



Giraffes



"We stick our necks out and have a go!"
Year 2, Spring 1, 2022

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

We hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing winter break with your family and friends and managed to stay safe and healthy.

We are very excited and grateful to welcome the children back to school in person and are looking forward to beginning our learning adventure as pirates this term.

Before revealing some of the amazing things that we are going to be doing this half term, we would like to thank you again for your support with the Christmas Play and for the generous presents. We hope you enjoyed the Nativity performance as much as we did.

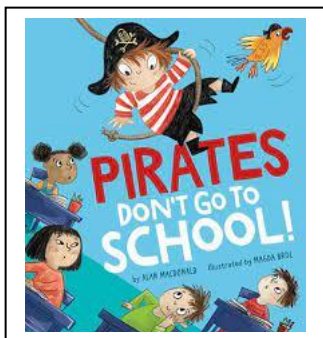
Topics

Throughout the autumn term, the Year 2 children were beachcombers and travelled around the world having the opportunity to learn interesting facts about continents, countries, oceans and seas. They also 'met' explorers from the past (Christopher Columbus and Sir Francis Drake) and demonstrated great art skills and imagination when creating amazing seaside artwork. The children have also used their creativity to produce fantastic story writing and poems about sea creatures.

Land Ahoy!

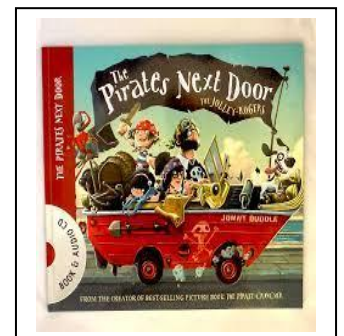
Yo-ho-ho! Get ready to 'take to the high seas and set sail in search for treasure!'

This term we were aiming to visit a boat yard, river or harbour to find out about boats and ships of all shapes and sizes. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we might need to do this trip virtually.



In **English**, we will be reading stories about pirates and information books, investigating amazing sea rescues and we'll be writing postcards, letters, stories and poetry influenced by the sea. The first story we are going to focus on is 'Pirates Don't Go to School!' followed by 'The Pirates Next Door' written by Jonny Duddle.

In **Maths**, we will be reviewing the multiplication and division and we will be learning about length, mass, temperature, picture graphs and money. Our main focus will be solving problems involving these concepts.



In **Science**, our scientific thinking and science skills will help us to understand how boats float and we'll investigate which materials are the best to use for making ships/boats.

In **Computing**, we are learning about programming, using presentation software.

In **History and Geography**, we are going to use our map reading skills to help us identify different seas and oceans, use and make maps by giving directions. We'll learn about famous sea explorers: Captain James Cook, Grace Darling and other well-known pirates.

In **Art and Design** we will design and make model ships/boats using a variety of materials and we'll be learning about mechanisms and structures.

In **Music**, we will find out how to talk and sing like a pirate by learning and singing sea shanties.

Great news! This half term our children will be excited to have **Forest School** with Mrs Llewellyn and Miss Jones every Tuesday afternoon.

How can you help your child?

- Listen to them read each day. There is a book in their book bag and their key words are there too, if they have them. When they do their reading, please make a note in their reading record (this can be your signature or a short comment).
- Ask them questions about what they have read.
- Encourage them to practise their spellings every day.
- Support them in completing their homework.
- Go to your local library to find books about their current topic (if you are comfortable with that).
- Ensure your child wears their **PE kit** on the days they have PE lessons.
- Provide a named water bottle for them to use in class. These can be purchased from the school office for £1.50.

Weekly routines

- **PE** is on **Tuesdays, Thursdays** and **Fridays**- children should come to school wearing their PE kit.
- **Spellings** will be sent home on **Fridays** and the children will be tested on the following **Friday**.
- **Homework** is set on a **Thursday** and is due in by the following **Tuesday**.
- The weekly library slot will be every **Thursday**.
- **Forest School** is on **Tuesdays**. **Please make sure the children have a spare pair of shoes and a warm coat as they will be working outside.**



Key Dates

Monday 14th – Friday 18th February – Specialist Week (details to follow)

Friday 18th February- Last day of the half term

Monday 28th February – Pupils return to school

Finally,

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Breitigam and Ms Morgan

