



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 5 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2022

Happy 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. Please see school newsletters too about specific events in your child's school.

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 including: *Robot Girl* by Malorie Blackman, *The Sleeper and the Spindel* by Neil Gaiman and *The Highwayman* by Alfred Noyes. In addition to these texts, we will also be using the multi media film - *The Little Shoemaker* to enhance the children's vocabulary and help them to understand how to structure a narrative story. We will also be learning lots of factual information about rainforests to deepen the children's understanding of how we can continue to protect this phenomenal ecosystem. *'The Great Kapok Tree'* by Lynne Cherry, will be used to support our learning on this topic. 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 writing their very own letter to a logging company stating reasons why they should care more for rainforests.

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 *multiplication and division* and in *measurement* we will identify *perimeter and area* of shapes and learn how to find these. 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. The maths videos on the website will help with if worried about what method we use. They are really good to follow.

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 how it was perceived by the law at that time. In geography, we will be learning about transportation and focusing on Australia, exploring its geographical features and some of the countries culture. In Art, children will learn to create their own 'street art' and Aboriginal dot art as well to link in with History. 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: The children will participate in a Viking Workshop which will be based at school and you will be given further details about this nearer the time. There will also be a virtual Rainforest workshop with a biologist who lives in the Amazon Rainforest; he will be sharing his authentic experiences and wealth of knowledge with the children later on in the term. In the second half of the Spring Term, we will also take the children on a Thames River Investigation trip. It is quite a popular trip and in the past children have thoroughly enjoyed it.

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. Your child also has access to Purple Mash via the online learning on our website where they can learn and practice several skills.

The Year 5 Team

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

Dates for your diary:**Cypress Upper**

Viking workshop	TBC—We are in the process of rescheduling this event and will be in touch as soon as a new date has been set. Thank you for your patience with this.
Idling Action Webinar	Monday, 17th January 2022
Sycamore class assembly	Friday, 11th March 2022
Hazel class assembly	Friday, 18th March 2022
Willow class assembly	Friday, 25th March 2022
Rainforest talk	TBC
Thames River trip	TBC