



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Year 4 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2026

**W**e hope that you have had a fantastic Christmas and look forward to having a wonderful 2026 working together. 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 further information with you, we will use StudyBugs so please make sure you download the app. If this is not possible, please ensure we have an up to date email address for you.

**English:** We will be working hard in English to develop the children's reading, writing and speaking and listening skills. We will be reading the fictional text 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balit and a non-fiction book 'Can we Save the Tiger?' by Martin Jenkins. These texts will inspire the children to write diaries and they will also be writing their own persuasive campaign pieces. They will be practising and further developing their writing skills including understanding main and subordinate clauses, using powerful verbs to engage the reader and using commas to mark clauses. In our whole-class reading sessions, we will be reading about volcanoes before moving on to read some poetry by Joseph Coelho. We will finish the term by reading a range of traditional and alternative fairy tales in preparation for our summer term writing unit.

**Maths:** In our maths learning this term, we will begin to look at multiplication. We will be focusing on recall of times tables facts up to  $12 \times 12$  in preparation for the 'Multiplication Tables Check' in June and will introduce the children to the expanded column method in accordance with the Pegasus calculation policy (supporting videos can be found on the Trust website here: <https://www.pegasusacademytrust.org/curriculum/mathematics/calculation-videos>). We will look at how to use the inverse to help calculate division facts related to multiplication table questions up to  $12 \times 12$ . In addition to this, we will explore how to measure length in metres and kilometres and learn how to calculate perimeter of rectilinear shapes, either by counting squares or measuring and multiplying sides. Finally, we will begin to learn about fractions. As always, we will be seeking to deepen the children's understanding of these concepts through reasoning and problem solving.

**Science:** Our science topics are 'Sound' and 'Living Things and their Habitats'. In our topic on Sound, we will learn how sound is caused by vibrations, how we hear sounds and how things like pitch and loudness can affect sounds. In Living Things and their Habitats, we will be studying life processes, habitats, how animals adapt to their surroundings and how humans are impacting on this.

**Thematic:** Until half term, we will be continuing with our 'When in Rome' theme. In history, we will be learning about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the tragic destruction of Pompeii. The children will have a chance to design and create their own Roman mosaic and also a felt Roman purse. In history, we will plot key events from the Roman period in chronological order.

After half term, we will start our new topic, 'Invaders and Settlers.' This will include an introduction to the topic, looking at who invaded Britain after the Romans left and who the Angles, Saxons and Jutes were.

**Trips:** To support our work on volcanoes, we will be visiting the Natural History Museum on Wednesday 28th January. A place of interest that you could visit to support our Pompeii learning is the immersive Pompeii experience in London: <https://pompeii-experience.com/london/>. There are also lots of London sights linked to the Romans - just google 'Roman London' for ideas.

**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!

Spelling words, taken from our weekly spelling sessions, are available on Spelling Shed.

Times tables need constant revision - children should know these facts instantly, in mixed order, and know the corresponding division facts. By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all of their times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . Mathletics and Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) are our online maths homework platforms. 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 and consolidating learning from class.

Children can also access the 'Multiplication' app on Purple Mash which is in a similar format to the online Multiplication Tables Check in June.

Encourage your child to complete homework pieces from their thematic grid or create something 'different' based on our current thematic topic.

The Year 4 Team

**Dates for your diary:**  
**Half term break** 16th February—20th February  
Children return Monday 23rd February

## **Cypress Primary School**

Every Tuesday. 12th January - 10th February	Cricket
Wednesday 21st January	Year 4 Maths Workshop - KS2 Hall 3:30pm
Friday 23rd Janu- ary	Rowan class assembly
Wednesday 28th January	Natural History Museum Trip
Friday 6th February	Museum Day. Parents will be invited into school - details to follow.
SPRING 2 DATES	
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Monday 9th March Wed 11th March	Parents' Evening