



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 4 Termly Newsletter: Autumn 2016

Welcome to Year 4. 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, writing and speaking and listening. We will be reading a number of fictional texts such as *Krinklekrax* by Philip Ridley and *Not a Box* by Antoinette Portis. 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 developing their writing skills including the use of descriptive language, punctuation including inverted commas, grammar and spelling patterns. We will also be learning how to write and perform poetry and studying black sports personalities during Black History Week in October.

Maths: In our maths learning this term, our focus will be place value. This will involve recognising the place value of numbers up to 4 digits, ordering them, working with negative numbers and rounding to 10, 100 and 1000. We will also be building on the column methods for addition and subtraction that the children learnt in Year 3, studying time, including the 24 hour clock, and looking at measures. For each unit we cover, we will be helping the children apply their new maths skills to investigations and mathematical problems.

Science: Our science topics are States of Matter and Sound. In States of Matter, we will be studying the differences between solids, liquids and gases, investigating the different states of water and learning about the water cycle. In our topic on Sound, we will learn how sound is caused by vibrations, how we hear sounds and how things like pitch and loudness can affect sounds.

Thematic: This term our theme is: When in Rome. In history, we will be learning about the Roman invasion of Britain, Boudicca and the Celts and how Roman inventions and innovations are still in use today. In geography, we will be learning about how the Roman Empire spread, Roman society and comparing Celtic Britain to Rome. In Art, children will learn to design a Roman shield and study mosaics. In DT, we will be making our shields and creating working volcanoes. Places of interest, linked to our theme, that you could visit with your child are the Museum of London, Colchester, Bath or the local library to research Ancient Rome.

Trips and events: This term we will be holding our very own Roman day. We will be visited by two Roman soldiers, in full costume, who will lead day long workshops explaining how the Romans conquered Iron Age Britain, why they were such an effective fighting force, what new ideas and inventions they brought with them and how these have had an impact on life in Britain today. It would be fantastic if all the children could dress up in Roman costumes (as we did on Stone Age day) - ask your child's teacher for ideas on how to make a toga!

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:

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| 7/10 | Class assembly 4G (Camargue) |
| 13/10 | Roman Day—WHJ. |
| 14/10 | Roman Day—EPS and Brigstock/Comets |
| 14/10 | Harvest assembly Comets |
| 18/11 | Class assembly 4B (Connemara) |

