



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Year 4 Termly Newsletter: Summer 2023

**W**e hope that you have had a fantastic Easter break and we look forward to having a wonderful summer term. 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 'text to parents' service, so please make sure we have an up-to-date mobile phone number for you.

**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 such as 'Until I met Dudley' by R. McGough and C. Riddell, 'Once Upon A Wild Wood' by Chris Riddell and 'The Boy At The Back of the Class' by Onjali Q. Rauf. These texts will inspire the children and enable them to write in a range of text types such as explanation text, story writing, poetry and non-fiction. The texts will not only build on prior knowledge of traditional tales but also touch on more current themes. They will be practising and further developing their writing skills, including understanding main and subordinate clauses, using powerful verbs to engage the reader, prepositional phrases and commas to mark clauses. We will learn about how bees make honey through a non-fiction text, 'The Book of Bees' by Piotr Socha, and have the opportunity to explore the process. These writing opportunities will include the use of descriptive language, inference, punctuation, grammar and spelling patterns.

**Maths:** In our maths learning this term, children will use their prior knowledge to make links between fractions and decimals when they are introduced to hundredths and tenths. Decimals will also be taught in the context of measures such as money. We will also cover time, statistics and shape. To help, please encourage your child to identify the hands on an analogue clock and recap fifteen, thirty and forty-five minutes past the hour. As always, we will be seeking to deepen the children's understanding of these concepts through continuous reasoning and problem solving. We will also be focusing on recall of times tables facts up to  $12 \times 12$  in preparation for the 'Multiplication Tables Check' in June.

**Science:** Our science topics this term are 'Animals including Humans' and 'Electricity'. In Animals including Humans, we will learn about teeth and the digestive system in humans and some animals before moving on to food webs including predators, producers and prey. In our topic on Electricity, we will find out all about circuits, switches, conduction and the many uses of electricity.

**Thematic:** This term our theme is Invaders and Settlers. In history, we will be learning about the time up to the Battle of Hastings in 1066. We will learn about how and why the Anglo Saxons settled in Britain and how this changed life for the people here. In geography, we will be learning about Anglo Saxon settlements, where they were and why they chose these specific places to settle. In art, children will learn about the Bayeux Tapestry and the designs and art of this time. In DT, we will be making our own Anglo Saxon tablets based on The Legend of King Arthur. We will also be designing and making our own Anglo Saxon villages.

**Trips and events:** This term we will be visiting The Natural History Museum and Grangewood Park. We will be learning to identify different plants including trees, learning about local history and working on our sketching skills. We will also be going swimming at Thornton Heath Leisure Centre.

**What you can do to help:** Please make sure that your child reads every night and 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 and note down any new vocabulary that they have found in their reading diary. Ask them what the character might be thinking or feeling. Encourage them to read with an appropriate pace, volume, pause (using the punctuation in the book) and rhythm. There is no such thing as a night with 'no homework': every night is reading night! Lists of spelling words, taken from our weekly spelling sessions, are available from your child's class teacher. 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 now expected to know their times tables to  $12 \times 12$ . 'Mathletics' is our online 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. Children can also access the Multiplication app on Purple Mash which is in a similar format to the online Multiplication Tables Check in June. Children are also encouraged to complete project pieces from their thematic grid. If you need any help with your child's learning, please speak to their class teacher.

The Year 4 Team

**Don't forget to check the website at: [www.pegasusacademytrust.org](http://www.pegasusacademytrust.org)**

**Dates for your diary:**

**Ecclesbourne Primary School**

19th—30th June  
3rd—14th July

Comets swimming  
Planets swimming

13th June

Natural History Museum

TBC

Grangewood Park