Play & Learning Newsletter

5th – 9th July 2021

Treasure map, pieces of eight, ahoy matey!, cutlass, compass, rigging, hook

Wonder words to use with your child:

Arrrr! Heave Ho! Watch out for the Portreath Pirates – there are lots of them about! The first week of our pirate inspired play and learning opportunities which we will be running now until the end of term. This week we used the book ’10 Little Pirates’ in our group times sessions – a great book for talking about one less and supporting children’s understanding of numbers to 10. We spent lots of time discussing the various ways the little pirates disappeared and the children then created their own little pirate books, using their own very imaginative ideas for what might happen to their little pirates, and recording how the quantity decreased.

We have also had ‘piratey’ fun in the water tray with small world pirate play and treasure chests, digging for treasure in the sand pit, eye patch and skull and cross bones creations at the Creating Table, imaginative ways of cheering up a grumpy pirate during our sea shanty singing sessions and (the most popular spot this week) pirate baking and treasure counting in the Pirate Kitchen – a hive of activity all week!

The children have enjoyed building pirate ships outside and then making large flags to go on them, with some great thinking skills in working out how to best attach them and what would be the most suitable pole for them.

 **Out & About sessions:** With buckets and spades we set off for the little beach to find and then bury 10 pieces of treasure. The children loved digging holes to hide their loot and we discussed how we could remember where we had buried them all. Lots of ‘x marks the spot’s can now be found in the sand. The children very sensibly thought it might be best to write their names too so they didn’t muddle up whose x was whose!

***Sounds and Letters/language focus:***



The Starfish have been sharing lots of pirate themed stories, focusing on understanding of what has been read and what might happen next.

The Flying fish have played pirate phonic games where they have had to use their skills of identifying initial letter sounds to help sort pirates treasure chest and spot particular pieces of treasure.

Ideas to support your child at home:

Can you think of ways of cheering up the grumpy pirate?! Sing this song at home with your child and see if they can come up with any ideas! Sung to the tune of ‘What shall we do with the drunken pirate?’

What shall we do with the grumpy pirate x3

Early in the morning?

Hey ho and up she rises x 3

Early in the morning.

Ideas for what to do!:

Dance a little jig and make him smile

Make him walk the plank until he wobbles

Tickle him (everywhere) till he starts to giggle