

# Early Years Summer 1



## *Swashbuckling Pirates*

Wow. We are now entering our final term! 'Dinosaurs' has been a very engaging topic with lots of measuring, making and learning to say and spell some really long words! Hopefully you have been enjoying our Twitter updates. This half term will be short and sweet with lots happening including a Bank Holiday, Road Safety, Wacky Races (more info to come), Class 1's assembly and a trip to the Rising Sun! Our main topic this half term will be Pirates. We will begin with a crossover book of Captain Flynn and the Pirate Dinosaurs and then head off on our pirate adventure with lots of stories about pirate boys and girls. We will create lots of pirate crafts and find out about life sailing the Seven Seas!



The children will continue to take part in PE sessions on a Wednesday. Nursery children will just be removing socks, shoes and jumpers for the lesson however Reception children will need their PE kits as we will definitely be getting dressed for P.E. Please make sure that all PE kits and school uniform is labeled with your child's name to save any confusion on those days as school shoes and jumpers all look the same! You may find that children have clothes on inside out – don't worry, this is a good thing as it demonstrates that they are showing independence.



**British Summer Time is here and the weather will hopefully be warmer. As we play out in the sun, please ensure your child has sun cream applied before school and bring a sun hat with their name on. If you are changing to a summer jacket, remember to put your child's name on.**

### Dates for your diary:

- 1<sup>st</sup> May-Bank Holiday Monday
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May-Road Safety talks
- 10<sup>th</sup> May-PTFA Non Uniform/Wacky Races
- 17<sup>th</sup> May-Class 1's assembly
- 18<sup>th</sup> May- Nursery 2/Class 1 trip to the Rising Sun.
- 19<sup>th</sup> May-Pirate Day for Reception and Nursery 2. (Pirate costumes please)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> May –Nursery 1/Class 2 trip to the Rising Sun
- 24<sup>th</sup> May-Pirate Party for Nursery 1. (Pirate costumes please)
- 25<sup>th</sup> May-End of half term
- 26<sup>th</sup> May-Training Day

# Our Wish Tree

Vegetable oil

Baking parchment

Flour

Cooking chocolate

Pasta shapes for  
threading and counting

Salt

Caster sugar

Food colouring –  
green, yellow and  
blue

Shaving foam

Cornflour

Hay for the  
guinea pigs

Food for the guinea  
pigs – carrots,  
lettuce, cabbage.

Coloured wool



Any donations of the above items to Early Years would be greatly appreciated.

Please check the website for copies of letters and further dates for your diary and information.

[www.archibaldfirstschool.org.uk](http://www.archibaldfirstschool.org.uk)

Follow us on Twitter @ArchibaldFirst

**Prime Area: Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

In both Nursery and Reception, we will continue to provide the children with opportunities to talk about themselves, their families and things that are of importance to them; developing the children's confidence and participation within groups. We will also use these sessions to encourage the children to talk about emotions and how we deal with different emotions. Also we will help the children to recognise when their actions hurt others, developing empathy. We will be teaching the children to use and care for resources, then trusting them to do so independently. We ask that children refrain from bringing toys and resources in from home. In Reception, we love team points and continue to complete challenges and be super helpful to earn them for our team. Team Stephenson loved being VIP's for the day. Who will be next? We have enjoyed our Golden Time reward playtime on Friday. WOW stars and Little star vouchers are a great way to start our day! Please continue to send in these achievements.

**Prime Area: Communication and Language Development**

Through both our day to day routines and specific teaching, children will continue to develop the skills needed to become effective communicators; focusing on turn-taking in group situations and conversations. Carpet sessions will help develop listening skills and children will be encouraged to express their opinions and speak in front of both small and large groups. We will continue to spend time encouraging the children to talk about their activities at home and school. We will provide opportunities for children to talk about their activities at home and school, helping them to reflect upon and explain events. Listening, attention and understanding skills will be addressed in story times and as well as developing our story telling skills with pirate adventures. . Rhythm, rhyme and repetition will be explored through some of these texts and in our literacy work.

**Prime Area: Physical Development**

The children are thoroughly enjoying their PE sessions once a week in the hall. The Nursery children are trying hard to be independent when removing their shoes, socks and jumpers – well done! The Reception children are doing really well at getting fully changed for PE, too. We are losing fewer items along the way but please make sure that all items of clothing and shoes are named. The children have developed great travelling and balancing skills. This half term we will be developing agility, balance and coordination in our Multi-skills sessions. The Reception children are continuing their regular handwriting sessions and everyone's pencil control is really developing. Please continue to practice at home. Please focus on c, a , e, d, and g. Nursery children are really enjoying the dough disco sessions and are developing their finger and thumb control massively. They are trying really hard to write their first names. Please continue to provide opportunities to practice this at home.

**Specific Area: Expressive Art and Design**

This is always a popular area of learning in Early Years. The children are becoming more creative and confident in their creations. We will be creating lots of pirate accessories including telescopes, maps, parrots and hats!

Children will have daily opportunities to play with playdough, paint and to make their own models in the Blue zone (any recycling will be greatly appreciated!). This half term, our role play areas will include our new shop and car as well as a pirate ship and island outside in Green Zone.

The children will have singing sessions and continue to access musical instruments. In Reception, we will be getting funky with Big Bear and creating our own compositions.

**Specific Area: Mathematics**

We will continue to teach mathematics through a range of practical and fun activities, both indoors and outdoors, including counting, number rhymes, number hunts and reading and recognising numbers.

Reception children will develop their understanding and use of numbers, focusing on those tricky teen numbers and beyond. We will continue developing our addition and subtraction skills. We will continue to look at doubling, halving and sharing and these facts will become this term's Maths Challenge.

Treasure maps will help us to use positional and directional language. We will measure the treasure we have found and talk about money. The children will be encouraged to talk about their day and think about the language of time.

**Specific Area: Knowledge and Understanding of the World**

This half term, we will be looking at the life of a pirate in the past. We will look at maps and see where they sailed. We will investigate how they got their boat to float. We will change our Beebots into treasure hunts and guide them to find treasure on a special Beebot treasure mat.

Reception will continue to use the ICT suite on a regular basis, developing computer and mouse skills. All children continue to have access to a range of technology within the Unit, such as the smartboards, beebots, iPads, and the class computers and are impressing us with their independent use of this technology.

Both Reception and Nursery will continue their weekly Spanish. We are getting very good at naming colours, counting and singing Spanish songs!

**Specific Area: Literacy**

Reading is an integral part of the Early Years curriculum and we will continue to explore a range of books in both small and larger groups. Pirates will allow us to develop our story telling skills. Inspired by books like the Night Pirates and Pirate Girl, we will create our own adventures as well as looking at characters and settings.

Reception children will continue their daily phonics sessions. Keep up the work with your child using their orange sound books as this is a vital part of home school learning to help support your child's learning at home.

Reception children continue to receive their reading books, which are changed weekly. Please read as often as possible, talking about the books and remember to sign the reading diary letting us know how your child got on. Your feedback is very insightful and important to us. Some children will begin guided reading this half term.

Nursery will continue to get their book bags every other week. We hope you enjoy sharing these books with your children.