Queenswell Schools
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4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn 1st Half Term Curriculum Letter

We hope you all had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the new term! We will be using the theme 'Rainforests' for this half term. We will be using a range of different books about World's Rainforests.

Key Dates:

Tuesday 6th October: Child individual photos

End date:
Thursday 22nd October: Last Day of term.
Return to school: Monday 2nd November

English 	This half term, we will be focusing on **information texts**. The children will develop their understanding of how to write clear, informative and engaging texts, using **sloths and orangutans** as our focus animals. Throughout our learning, we will be developing a range of important writing skills, including: **adjectives**, **adverbs** and use of **punctuation**. The children will have opportunities to research and learn fascinating facts about sloths and orangutans before using what they have learnt to create their own information texts.
Reading 	We will be completing daily 1:1 reading alongside the teaching of phonics. We have also set up a reading corner for independent choice and story time, where we share a daily book. Also children will listen to sensory stories daily.

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Mathematics 	This half term, we will be focusing on **number and place value**. The children will develop their understanding of numbers and learn how the value of a digit changes depending on its position. Our key learning will include: • Reading and writing numbers accurately. • Understanding **place value** and the value of each digit. • Comparing and ordering numbers. • Recognising numbers using different representations. • Counting forwards and backwards in different steps. • Partitioning numbers into hundreds, tens and ones. • Developing confidence when explaining our mathematical thinking. • Working towards individual **Maths targets** to help each child make progress.
Speech and Language	This will be taught throughout the curriculum in line with the children's individual speech and language targets. We will also be using Blank level questioning, colourful semantics and turn taking games. Children will also have individual interventions in line with their targets.
Occupational Therapy	Sensory circuits are undertaken daily and there are lots of movement breaks throughout the day. Children's individual OT targets are implemented daily and with set intervention times.
Social Skills / Life Skills	We will be having weekly life skills lessons where practical activities will take place. This term they are going to learn skills like: • to take turns. • to share. • to develop friendships and play positively. • to follow instructions. • to follow a time table.

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	• to line up.
Fit for Life Physical Development	We will be having daily lessons in this area. We will be focusing on the following: • active play • apparatus - indoor PE • sensory circuits • dance • fine motor skills • ball skills, throwing and catching • gymnastics - travelling in different ways and making shapes using our body.
Community	We will be having weekly cross curricular lessons where practical activities will take place. This term they are going to earn: • What is a rainforest • Locating rainforests • Water cycle • Animals and their habitats • Rainforest plants, trees and animals • Endangered animals
Creative Expressive arts and design	We will be having weekly creative lessons. This term they are going to create: • Collage rainforest animals • Rainforest Diorama • Animal sculptures • Leaf rubbings • Watercolour rainforest landscape • Rainforest bird art

Things to remember:
Indoor PE Monday

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Children can come to school in their PE kits.
Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards.
The Woodpecker Team