



Foundation Newsletter

Spring 1 2019

Pirates



Arrrgh me hearties welcome back! We hope everyone has had a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our families in Foundation. Remember children, now we are in the spring term we want to see you all enter the ship (classroom) on your own, leave them landlubbers outside!

Our topic for this half term is pirates. Why do they wear an eye patch? How big is a pirate ship? How did they find the treasure? We will be exploring these questions and more in our topic about pirates.

In **Maths** we will be learning number bonds, using and securing numbers to 20, counting and adding money, positional language and measuring.

In **Literacy** lessons we will be looking at key features of stories, characters, settings, events and starting to write our own short stories.

In the other areas of the Foundation curriculum we will be looking at:

Personal, Social and Emotional – Talking about how we show our feelings and how we can be sensitive to others needs and feelings.

Communication and Language – Retelling and acting out different pirate stories. Discussing our likes and dislikes in stories with a partner and sharing these with the class.

Physical – Travelling in a range of ways over, under and through different equipment and learning how to jump off safely.

Understanding the World – The children will be completing a range of experiments where they will be observing and talking about changes, and why some things occur.

Expressive Art and Design – Experimenting with a range of media and materials, constructing with a purpose in mind which they can share with the class.



The **tasks** for home learning are as follows and will be sent home the Friday before for the children to complete at home:

Week 1– Pirate costume to wear ready to be a pirate for the day!

Week 2– Phonics activity sent home to complete linked to your child's phonics group.

Week 3– Number problems to solve at home.

Week 4– Write on a star something your child has achieved, to be celebrated and displayed in class.

Week 5– Design and make a pirate treasure map.

Week 6– Floating and sinking-Which of these items float? Or sink? -List to be sent home.

All of the home learning tasks are optional, however, we do value the children's extra work, which we will share weekly and display during the topic.

Books to read at home:

- Pirates Love Underpants by Claire Freedman
- The Pirates Next Door by Jonny Duddle
- Ten Little Pirates by Mike Brownlow
- Pirate Pete and his Smelly Feet by Lucy Rowland
- The Night Pirates by Peter Harris
- How Are You Felling Today by Molly Potter
- Have You Filled a Bucket Today by Carol McCloud
- The Huge Bag of Worries by Virginia Ironside

Events in school:

- Pirate dress up day **Friday 11th January**
- A visitor from Bletchley library is coming in to Foundation on **Monday 14th January** to read stories to the children.
- Foundation reading workshop **Thursday 24th January**– Come and read with your child in class. Ask any questions and get some tips for helping your child make progress.
- Grandparents afternoon **Friday 15th February** 1.30– 3.00pm
- Tuesday & Wednesday 12th & 13th March**– School nurse Health screening checks

Reminders:

- Reading books need to be read twice and recorded in the reading diary, then the book can be placed in the basket at the start of the day to be changed.
- We visit the school library on **Wednesday afternoon**.
- PE days are **Monday** and **Tuesday**. Please could you make sure your child's hair is tied back and all jewellery is removed.