

Autumn 1st Half Term Curriculum Letter

9th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 5! 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:

Friday 25th September: Queenswell 75th Birthday Tea Parties

Monday 5th October: Year 5 Assessment Week

Tuesday 6th October: child Individual Photos

Tuesday 13th October: Year 5 after school movie event

Wednesday 21st October: Parents' open morning

Thursday 22nd October: Children Finish for Half Term

Friday 23rd October: Last day of half term

English 	In Autumn 1 English, we will be developing their writing skills through Recounts and Non-chronological Reports , the latter being specifically linked to an exciting book, <i>The Cosmic Journey of Our Incredible Universe</i> . We will also be diving into creative writing with Narrative: Adventure Stories , and exploring the world of Poetry .
Reading 	In Year 5 Reading, we are excited to embark on a fascinating journey through <i>The Cosmic Journey of Our Incredible Universe</i> , utilising the VIPERS framework to deepen comprehension and develop critical reading skills.
Mathematics 	In Autumn 1 Maths, Year 5 will be building a strong foundation by focusing on Place Value , mastering Addition & Subtraction , beginning our journey into Multiplication & Division , and introducing the concept of Fractions , all complemented by a dedicated 20-minute times tables lesson each week.
Science 	In Science this half term, children will be learning about properties and changes of materials . They will compare and group together everyday materials, explore the concept of dissolving and changes of state and decide how mixtures might be separated through sieving, filtering and evaporating.
RE 	In RE this half term we will be exploring the 'Big Question': What is real? We will learn about what different religions and worldviews teach about what is real and what is not and will reflect on our own personal view of reality and where that comes from.
Spanish 	Over the next 8 weeks in Spanish, we will be embarking on a delicious journey as we explore vocabulary and phrases related to food and mealtimes.

PE 	In PE this half term, children will be developing their skills in catching and throwing and dance . In our outdoor PE unit, they will learn about effective passes and possession for attack, as well as developing their defending skills through marking and interception. In dance, children will create movements that represent a variety of different circus performers, distinguishing between the different performers through clear movements and expression.
Art 	In Year 5 Art over the next 8 weeks, we will be exploring the exciting world of 3D Sculpture , drawing inspiration from the unique and expressive works of the renowned artist Alberto Giacometti .
Humanities 	This Autumn 1 in Humanities (Geography), Year 5 will be developing their understanding of Locational and Place Knowledge , exploring where places are and what they are like around the world.
Computing 	This half term in computing, the children will review the Queenswell Junior computing and online safety expectations. In coding, the children will learn to use numbers to set or change an object's properties, e.g. the object's coordinate position on the screen, the direction that it faces, or the speed at which it moves.
PSHE 	This Autumn 1 in PSHE, our focus will be on Emotions and Me. , where Year 5 will explore understanding and managing their feelings, building positive relationships, and developing strategies to support their mental health.
Music 	This Autumn 1 in Year 5 Music, we will be exploring the vibrant traditions of African Greeting songs, focusing on developing our understanding and performance of Call & Response .

Things to remember:

PE days:

- **Wednesday (Sycamore and Yew) :** Children should wear PE kits for Indoor PE.
- **Thursday (Sycamore and Yew):** Children should wear PE kits for Outdoor PE
- **Fridays:** Spelling test and new homework set for the week

Homework expectations:

The general homework expectations are:

- daily reading (20-30 minutes every day).
- spellings are to be learnt and practised on Spelling Shed. The children will be tested once a week.
- use Times Table Rockstars at least once a week.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Miss Evans & Ms Shiru