

St Thomas More R.C. Primary - Early Years
What I am Learning - Summer 2: Pirates



Area of Learning	Activities	Area of Learning	Activities
Communication & Language	We will be exploring a number of key texts over this half term including 'Sunk!', The Night Pirates and Billy and the Pirates.' We will be discussing the stories in detail, developing the children's understanding and encouraging them to answer 'how' and 'why' questions and exploring new vocabulary linked to coastal regions, pirates, ships, and other geographical language linked to comparing locations on the coast and inland. We will be talking about coastal areas and making comparisons between the UK and other places around the world.	Mathematics	During this half term, we will be focussing on identifying and naming 2D (and some 3D for Reception) shapes, talking about their properties and creating structures and pictures with shapes. Our maths work will also revisit lots of the mathematical concepts that we have covered during the year including, composition of numbers, number bonds, odd and evens, addition, subtraction and practical division. We will also be exploring measurement and weight during this half term. We will explore standard and non-standard units of measurement, talking about size and weight, making comparisons and weighing and measuring everyday objects.
Physical Development	We will be continuing to focus upon develop the children's fine and gross motor skills through our Dough Disco, Wiggle me into a Squiggler and Squiggle while you Wiggle sessions and through different activities linked to our theme. The Nursery children will continue to practise their 'name writing and mark making' daily (just for short periods of time throughout the week) and Nursery will trial some short, weekly PE sessions in preparation for their transition into Reception (no kits needed for this!) For Reception children, our PE focus will be 'Athletics and Team Games.' We will be encouraging the children to continue to practice their letter formation and handwriting alongside fine motor activities to develop precision and control.	Understanding the World	Linking with the topic, we will be exploring coastal areas in the UK and around the world. We will use maps and globes to identify the locations and talk about similarities and differences. We will also look at images of the coast from the present day and from the past and talk about the changes we see. We will also be exploring and using a range of geographical language and introducing the children to vocabulary linked to the 'coast.' We will be exploring 'Pirates' and the history linked to them. We will also be focussing some of scientific work on 'floating and sinking, using our text 'Sunk!' as our basis to test different materials, make predictions and conduct 'fair tests.'
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	We will continue to reinforce our positive class rules and boundaries. We will continue with circle time activities, modelling positive behaviours/friendships and discussing different aspects of our feelings. We will continue to explore our three school rules in more detail - Ready, Respectful & Safe. We will be talking about transition and preparing Nursery and Reception for the changes ahead in September. Reception children will be visiting Key Stage One, meeting the staff and getting used to be in and around the building.	Expressive Arts & Design	We will be creating landscapes of coastal areas using different materials and techniques. We will also be creating pirate themed artwork including hats, flags, maps and coastal landscapes. We will also be celebrating St Thomas More's Feast Day this half term. We will be exploring the life of St Thomas More and painting portraits of him.
Literacy	Our phonics sessions will continue this half term for Nursery and Reception children (separate sessions for each year group) and the length of these sessions will continue to extend slightly for the Reception children in preparation for the transition into Year 1. We will also be focussing some of our Literacy work around our key texts and around our theme. We will be writing setting description, describing characters, making maps, making predictions and re-telling different parts of the stories we read..	RE	In our Religion work this half term we will be exploring 'Branch 6' of our RE scheme 'Lighting the Path.' We will be exploring some elements of Christianity as a global religion and encounter different religion worldviews. We will be finding out about the 'Friends of Jesus' - St Peter and St Paul, we will be exploring the roles of the Priest and people in the Parish Community. We will also be talking about 'the seventh day' and how Sunday is a special day for Christians and that other Faiths may have other days that are special for them. We will be talking about the Jewish day 'Shabbat' and how this is celebrated. We will also be talking about the 'Madrasa, Salah and the features of Mosques. We will also be exploring the different ways that we can help people to Pray.