



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 4 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2017

We hope that you have had a fantastic Christmas break and look forward to having a wonderful 2017 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, writing and speaking and listening. We will be reading a number of fictional texts such as 'Vacation under the Volcano' by Mary Pope Osborne and 'The Angel of Nitshill Road' by Anne Fine. These texts will inspire the children and enable them to write in a range of text types such as dialogue, diary entries, narrative, newspaper articles and non-fiction. They will be practising and further developing their writing skills including the use of descriptive language, punctuation, grammar and spelling patterns. We will also be learning about Roman Gods, linked to our continuing thematic topic, and will be compiling a class anthology of Gods created by the children.

Maths: In our maths learning this term, we will be focusing on multiplication and introducing the children to the expanded column method in accordance with the Pegasus calculation policy. We will also be recapping the properties of 2D and 3D shapes as well as looking at angles and symmetry. After half term, we will be focusing on fractions and decimals including equivalence and addition and subtraction up to two decimal places. As always, we will be seeking to deepen the children's understanding of these concepts through applying and problem solving.

Science: Our science topics are Living things and their Habitats and Electricity. In Living Things and their Habitats, we will be studying life processes, habitats, how animals adapt to their surroundings and how humans are impacting on this. In our topic on Electricity, we will learn about circuits, switches, conduction and the many uses of electricity.

Thematic: Until half term, we will be continuing with our When in Rome theme. In history, we will be learning about Pompeii and the eruption of Vesuvius. The children will also have a chance to make their own erupting volcanoes in DT. In geography, we will be learning about how the Roman Empire ended and comparing Italy to Britain. In Art, children will design and create their own mosaics. After half term, we will be starting our new topic of Invaders and Settlers. This will include an introduction to the topic using timelines, looking at who invaded Britain after the Romans left and who were the Anglo Saxons and Jutes.

Trips and events: This term we will be visiting the British Wildlife Centre in East Sussex to extend our science learning on habitats. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to learn about British wildlife up close! We will also be visiting the Museum of London in Barbican to find out about and take part in an Invaders and Settlers workshop.

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. By the end of Year 4, children are now expected to know their times tables to 12 x 12. '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.

Mr Winborn (Yr 4 Team Leader)
and the Yr 4 Team

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

Dates for your diary

23/1 and 24/1	British Wildlife centre trip.
27/1	Morgan class assembly.
3/2	PAT Museum Day
10/2 and 20/2	Museum of London trip.