



Class Willow Newsletter

Spring 1st Half Term

Dear parents,

I hope everyone had a lovely, relaxing Christmas.

We are one full term in now and we are all looking forward to starting our Spring Term, and getting started on our new topic: Pirates!

English

In English we are going to be reading lots of books with Pirates in. Some are:



The children are starting to write a lot more now, and enjoying our writing area; so this half term we will be doing a lot of writing around these Pirate stories. The focus will continue to be spelling simple words, using our phonic knowledge.

Reading

Please could you leave your child's reading book in your child's reading bag (do not leave it at home), and an adult will listen to your child read at school at least once a week. Please also continue listening to your child read, or tell a story in their own words, at home; at least 5 minutes most nights is fantastic!

Maths

Our maths has improved immensely and the children are becoming a lot more confident with their numbers and using these to order, count, add and subtract. This half term will be focused on ensuring that the children are confident enough to do this independently. We will also be doing some measures work, looking at height, weight and money.

Phonics

Phonics will continue to be taught daily. We will be starting phase 3 straight away, looking at

sounds which have two letters together (digraphs). I will send out the Phase 3 sound mat and tricky words bookmark for the children to practice at home, alongside their reading.

Science

This half term we will be using the Pirates Topic to look at what animals live under the sea. We will be looking at the different features of these animals and writing lots of facts about them too.

Topic

Topic will be focused on Pirates, who they are, where they lived and what they did. We will then use this information to discuss the Earth and countries, and also whether what Pirates did was right, and is it ok to take things.

P.E.

We have a special treat for P.E. this half term! Due to this, P.E. will be taught on a **Wednesday** and **Friday**. Carlisle United Football Club (CUFC) will be taking Class Willow for one P.E. lesson on Friday afternoons. They may teach this lesson outside, so could you please make sure the children have suitable trousers and trainers, as well as their usual P.E. top, shorts and plimsoles.

Additional Info

Mrs. Ferguson and I are so excited about our Pirate Topic this half term that we have decided to have a Pirate Day! We will all dress up as Pirates (including Mrs. Ferguson and I), and will play some Pirate games, and talk/write about everything we have learnt about Pirates. A letter explaining this in more detail will be sent out closer to the time; however we thought we'd mention it now so that you have plenty of time to get Pirate costumes sorted! An old top/shirt and trousers cut up would be great, and possibly a DIY eye patch! We plan on having this day during the last week of term.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me through the school office, or organise a time to speak with me.

Miss. Morton & Mrs. Ferguson