Play & Learning Newsletter

10th-14th July 2023

**Pirate, treasure, Ahoy matey, compass, rigging, hook**

Wonder words to use with your child:

Pirate fun has continued this week with some ‘rough, tough’ girl pirates who don’t care if you are a boy or a girl if you want to join their pirate crew 😉. The story ‘The Night Pirates’ by Peter Harris and Deborah Allwright, has introduced the children to these wonderful characters who come up with an ingenious way to disguise their pirate ship.

This week we used the book ’10 Little Pirates’ in our Star fish 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 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, telescope, binoculars and treasure map creations at the Creating Table.

Other highlights this week have included having cornflakes to play with in the pirate galley kitchen, measuring who is the tallest child at pre-school, treasure hunts in the playground and most excitingly a mini pirate party on Friday afternoon with homemade pirate cakes (courteously of Jannah), the best way to end our pirate theme.

 ***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.

 **Out & About sessions:**

Due to staffing and the weather we only managed one out and about this week to check on our vegetables at the allotment, then onto the little beach to have a P.E session practising our self-control.

 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