



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Reception Newsletter: Summer 2019

Welcome back to all of our families and we hope that the children are well-rested for what will be a very busy forthcoming summer term! Our topic this half term is '**Once upon a time...**' where the children will have the opportunity to learn, retell and write a variety of familiar traditional tales, using these to compose their very own stories in the form of self-published narratives! Traditionally, we find that our children thoroughly enjoy this topic, especially as they can allow their imaginations to run wild and their writing skills to truly blossom!

Communication, Language and Literacy: Over the next half term, the children will be developing their speaking and listening skills as well as their use of 'story telling' language strategies – such as repeated refrains - when writing their very own narratives. The children will learn about each of the main traditional tales that we all know and love: The Three Little Pigs; Little Red Riding Hood; The Gingerbread Man; Three Billy Goats Gruff and Goldilocks and The Three Bears. Again, pupils will develop their communication and language skills and begin to understand how to structure their very own stories, writing these through the use of their phonics knowledge and learnt tricky words. Please encourage your child to write at home when inventing story plots, allowing them time to read their story to you. **Top tip:** when writing short stories at home, please encourage your child to 'sound out' words which are unfamiliar to them, writing the sounds which they hear. Don't worry if their spelling is not always correct—it will be in time!

Mathematics: During this half term, the children will be consolidating their understanding of the value of numbers from 10-20 through the concept of 'subitising' (recognising values as patterns of objects e.g. dots on a dice) as well as place value (e.g. 12 has one **ten** and two **ones**) which will support their mathematical fluency. The children will then revisit their learning about 2D and 3D shapes; capacities of space within containers; comparing and describing the weight of everyday objects as well as beginning to learn about very simple denominations of money (e.g. 1p, 2p and 10p coins), identifying these and beginning to add them together to make given amounts, for example $3p = 1p + 1p + 1p$. **Top tip:** Please support your child at home by giving them plenty of practice counting up to and back from 0-20, using counting objects such as small toys, dried pasta and pulses and 1p coins to help them understand the value of each digit (please don't be tempted to exceed 20 just yet—all children must perfect their understanding within this range first!)

Understanding the World: Alongside their learning about traditional tales, the children will learn about a range of basic scientific concepts centred on their knowledge and understanding of the world, for example learning about why the third little pig's stone house was the strongest and linking this to weight and forces.

Expressive Arts and Design: Linked to our 'Once upon a time...' topic, the children will be using a range of mixed media, materials and tools to create both two and three-dimensional pieces of artwork to accompany their written traditional story retellings. The children will be taught about the properties of each material and the use of tools so that they can explore what happens when they effect physical change upon them, for example when cutting, gluing, layering and folding different materials. Pupils will also have plenty of opportunities to develop their Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) through acting out the roles of a variety of different characters from each of the traditional tales.

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, dance and game-based lessons. 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.

Trips and events: On Thursday 13th June, the children will receive a very special visit from the Zoolab Team, who will bring a range of exotic creatures into school for the children to see, touch—if they want to - and most importantly learn about!

The Reception Team

Mrs. Davies & Ms. Enahoro
Red Class Teachers

Mrs. Smalley-Nicholson & Mrs. Whorms
Orange Class Teacher

Mrs. Dutton
Yellow Class Teacher

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

Dates for your diary

Cypress Primary School—Lower site

Friday 3rd May	Red class cake sale
Monday 6th May	School closed—Bank Holiday
Friday 24th May	Last day of half term
Monday 3rd June	Children return to school
6th & 7th June	Reception children vision screening (led by school nurses)
Tuesday 2nd July AM	Reception Sports Day
Friday 5th July	Patron of reading day and book signing after school
Friday 19th July	Last day of term