

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back! Our topic this term is '**Pirates**'. It started with a visit from a pirate and she told us a story about the adventures of Pirate Tom. The children were all very excited. As part of this topic the children will focus on the following areas:



- **Literacy** - children will learn the story of 'Pirate Tom'. They will be using talk for writing actions to help recall and retell the story. They will also be encouraged to use their developing phonic and tricky word knowledge to read and write for a range of different purposes.
- **Mathematics**- children will be counting objects reliably with numbers from 1 to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. They will be using quantities and objects to add and subtract and count on or back to find the answer. They will also be using everyday language to talk about position, money, length and capacity.
- **Physical Development** - children will continue to develop their confidence in movement and also develop their fine motor skills in order to start forming letters correctly.
- **Understanding the World**- children will be exploring our nature area using their senses; investigating which materials float/sink; and learn how to program a toy to move across a grid.
- **Art & Design**- children will be developing their construction skills whilst making a range of pirate themed objects and developing their imagination whilst role-playing pirates.

**Homework** - Hearing your children read at home and discussing the book and pictures is an important part of supporting your child to learn to read. Please continue to encourage your child to practice their sounds and listen to them read as often as possible. Don't forget, you can change their books during settling in time.

On **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January** there will be a reading and maths workshop at 2.45pm and 6.00pm. During this meeting we will explain the end of year expectations and provide you with practical ideas on how you can further support your child at home.

## WOW - Pirate Day

On **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January** your child can come to school dressed as a pirate. During this day your child will take part in a variety of exciting activities! At the end of the day parents are invited to come into class at 2.50pm to listen to our fantastic pirate songs.

We are looking forward to working together with you again this term to develop your child's learning.

The Reception Team

(PTO)

## Pirate Tom Story

We have provided the words to the story to enable your family to retell the story with your child. You may notice your child does actions for the story, particularly the highlighted words. Please encourage them to do this as it really helps to embed the story within your child's mind.

Once upon a time long long, ago, there was a pirate called Tom. Tom sailed the seven seas in his pirate boat 'The Jolly Roger'.

Unfortunately it was not very jolly because they had no treasure. The pirates were glum. Tom did not know how to cheer them up.

First they sailed from island to island.

Next they went searching for treasure.

Finally they dug down deep, but all they found was an old fishbone and a smelly boot! That made the pirates angry. They stamped and they stamped and they stamped their feet.

So the pirates sailed the Jolly Roger to Skull Island using a treasure map.

They followed the map and suddenly they saw a cave.

Finally they dug and they dug and they dug and found a HUGE chest full of treasure.

They all cheered hooray! and lived happily ever after.

The end.