Queenswell Schools
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22nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn 2nd Half Term Curriculum Letter

We hope you all had an enjoyable half term and are looking forward to the next term! We will be using the theme 'Fairy Tales' for this half term. We will be using a range of different books such as .

Key Dates:
11th November 2026 - Remembrance Day
13th November 2026 - Children in Need
16th November - 20th November 2026 Road Safety Week
16th November - 20th November 2026 Antibullying Week

End date: Friday 18th December, school closes at 1.35 pm
Friday 18th December: Last Day of term**, school closes at 1.35pm**
Return to school: Wednesday 6th January 2027

English 	This half term, we will be focusing on character and setting descriptions. The children will develop their understanding of how to write clear, detailed and engaging descriptions, using fairy tales as our focus. Throughout our learning, we will develop a range of important writing skills, including the use of adjectives, adverbs and punctuation. The children will explore how authors use descriptive language to bring characters and settings to life, helping readers to imagine the people, places and events within a story. The children will have opportunities to explore a range of fairy tales, developing their vocabulary and learning how to create vivid descriptions of characters and settings. They will then use what they have learnt to create their own fairy-tale characters, settings and stories, applying the writing skills they have developed throughout the half term.

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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.
Mathematics 	This half term, we will be focusing on the four operations: addition, subtraction. Through a range of practical activities, problem-solving and reasoning tasks, the children will develop their fluency and deepen their understanding of key mathematical concepts. Learning will be broken down into small, manageable steps, allowing children to build confidence and make connections between different areas of mathematics. We will encourage the children to use a range of representations and methods, developing their ability to choose efficient strategies and apply their knowledge to different problems. Throughout the half term, children will also work towards their individual Maths targets, helping them to identify areas for development, celebrate their successes and make meaningful progress in their mathematical learning.
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 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.
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. • to line up.

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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	This term, the children will explore Light and Shadows. They will learn to: • Understand that we need light to see and that darkness is the absence of light. • Identify natural and man-made light sources. • Explore how shadows are formed. • Understand why Diwali is known as the Festival of Light. • Explore the seasons and how they affect the amount of daylight.
Creative Expressive arts and design	This term, our Creative Arts lessons will be inspired by traditional fairy tales. Through a range of practical activities, the children will explore different materials, techniques and ways to express their creativity. They will learn to: • Create a fairy-tale character using mixed-media collage. • Sketch a fairy-tale character. • Design and create a fairy-tale shadow theatre. • Make a character using a wooden spoon and a range of materials. • Build a house inspired by Goldilocks and the Three Bears .

Things to remember:

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

Kind regards.
The Woodpecker Team