

Reception Newsletter

- Welcome back! We hope you all had a good break over the Easter Holidays.
- Remember to please keep uploading things on Tapestry. We often share Tapestry with the rest of the class and all of the children love sharing this with their friends.



A Pirates life for me!

We are very excited that our topic this term is all about Pirates! We will look at who pirates are, what they did and where they lived. We will also be looking at the creatures that live under the sea!

PLEASE NOTE: Friday 17th April - We are having a pirate themed dress up day. Children can come to school dressed up as pirates/parrots or anything to do with the pirate theme!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

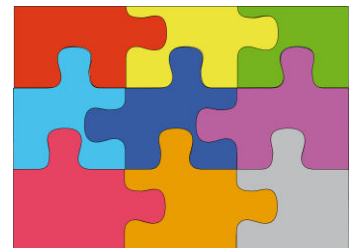
Our main focus will be to make sure the children keep growing in confidence and independence. We only have two terms left until pupils graduate to KS1 so we want them to become confident learners and are able to think and do for themselves. We are encouraging the children to be independent in their learning and in their social and emotional development. A key point for the children's social development is to be able to resolve their own problems and conflicts without relying on adult intervention and support. Linked to our theme of pirates, we will be looking at right and wrong and whether pirates are good role models for this.

Maths

Our maths focus for this term is going to be numbers beyond 10 and using counting patterns. We will also look at doubling, halving and sharing through problem solving, for example, sharing treasure fairly between pirates. We will also be developing spatial reasoning skills, through the matching, rotating and manipulating of shapes. Pupils will also be challenged to compose and decompose shapes so that children recognise a shape can have other shapes within it, just as numbers can.

At home you could:

- Continue working on number bonds to 10.
- Complete jigsaw puzzles.



Expressive Arts and Design

Using junk modelling, we will be creating our own boats for our pirates. We will also look at designing flags, maps and our own pirates. There will be writing opportunities: messages in a bottle and 'Wanted' posters to make. To bring out our creative and imaginative side, we will be looking at fantasy creatures such as mermaids and mermen.

Physical Development

PE will be on a **Friday** for Peach and Pear class. We will be doing some of our PE outside so all children will need PE shoes and a warm black jumper in case it is still cold out. In PE this term, we

will be playing games with a focus on attack and defence techniques. Towards the end of the term, we will begin practising the skills we will need for sports day.

Understanding the World

Due to our focus on pirates and the sea, we will look at how humans have affected the ocean and its creatures with their plastic pollution. We will also link this to our local environment and the canals. Another area we will be focusing on this term, is finding out which materials would make the perfect ship.

We will also be talking about old fashioned pirate rules and comparing them to today's society rules.



Reading and Writing

This term we will be learning the story of 'Black-Eyed Bills Pirate Adventure'. When we are practising our writing, we will be more focused towards making sure our sentence structure is correct and remembering to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. We will be writing messages in a bottle, our own versions of Black- Eyed Bill's Pirate Adventure and lots more. We will be continuing to practise all of the sounds that we have learnt with daily focus on our key words (red words). Please could you practise these at home; your child will need to be able to start to read and write them independently as we move towards term 5 and 6.

- You could download this reading app – 'Teach your monster how to read.' We have downloaded this onto the school iPads so the children are familiar with it.
- <http://www.ictgames.com/poopDeckPirates/index.html>

HOME ACTIVITY

Homework and reading books will continue to be sent out weekly (due in on Thursdays, sent home on Fridays). If your child is receiving a levelled reading book, please make sure you are reading this several times a week and discussing what happens in the story or what they think might happen next and why. **Please keep their reading book in their book bag so that they can be changed weekly.** If they are not in bags then they will not be changed until the following week. If you don't understand the homework that has been given to your child, then please ask and we will be happy to help.

REMINDERS AND DATES

Monday 13th April – Back to School.

Wednesday 22nd April – Book fair in school – Until 29th April

Thursday 23rd April – Class Photos

Friday 17th April - Reception Pirate Dress up Day

Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday (School Closed)

Thursday 21st May – Last day of term

Friday 22nd May – Inset Day (School Closed)

Monday 1st June – Term 6 Back to School