

**Class: Willow EYFS**  
**Term: 4**

**Communication and Language**

Using the story of 'The Pirates Next Door' by Jonny Duddle, the children will learn to retell the story orally. This will then allow the children to make up their own ideas about a pirate story. The children will learn new vocabulary and be encouraged to use this in their play.

There will be opportunities to role play being pirates in the role play areas and using small world.

At all times, the children will be encouraged to listen to one another, developing conversational skills. This will include recalling events and anticipating what might happen.

**Understanding of the World**

As part of our continued learning about the wider world we will be exploring how Christians celebrate Easter.

There will be lots more opportunities for exploring processes, one of which will be 'melting'.

We will learn about the different roles of people in society, in particular, scientists!

As always we will identify the changes in weather and seasons which is an important part of our understanding of the world, as we move through the coming weeks, we hope to be able to identify signs of Spring.

**Literacy**

**Key Text:** The Pirates Next Door (Jonny Duddle)

**Purpose for writing:** A finding tale—description focus

**Non-narrative:** Instructions—how to catch a pirate

**Writing:** In this unit the children will orally rehearse instructions for 'How to catch a pirate'. We will also use the story of 'The Pirates Next Door' to inspire us to create our own pirate stories. Our stories will be presented through oral story telling and story maps. Our writing focus will be on orally rehearsing and writing a simple sentence.

**Word Reading / Comprehension:** In all of our story work we will continue to develop comprehension, recalling main events in sequence, identifying characters and making predictions. The children will be encouraged to read 'tricky red words', these are words learnt by sight.

**Phonics**

In phonics sessions the children will be working in groups to read short stories called 'Ditties'. They will use their phonic knowledge to read the story, recognizing tricky red words and talk about the text.

**R.E.**

**RE Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?**

In this unit the children will learn about the Easter story including the events of Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. They will learn the significance of the cross as a symbol for Christians and even have a go at making their own Easter gardens.

**Quest: Ahoy there!**

**How can explorers change the world?**

In this History based quest, we will be working towards creating a class book all about Christopher Columbus and his life and achievements. As we learn something more each week, we will be presenting what we have discovered through words and pictures to be added to our class book.

**Music**

**Focus: Everyone**

In this unit the children will learn to listen and appraise a new set of nursery rhymes. The children will develop their singing skills and learn to play along with classroom instruments. Finally, singing and playing instruments to perform to others.

**Expressive Arts and Design**

In the creation station the children will be encouraged to continue to use their knowledge of colour mixing when using paints. We will be adding detail to drawings and trying out a range of art processes.

On the stage we will be using musical instruments, performing songs and dances.

There will also be plenty of opportunity for pirate role play and dressing up!

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Perseverance and resilience continue to be a main focus for our early years children. This term we endeavour to create as many opportunities as possible for children to develop these learning qualities. Activities may include competitive games, construction kits, board games and planned challenges. We will also use circle times to tackle how we feel when it is difficult to persevere or we when problems occur. This will help the children to understand what they can do when they have these feelings.

This term there will be opportunities to develop more understanding about keeping healthy and build on our knowledge of oral hygiene.

**Maths**

This term the children will focus on numbers from 6 to 10, gaining a deep understanding of each number. We are working towards fluent and fast recall of number bonds, such as; all of the different pairs of numbers which make 6.

As well as a number focus we will also spend some time developing an understanding of measuring length and height, this will involve lots of practical investigation and development of key vocabulary, 'longer/shorter', 'wider/narrower'.

We will continue to look at shape and pattern, this will include 3D shapes and exploring making our own repeating patterns.

**Physical Development**

**In P.E. lessons :**  
**Focus: Physical**

This unit will aim to teach the children to perform a range of skills and link two movements together. They will also develop more control over movements and begin to move with confidence. The children will learn to send and receive a large ball and then a small ball. They will develop quicker reactions and responses.

**Fine Motor Skills**

We will be working on further developing fine motor skills this term, continuing with Kinetic letters. Now that the children have an understanding of the start and finish points of most of these letters we will build upon size and automaticity. Cutting skills will be developed through following a guide and learning to turn the paper. A range of malleable resources will be used to