



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Year 5 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2019

**H**appy New Year! We hope that you have had a restful Christmas break. 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 based around our Rainforest topic, such as 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell and 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry. We will also be learning lots of factual information about rainforests to deepen the children's understanding of the context of these engaging texts and they will produce their own non-fiction rainforest books full of relevant information. Understanding the impact of deforestation will form part of their learning during this unit of work and they will write persuasively to express their opinions about the topic. The children will end the unit of work by producing their very own mini books in which they will write their own rainforest themed short story.

**Maths:** In our maths learning this term, the children will be focusing on securing their understanding of the written methods of all four operations including reasoning and problem solving. They will be tackling questions that require them to apply their knowledge of all calculations in many ways, such as word problems, missing digit calculations, understanding errors and investigating statements. We will then move on to learn all about fractions and percentages. The children will be able to recognise equivalent fractions, compare and order, add, subtract and multiply fractions and be able to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa. They will also be able to write percentages as fractions.

**Science:** Our first science topic is 'Properties and changes of materials' which includes; how mixtures can be separated, exploring reversible changes and understanding how irreversible changes form new materials. We will also learn about 'Living things and their habitats', exploring the different life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects and birds.

**Thematic:** Our continuing theme for the first part of the term will be: The Vikings are Coming! In the latter part of this term, our theme is: Crime and Punishment. In history, we will be learning all about the types of crimes that were committed during different historical ages and the punishments that were deemed fitting. In geography, we will be learning about transportation and focusing on Australia, exploring its geographical features. In Art, children will learn to create their own 'street art'. Places of interest, linked to our theme, that you could visit with your child are: the Museum of London, the Tower of London and, not for the faint-hearted, The Clink Museum (one of England's oldest and most notorious prisons).

**Trips and events:** We will be visited by a rainforest biologist, who has real-life experience of living in the rainforest. He will be sharing his authentic experiences and wealth of knowledge with the children.

**What you can do to help:** Please make sure that your child reads every night and that you 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 on the website 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.

The Year 5 Team

**Don't forget to check the website at: [www.pegasusacademytrust.org](http://www.pegasusacademytrust.org)**

**Dates for your diary:**

**Whitehorse Manor Junior School**

Friday 18th  
January 2019

Jutland Class Assembly

Friday 22nd March  
2019

Lipizzan Class Assembly

**Ecclesbourne Primary School**

Friday 1st February  
2019

Saturn Class Assembly

Friday 29th March  
2019

Venus Class Assembly

**Cypress Junior School**

Friday 15th  
February 2019

Willow Class Assembly

Friday 1st March  
2019

Sycamore Class Assembly

Friday 22nd March  
2019

Hazel Class Assembly