



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Year 6 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2018

**H**appy New Year. We hope that you have had a wonderful, relaxing break and that the children are refreshed and ready to recommence their learning. 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:** This term, the children will be developing their ability to use high-level punctuation, such as colons, semi-colons and parenthesis, to create effects in their writing. They will be writing a story to go with the picture book 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner using these techniques and a variety of stylistic devices. The children will also be studying William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' and the fictional text 'Floodland' by Marcus Sedgwick. Through our work with these texts, the children will develop their ability to write in a range of genres including play-scripts, fiction, descriptive writing, 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:** We will be continuing to separate our maths learning into arithmetic and reasoning with an emphasis on encouraging the children to explain their thinking and demonstrate their methodology. In arithmetic this term, we will be developing the children's ability to use their knowledge of number effectively and efficiently with a focus on calculations involving fractions. In our reasoning learning this half term, we will begin by focusing on measure. This will include converting between different units of measurement of length, weight and capacity as well as applying this knowledge to solving complex word problems. We will then look at ratio and proportion which will include solving problems involving relative sizes of two quantities as well as unequal sharing and grouping.

**Science:** Our science topic for this term is 'Evolution and Inheritance'. During our studies, we will be looking at how and why animals inherit certain traits versus traits that are learnt. We will also be investigating how various animals have adapted to their specific habitats and studying Darwin's theory of evolution. In order to introduce this topic to the children, we will be attending a workshop on evolution at the Natural History Museum.

**Thematic:** This term our theme is 'Greece is the Word'. We will be looking at city states and how they were run by different types of government as well as studying the origin of the Olympic games. We will also be looking at Greek myths and representing them in a variety of ways including using levers and sewing. We do hope that you will join us on Museum Day to have a look at the work that the children have completed on this theme so far.

**Trips and events:** As you are aware we have already enjoyed a trip to the British Museum to visit the Greek antiquities displayed there. The children particularly enjoyed the Elgin marbles. We will also be going on a trip to the Natural History Museum where we will be attending a workshop that will introduce the children to the theory of evolution as part of our science unit on 'Evolution and Inheritance'.

**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 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. Additionally, helping your children to complete their thematic homework is a wonderful way of spending time with your child whilst supporting their learning.

The Year 6 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 8th February 2019	Museum Day
Monday 11th February 2019	<b>Clydesdale and Oak</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.
Tuesday 12th February 2019	<b>Suffolk</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.
Wednesday 13th February 2019	<b>Shire</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.

### Ecclesbourne Primary School

Friday 8th February 2019	Museum Day
Tuesday 12th February 2019	<b>Mars</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.
Wednesday 13th February 2019	<b>Jupiter</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.

### Cypress Junior School

Friday 8th February 2019	Museum Day
Monday 11th February 2019	<b>Oak</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.
Tuesday 12th February 2019	<b>Larch</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.
Wednesday 13th February 2019	<b>Beech</b> class trip to the Natural History Museum to attend a workshop on evolution.