi within the piece.

Things to remember:

- **Wednesdays:** Homework due in.
- **Thursdays:** Homework goes out.
- **Mondays and Fridays:** Children should wear PE kits.
- **Fridays:** Times Tables focus in class.

Homework expectations:

The general homework expectations are:

- Daily reading (15-20 minutes every day).
- Complete weekly homework on Spelling Shed and MyMaths.
- Use Times Table Rockstars at least once a week.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Mrs Fox & Mr Stokoe