

Literacy

Writing

- We will re-enact and re-invent our focus stories
- We are going to come up with our own ideas to create a new version narrative of 'The Magic Paintbrush' and write a 'How to be a Pirate' guidebook.
- We will set up a role play **pirate ship**, and decorate EYFS for **Chinese New Year** making signs, labels and posters to enhance them.



Reception Spring Term 1

Telling a Tale

This term we will be exploring the theme of 'Telling a Tale' using the wonderful stories of 'The Magic Paintbrush' retold by Julia Donaldson, and 'The Night Pirates' by Pete Harris.



Enrichment activities

- Prepare and cook a Chinese stir fry – then eat it!
- Explore the celebration of Chinese New Year
- Spotty Day – Yayoi Kusama art exploration
- 'Become a Pirate' day at school
- Online Safety week – Theme is 'Safe and responsible use of AI'.
- Winter senses school grounds walk

Phonics and Reading



We are learning to read and write more Phase 3 phonemes. We will learn at least 4 new phonemes each week.

- Week 1 – oo **oo** ar **or**
- Week 2 – ur **ow** oi **ear**
- Week 3 – air **er** + words with double letters e.g. dd **mm** tt **bb** **rr** **gg** **pp** **ff**
- Week 4 – longer words
- Week 5 – Assessment week

We will continue to practise reading and writing simple words, phrases and sentences using these letter-sound correspondences. You can find videos of how to pronounce each phoneme and write each grapheme by clicking on this link:

www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

We are learning to read and write these tricky words, as well as Phase 2 tricky words from last term.

was	you	they	my	by
I	go	to	the	
no	all	are	sure	pure



Mathematics

We will be developing our mathematical understanding in the following areas: -

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Space	Change within 5	Cardinality	Counting & Ordering	Counting & Ordering	Composition of 5

You can help at home by...

- Making simple obstacles courses and using positional words to guide each other around the course e.g. *left, right, up, down, forwards, backwards*
- Practising the rules of counting using amounts to 10 → 1) Count each item once; 2) Say the numbers in the right order; 3) The last number is how many
- Playing board games and recognising the amount without counting when you roll the dice
- Practically finding different ways to make 5 e.g. "2 teddies + 3 teddies is 5 teddies altogether"; "4 cookies + 1 cookie is 5 cookies altogether" etc...

Understanding the World

We are exploring the special celebration of Chinese New Year. We will make traditional Chinese New Year decorations & decorate our classrooms, take part in traditional CNY celebrations and prepare, cook and taste a traditional Chinese stir-fry

Words to learn – Chinese New Year, red, lucky, celebration



People, Cultures & Communities

RE - We are asking who are the people in (special) sacred stories & why might they still be important today?

Words to learn – Special, Sacred, Bible, Jesus, Christmas, Christian



The Natural World

We are continuing to learn about materials, and investigating the scientific concept of floating & sinking. We will explore why some things float and some things sink, and learn how to plan and carry out simple experiments *e.g. selecting items to test, simple recording of what happened.*

Words to learn – float, sink, test, experiment + materials we named last term – metal, glass, plastic, wood, paper, cardboard, fabric



We will be going on a Winter senses walk to identify signs of Winter and collect Winter treasure.

Words to learn - Winter, seasons, change, weather



Personal, Social & Emotional Development



We are following the JIGSAW programme 'Dreams and Goals' and learning to set goals, work towards these and understand how to persevere to reach them. The adults in school will be modelling how to stay motivated when doing something challenging, how to work well with a partner or group, and finding the resilience to succeed with a positive attitude.

Words to use – Dreams and goals, happy, job, challenge, kind, proud, encourage



Managing Self

Our School Value this term is **Resilience**. We will be practising how to keep on trying, even when things are difficult. The children will be earning yellow tokens every time they show this value in school.

Words to learn – resilience, challenge, goals, perseverance, difficult, frustrated, achieve

Past and Present

We are exploring people from the past and finding out about the lives of pirates.

Words we will use – pirate, past, crew, ocean, compass



Expressive Arts & Design

Creating with Materials



Our focus artwork this term is the painting 'The Starry Night' by the artist, Vincent Van Gogh.

We are going to experiment with mixing primary colours (red, blue, yellow) and use this knowledge to create our own original paintings.

Words to learn – primary colours, red, blue, yellow

Being Impaginative & Expressive

This term, we are having a 'Spotty Day.' This will be an opportunity to discover the contemporary artist, Yayoi Kusama, who loves to use spots in her artwork.

On this day, the children will be invited to wear spotty clothes and create their own spotty artworks. We will explore some of her best-known artworks such as her spotty pumpkin paintings and sculptures, as well as her infinity rooms.

