

16th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn 1st Half Term Curriculum Letter

We hope you have had an enjoyable and restful summer and that you are looking forward to the year ahead. We would like to say a big welcome to all the new children and families starting at Queenswell this year and welcome back to all the children who were in our Nursery. We are so proud of the children who have settled into their new class really well and are adapting to lots of changes and new things!

Key dates:

Tuesday 6th October - Individual photos.

Wednesday 21st October - Parents open morning.

Wednesday 21st October - Autumn walk to Swan Lane in the afternoon

Thursday 22nd October - last day of school for children.

Friday 23rd October - INSET day - school is closed to children.

Monday 2nd November - first day of second half of autumn term for children.

If you are celebrating any other cultural or religious festivals this half term, please let us know so we can learn about them in reception too!

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum covers 7 areas of learning (this is what we learn) as well as the three characteristics of effective learning (this is how we learn).

This half term we will be learning:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	• See themselves as a valuable individual • Build relationships • Understand and follow clear classroom rules, boundaries, and daily routines. • Select and use activities and resources, asking for help when I need it.
Communication 	• Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important • Engage in story times • Learn new vocabulary
Physical Development 	• Develop overall body strength, co-ordinations, balance and agility. • Develop small motor skills to use a range of tools competently. • Develop skills needed to manage the school day successfully - Lining up and queuing, meal times.
Maths 	• Count objects, actions and sounds • Subitise • Link the number symbol with its cardinal number value

Literacy 	• Begin to form lower case letters • Give meaning to marks made - adults model writing by scribing • Begin to develop phonological awareness • Engage in extended conversations about stories and understand how books work.
Understanding the World 	• Notice physical differences and similarities between people in my group. • Talk about members of immediate family and community • Name and describe people who are familiar to them
Expressive Arts and Design 	• Develop storylines in their pretend play • Join materials together using simple techniques like tape, staples, or glue. • Listen to and join in with familiar songs

Things To remember:

- Bring a water bottle every day.
- Bring your book bag to school everyday
- Return guided reading and library books on a Friday
- Please name all items of uniform and belongings

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards.

The Reception Team

Mrs Georgiou and Mrs Van Der Merwe