



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Reception Newsletter: Spring 2, 2018

To round off the spring term, our theme in spring 2 over the six weeks will be 'Construction and Transport' and is appropriately entitled, 'Can we fix it?' Through this topic, the children will be focusing on developing their imaginative play, physical capabilities as well as further practising their spoken and written English. The children will also have opportunities to engage in collaborative projects, which will help to nurture their early social and communicative skills.

Communication, Language and Literacy: In their literacy work, the children will focus specifically on developing an understanding of how to structure sentences verbally (so that they make sense to others) before transferring these into the written form using the correct punctuation, grammar and spelling. To do this, the children will learn how to use capital letters, finger spaces (to separate words), full stops as well as how to use their phonics learning to spell words according to how they sound. So as to immerse the children and to empower them as authors, they will be reading *The naughty bus* (by Jan Oke), *On sudden hill* (by Linda Sarah), *Journey* (by Aaron Becker) and *10 things I can do to help my world* (by Melanie Walsh). From this wide reading, the children will be creating their very own story narratives and publishing their work in the form of bound books which they will then have the opportunity of sharing with others. Please support your child by encouraging them to write for different purposes for example shopping lists, short stories, letters, postcards and simple notes or messages, prompting them to use their letter sounds to help them to spell the words they wish to write (please don't worry if your child doesn't spell them correctly - they will in time!)

Maths: This term the children will be consolidating their understanding of simple addition, using counting objects to find the totals of two or more groups and beginning to represent this as a number sentence. The children will then move onto looking at subtraction for the very first time! Through both their play and formal teaching, pupils will develop an understanding of what happens when smaller quantities are subtracted from larger ones, and will use methods such as counting back and number tracks to check their answers. As well as being introduced to subtraction, the children will also learn about money, initially learning how to identify and make certain values using 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins before finishing the term revisiting 2D and 3D shapes. We kindly ask all parents to support their children at home by giving them plenty of practice counting up to and back from 0-20, not exceeding this at the moment (no matter how tempting!) Please look for opportunities where your child can play with and even use coins with you for example when out shopping.

Understanding the World: As part of this term's topic theme, the children will be learning about construction and different types of transport from around the world, comparing what they know about their local communities to that of other countries. As well as this, the children will be looking at global sustainability - specifically recycling - and will develop an awareness of the types of actions they can take to protect their planet for future generations. This empathy for others will be further fostered as they work alongside their classmates in large-scale construction projects where they will learn to value others' ideas and opinions.

Expressive Arts and Design: Linked to our 'Construction' theme, the children will be designing and creating 3D models (of their choosing) using craft materials and embellishments to appeal to theirs and others' interests. Before doing so, they will be taught to think critically about their choice of materials and methods of fastening them together based on their understanding of each material's properties. In PE, the children will be representing their ideas and responding to music stimuli through expressive dance and gymnastic movements.

Physical Development: With great enthusiasm, the children will continue to develop travelling and balancing skills, spatial awareness and the confidence to take measured risks through engaging in a series of gymnastics lessons from a sports coach. They will learn how to move in different ways and will be able to develop greater control over their physical movements. It is vital that your child has a PE kit in school each and every day. This should consist of a white t-shirt, black shorts and black plimsolls, all of which should be labelled. Please check that your child has their own clothes and return any that do not belong to them. We have free-flow access to our outside classrooms during the day, so please ensure that your child comes armed with the appropriate clothing and is prepared for all weathers, especially given the recent arrival of snow!

Trips and events: On **Wednesday 14th March**, we will receive a second visit from 'Professor Bubbleworks' and will take part in another fun-filled workshop, this time called 'Rockets' whereby the children will be able to make their very own space shuttle and launch it whilst exploring the properties of different materials in Science. On **Thursday 19th April**, we will be holding a Maths workshop for our Reception families, which will provide parents with lots of easy-to-use games, activities and strategies that can be used out of school to help improve children's mathematical understanding. Make sure you don't miss out!

The Reception Team

Ms. Khajehouri
Red Class

Miss Petitti
Orange Class

Miss Staniforth
Blue Class

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