



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Welcome to Year 6. We hope that you have had a fantastic summer and look forward to having a wonderful year working together. We hope that this newsletter will help to keep you informed about what your children will be learning this term. If we need to share information with you, we will use the 'text to parents' service, so please make sure we have an up-to-date mobile phone number for you.

English: We will be working hard in English to develop the children's reading and writing. With this aim in mind, we will be reading a number of exciting fictional texts such as Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick and Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver. Through our work around these texts, the children will develop their ability to write in a range of genres including diary writing, descriptive writing, non-fiction, dialogue and narrative. We will also be developing the children's understanding of spelling and grammar rules, allowing them to use these more accurately in their work.

Maths: As part of the new SATs exams, children will be sitting an arithmetic paper and two reasoning papers. Therefore, we will be separating our maths learning into those two areas with an emphasis on encouraging the children to explain their thinking and demonstrate their methodology. In arithmetic this term, we will be re-capping methods for the 4 operations as well as introducing new methods, such as long division. In our reasoning learning this half term, we will be focusing on geometry, including how to find missing angles, how to calculate a radius and diameter of a circle and how to use this knowledge to solve reasoning problems. Next half term our focus will be measurement, including length, mass, volume and time.

Science: Our science topic for this half term is 'Light'. We will be studying how light moves and how we see colour as well as investigating reflection, refraction and shadows. Next half term we will be learning about electricity. We will be exploring how to build and use a variety of circuits and will be completing an investigation based on this knowledge.

Thematic: This term our theme is: Greece is the Word. In geography, we will be learning about the location, geography and climate of Greece. In history, we will be learning about the politics of Ancient Greece, Greek Gods and Greek Myths. In art, the children will be designing and creating their own Grecian vase. In D&T, we will be using levers to create moving pictures that depict a Greek Myth. The British Museum has a wonderful collection of Ancient Greek artefacts; you might wish to visit the museum with your child during the next few months.

Trips and events: This term we have already had a wonderful trip to Broadstone Warren. We hope that the children enjoyed experiencing all the different activities such as rock-climbing, archery and pot-holing. If you would like to read more about the trip and see some photos, please have a look at the website where you will find reports that some of the children have written about the day.

What you can do to help: Please make sure that your child reads every night and sign their reading diary at the end of the week. Regular reading is proven to improve children's learning. Ask them questions about what they've read. Ask them what they think the words mean or what the character might be thinking or feeling. There is no such thing as a night with 'no homework': every night is reading night! Lists of spelling words for each year group are available and children are expected to know these by the end of the year. Times tables need constant revision - children should know these facts instantly, in mixed order, and know the corresponding division fact. 'Mathletics' is our on-line maths homework. Children are expected to earn 1000 points (a bronze certificate) each week but are welcome to earn more points! 'Live' Mathletics is particularly good for developing mental maths skills. Additionally, helping your children to complete their thematic homework is a wonderful way of spending time with your child whilst supporting their learning.

Mrs O'Connor (Year 6 Team Leader)
and the Year 6 Team

**Don't forget to check the website at:
www.pegasusacademytrust.org**

Dates for your diary

6/10/2016	If you require any help with your child's secondary school form, please come along to our workshop at Ecclesbourne 8.45-11.30am.
3/11/2016	The children will be visiting a caveman who will set up camp on the grounds at Ecclesbourne Primary School