

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Dear Parents and Children

Welcome back to a brand-new topic, in a brand new term, in a brand new year! We have lots of new and exciting things planned for the children in their new topic.

This term our topic is '**Pirates**.' Connected to our topic we are going to find out about famous pirates like Blackbeard and Anne Bonny, discover what life was like aboard a pirate ship, write pirate diaries and letters, we will learn to read and create maps with a 'key' and investigate which material is best for floating and would make the best raft for pirates to escape an island.

Our home/school project this term is to create a 3-dimensional pirate island including an X marking where treasure might be buried! The child whose island is voted favourite will get to take home the trophy for the Easter Holidays.

Year 2 and Year 1 children. Our spelling test will be on a Friday morning again this term. Your child will receive spellings to learn with you throughout the week and be tested on them the following Friday. The spellings your child receives will be connected to their phonics for that week and occasionally topic based.

This term your children will go swimming on a Wednesday morning accompanied by school staff. They will need to bring correct swimwear, a swim hat and a towel, and could we please request that the girls do not wear swimwear under their clothes on a Wednesday when they are swimming as they are sent to the toilet before we leave! Thank you for your support. The children will continue to have their PE lessons on a Wednesday afternoon and so should be in PE kit on Wednesday.

Reception Parents, please could I remind you that your child needs a spare set of clothes, including underwear and socks, also to be kept at school in your child's locker. This always proves very useful, especially for those children keen to use the water tray, should they be unfortunate enough to fall over in the wet, muddy playground as well as those other 'inevitable' accidents!

If you have anything at home that you think we might find useful in school this term connected to our pirate topic ... books, toys, dress up etc ... as always, we are very grateful for loans and donations.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Rachel Baker



Possible Books



Learning Links

Take Home task – create a 3D pirate island complete with X marks the spot.



Who do you think you are? The Romans Invaders and Settlers

Vocabulary

Pirate	A person who robs and steals at sea
Past	Earlier than the present time. No longer current
Present	Happening now
Future	Not happened yet. Tomorrow, next week, next year
Locate	Find a place by searching
Map	A drawing of all of the parts of the earth's surface
Key	A list of symbols and pictures that appear on a map
Compass	A tool used for finding direction
Investigate	To look into something carefully and closely. Examine
Marooned	Leave someone alone on an island
diary	A book to keep daily records of events
Survive	To remain alive
Observe	To watch carefully
Famous	Known about by many people
Occupation	A job
Galleon	A sailing ship originally from Spain
Sloop	A sailboat with a single mast
Desert island	An island where nobody lives
Loot	Private things taken by others
Raft	A flat floating platform made from wood tied together used as a boat
Captain	The person in charge of a ship
Navigate	Plan the route and steer a ship or aircraft using maps
cutlass	A short, slashing sword



Pirates Year B Year 1/2 – Spring term

Knowledge

- To know what a pirate is
- To know and describe the events of a famous pirate
- To know what a message in a bottle was for
- To be able to write a diary entry
- To know what life on a pirate ship was like
- To know how to read a map
- To use a key when reading a map
- To investigate the best materials used for floating
- To know the compass directions and use them to show places on a map
- To know and describe events from the past



Assessment

End of topic review/evaluation – child led
Ongoing marking – WOW and NOW – school policy
Tapestry - EYFS

Skills

- Use the internet safely and use a basic search engine such as Google
- Using maps and globes to locate countries and oceans
- Cutting, joining, shaping materials
- Interpreting science investigation results
- Recording in words, pictures, charts, graphs and tables.
- Ask relevant questions
- Use simple equipment to observe ie magnifiers
- Complete a simple investigation involving asking a question, predicting results, testing a theory and making a conclusion
- To find similarities and differences between places
- Answer questions after making observations and recording findings in books
- Make observations and talk about what you understand
- To draw recognisable pictures using different materials such as pencils and chalk
- To use the space on a piece of paper and cover at least half the paper with a design
- To use paint to add colour to pictures