

LEARNING @ ORSETT THROUGH SKILLS



Friday 5th January 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back-I hope you had a good Christmas holiday. Over the next five weeks' class 1 will be studying different subjects which will be linked with the theme 'Pirates'.

In this way we believe that the children will gain a greater understanding of the world around us and why learning is important to us all if we are to become responsible and independent learners.

If children understand why they need to learn something and see its relevance to their own lives not only will they actively enjoy their learning but also they will achieve higher standards in their work than if they see no point in their learning.

Each theme is based around the specific National Curriculum (NC) Skills that are needed to be mastered by our children and during this five week theme of *Pirates*, we will be covering the NC Skills listed in *History, Geography and Science*. Below is an outline of what the children will be learning about:

<i>History</i>	<i>During this term, we will be researching Edward Teach or otherwise known as the pirate Blackbeard.</i>
<i>Geography</i>	<i>In geography, we will continue to learn geographical vocabulary when learning about a coastal location and comparing this to a village location. Also, we will be learning compass directions whilst creating maps.</i>
<i>Science</i>	<i>In Science, we will begin to learn about plants. We will be keeping records of how plants have changed over time, for example the leaves falling off trees and buds opening; and compare and contrast what we have found out about different plants. This topic will continue during Spring 2.</i>

Every child will experience a variety of different ways of learning including reading, writing, mathematics, problem solving, illustrating, working independently and working collaboratively and their progress towards the NC Skills will be continually assessed again in a variety of ways.

I know that as parents you are keen to support your child in their learning and would ask that you talk to your child about what they are learning during this theme – let them teach you!

Homework: *As you know here at Orsett we always encourage our children to continue their learning outside of school. We do expect that all children will read daily and will learn the relevant spelling and time tables for the year group. We also will be working with the children over the next week to agree their Extended Homework expectations and these will be sent out to you on **Friday 10th January** so that you are aware of the areas that your child will be working towards at home and also the agreed deadlines.*

Other Info: Our PE sessions will be on **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child(ren) has appropriate clothing for outside sessions. **If they wear trainers for PE they must be non-marking and black, and they can only be worn if the children change into them for PE.**

If anyone has related skills, resources, experience and knowledge they are willing to share please let me know as soon as possible, as the more information and support that your child has, the more successful their learning will be.

Yours sincerely

Ms Gosling – Class Teacher