



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 2 Termly Newsletter: Autumn 2023

Welcome to Year 2. We hope that you have had a restful summer and look forward to having a wonderful year working together. We have been so excited to welcome the children back to school and have been pleased with how well they have settled back into school life. 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 Studybugs app, so please make sure you have downloaded the app and synced it with your child's information. Google Classrooms will also be kept up to date.

English: During the autumn term, 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 'The Lonely Beast' and 'The Bear and the Piano' to fuel our story retelling and love of reading. We will also be researching and fact finding using a wide range of non-fiction books, making links with our learning about healthy living in science and looking closely at our history topic, which this term will be 'The Tudors'. We will use our discovered facts to write information posters all about Henry VIII and consider how to vary our sentence starters in order to draw in the reader. As winter approaches, we will be reading 'Jack Frost' and developing our descriptive vocabulary and learning how to use the possessive apostrophe correctly. Every week, the children will be learning about different aspects of spelling, grammar and punctuation and using this to improve their writing skills.

Maths: In our maths learning this term, the children will be focusing on place value (e.g. to know that the number 23 is made up of 2 digits that tell us how many tens and ones there are in the number and that $23 = 20 + 3$). We will also look at different strategies we can use to add and subtract numbers and explore the concepts of multiplication and division. Please help your child with as much practical maths as possible remembering that it is important that they can explain the method they have used to solve a calculation. Children will be working with money, learning how to add together two totals, find different ways to make the same total and find change. We have allowed extra time for our maths units this term to ensure they children have time to consolidate their learning and embed the skills learnt.

Science: Our science topic this term will be "Animals including humans" and we will be learning all about the human life cycle and what animals and humans need to survive. Children will be thinking about what makes 'healthy living' and will look at different food groups as well as linking with DT to make their own healthy muffins. We will be learning about how important exercise is to keeping healthy and different ways we can keep fit. Children will be learning about how exercise creates changes in our bodies. Lastly, children will be looking at the importance of hygiene and ways in which we can keep clean.

Thematic: Our topic this term is 'The Terrible Tudors' and the children will learn all about the reign of King Henry VIII and how he ruled England over 500 years ago. We will be finding out what Tudor life was like for the rich and poor people and what kind of king Henry VIII was. We will be bringing this topic alive by visiting Henry VIII's most famous palace, Hampton Court Palace, and discovering the fate of his six wives. Children will discover how food and fashion have changed since the Tudor period and what life was like as a child during that time. The children will draw and paint Tudor portraits of themselves wearing Tudor costume and design their own Tudor rose or Tudor shield which they will use to create a printing pattern.

Trips and events: To enrich our RE learning, Nabhi from the London Institute of Vedic Education, will be visiting us and delivering an interactive workshop based around the Hindu festival Diwali. This year, as part of our curriculum convergence, we are aiming to take the children on the same trips as all the other children across the Trust. More details will follow in due course.

What you can do to help: The most important way you can support your child is by reading with them as often as possible. Your child will have the opportunity to change their sharing reading books, be given a teacher choice book and will have access to a selection of books on Bug Club. It is essential that you listen to them read aloud and also that you read to them so they are exposed to a range of different texts. Please try and write in your child's reading diary on a weekly basis to keep us informed of their reading at home. There will be a chance for you to meet with your child's teacher this half term to talk through their next steps for learning. These meetings will be taking place the **week beginning Monday 9th October from 3:30 to 6:30pm**. You will be able to sign up for a slot nearer to the time. We also look forward to seeing you for our Year 2 curriculum meeting.

If you have any general concerns or questions in the meantime, please ask!

The Year 2 Team

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