Welcome back Otters! I hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing Easter and you are all ready to begin our new term. This term and next term we will be following the Cornerstones Curriculum topics 'Land Ahoy!' and 'Beachcombers'. We will be following two topics over two terms as the topics are all pirate and beach themed.

English and topic - During our English and topic lessons we will be looking at a writing messages in a bottle, postcards, information booklets on pirates and pirate ships, poetry and stories.

Maths - We will continue to look at multiplication and division, 2-D and 3-D shapes and their properties including lines of symmetry, numbers within 1000, measuring, volume and capacity and mass.

SPAG - We will continue to look at the four different sentence types we have looked at (commands, statements, exclamations and questions), joining sentences using or, and, but, when, if, that and because, uses expanded noun phrases, using commas in lists and looking at homophones.

We will also be making treasure maps, pirate ships, looking at materials and planting seeds.

Accelerated reader

On Monday 29th April the children will be completing their STAR reader tests again to get their new reading level. As mentioned to many of you at parents evening, although accelerated reader is brilliant some of the levels have limited books (an issue I have been addressing) and some of the books are not always appropriate (some of the Goosebump books are scary for some of the children) or are old fashioned and do not appeal to the children. I am more than happy for your child to read any book they wish, a love for reading is far more important and beneficial to the children that getting 100% on a quiz. However, please be aware that if your child reads their own book from home, they are not able to complete quizzes on these books.

As of term 5 the rewards for achieving 100% on a quiz is changing. Instead of earning a star, the children will now receive a marble that will go into a jar outside the library similar to the jars in Harry Potter. Anyone who achieves 100% on their quiz will also have their name called out during Shining Stars assembly on Friday.
Chatham Dockside

On Wednesday 24th (first day of term) we will be going to Chatham Dockside to start out new topic. During the day we will be having three workshops Pirates Ahoy!, full speed ahead and Jack and the Flum Flum tree (a book by Julia Donaldson). We will have a little time to explore the other boats and activities when we arrive and before we leave.

Thank you to all the parents who offered to help on our trip, your offers are always greatly appreciated and we would be unable to run school trips without your generous offers. For the majority of the day we will be altogether and we will go into our smaller groups at the end of the day when we have time to explore the site.

Children need to wear a green school jumper/P.E. t-shirt with the school name on and sensible footwear. They are allowed to wear jeans/leggings/shorts for the day and there is a slight chance of rain so you may wish to send your child with a rain coat. Your child will need a packed lunch for the day. We are aiming to be back at school by 3pm, I will update Dojo when we are returning.

SATS

Please see the timetable for the SATS. We will be doing a few practice papers this term to ensure the children are as prepared as they can be, some of these will be completed in test conditions, others will be as part of a whole class teaching lesson. During the week of the SATS the children will be taking the assessments in the classroom in groups of 15. Myself, Miss Weedon and Mrs Pitcher will be in the room when the children complete the assessments. During the week we will try and keep everything as normal - when the children are not completing the assessments, they will be outside having P.E. lessons, at Logan’s den completing art work and other various exciting activities. Instead of early morning work we will have games and activities out and toast and juice available if the children would like something to eat and drink. There will be no home learning set the week before, during and after the SATS.

Monday 20th May – Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) AM
SPAG Paper 1 (Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary) PM

Tuesday 21st May – Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning) AM
SPAG Paper 1 (Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary) PM

Wednesday 22nd May – Reading Paper 1 AM

Thursday 23rd May – Reading Paper 2 AM

Friday 24th May – SPAG Paper 2 (Spelling) AM
Let's celebrate!

On Friday 24th of May Otters would like to invite all parents into school at 1:30 for a picnic on the field to celebrate everyone’s hard work over the past few terms and the end of the SATS. We will have activities such as football, skipping ropes and twister out and we will also have access to the apparatus. If you could bring in a small donation of party food such as crisps, sausage rolls, biscuits, cheese strings etc (please ensure food is nut free) in with your child in the morning of the 24th, it would be greatly appreciated.

Art

On Friday 26th April we will be making pirate ships. Please send your in a cereal sized box into school by Thursday 25th in preparation for Fridays lessons. We are still collecting any plastic bottle tops (sports drinks, milk, shampoo bottles) for our plastic based art project during term 6.

Dates for your dairy

Wednesday 24th April – Back to school and trip to Chatham Dockside.
Friday 26th April – Parent coffee morning 9am-10am.
Monday 29th April – Science themed assembly and workshops.
Thursday 2nd May – Class photos.
Week beginning 20th May – SATS week.
Week beginning 20th May – Travelling book fair.
Thursday 23rd May – Harley the dog parent workshop 9am.
Friday 24th May – Celebration picnic 1:30pm and last day of term (3:20pm)

Finally, if you have any messages or concerns about your child, please contact me via class dojo.

Miss Whitbread