



Dear Parents/ Carers,

## Our learning so far...

Wow! What a fantastic start to Year One the children have had! We kicked off our Autumn term topic 'How To Find Gold' with a very exciting find in the outside area, a treasure map! The children were so excited and were desperate to find out how it had arrived and who had put it there. This resulted in the children going on a pirate hunt, drawing their own treasure maps and looking for clues in our outside area to answer our questions. They found an 'x' marks the spot, pirate writing in the play house and an old plaster, which they thought may have been a pirate's after being in a fight! They really amazed us with their imaginations.

After this very exciting start we introduced our key literacy text 'How to Find Gold.' The children have looked at pictures from the text and discussed what they know, what they think they know and what was puzzling them about the picture. They have thought about different characters from the text and what we know about them.

Continuing with this text the children used a map drawn by the crocodile in the story to work in small groups to orally tell their own story and map this out through pictures. Including a very a scary sea monster!

In Maths, the children have been working hard on consolidating their number knowledge and learning new concepts related to place value within 10. They have worked on sorting, counting, missing numbers, comparing, matching and more than and less than and equal to, working within 10 for most children and extending others onto within 20. It is important to continue to work with these lower numbers to ensure they have a deeper understanding of number before moving onto using larger numbers. The children have enjoyed working practically with a range of resources including numicon, counters and dominoes.

## What learning is coming up next?

We are continuing with our key text in Literacy for the rest of this term. The children are going to be thinking of adjectives to describe their sea monster and then use these to form grammatically correct sentences. The focus within these sessions will be finger spaces, capital letters, full stops and checking our sentences make sense.

The children are going to be working on a Science and DT project on designing and making a boat to sail off to sea to find gold! This will include sorting a range of everyday materials and describing their properties to decide which material would be best to build a boat from.

In Maths the children will be beginning to use the greater than (>) less (<) and equals (=) symbols to compare numbers. We will then spend some time on addition and subtraction.

## Homework

You should have received your child's first phonics homework last Friday.

This week you will receive both phonics and mental maths homework to work on with your child.

Please return the homework book to school every Thursday ready for new homework to be stuck in.

## Reminders

- Please remember to send in all school uniform clearly labelled with your child's name on.
- Snack time- please make sure if you are sending your child in with grapes that they are chopped length ways in half.
- We also ask that if you choose to send a snack in with your child that you provide only **ONE** snack because snack time is a short period of time and lunch follows only an hour later.
- Please can you ask your child/children not to play in the outside classroom in the morning. We use the time before school to set up learning opportunities for the children and sometimes this can be messed up with excited children playing with it before school.
- Please can we remind you that the climbing frame/trim trail should not be played on before school or after school. As this is on school premises we need an adult watching the children play on this. If school is not open then we can't man the equipment and we would hate to hear that someone had fallen off and hurt themselves.

*Many thanks for your support.*

**The Year 1 Team**