



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Little Cypress Newsletter: Spring 2023 Gold, Silver and Rainbow Classes



Happy New Year! We wish you a warm welcome back to school and hope you had a relaxing Christmas holiday. We are delighted to introduce Ms Kokkini as Rainbows Lead and know you will all join me in helping her to settle in to life in Little Cypress. We aim to soon open up the whole of Little Cypress for most of the session so that Rainbows, Gold and Silver can use the whole of our wonderful environment and to carry on getting to know each other. Your child will continue to have special input from their keyworker during each session. **This half term's learning theme is Winter and Traditional Tales and after half term, Spring and Growing.** Please note below some of the activities we will be undertaking in Little Cypress this term:

Communication, Language and Literacy: Talking to adults and other children about the activity they have done. Using the language of comparison such as light/dark long/short, heavy/light big/small sound/silence. Recognising own name and having a go at writing own name. Writing labels on their work. Reading with children and sharing a book once a week to read at home. Engaging in rhyming activities. Reading books about Winter/Spring/Growing and other themes that interest us. Listening to Traditional and Fairy Tales.

Mathematics: Counting to 5, 10 and beyond (where appropriate). Counting in different ways – objects, claps, children... anything and everything! Using shapes to make arrangements and patterns. Continuing and creating patterns with resources.

Understanding the World: Talking about changes in weather and observing closely seasonal changes and talking about water and ice. Exploring light and dark. Activities will include using torches around Little Cypress, chasing our own shadows and noting whether we can do this on both bright and dull days. Exploring loud/quiet sounds. Celebrating Chinese New Year and Easter. Growing plants, flowers and vegetables. Forest School sessions for Nursery, to encourage awe and wonder and independence in getting dressed appropriately for the weather.

Expressive Arts and Design: Art – printing, modelling & collage, exploring light and dark colours through colour mixing. Music & movement – learning songs & actions, dancing along to music.

Physical Development: Use of small games equipment- bean bags, hoops, quoits. Relaxation time during which we practise keeping our bodies still and quiet.

Personal, Social & Emotional development: Reinforcing Nursery/Rainbow rules; working as a team, turn-taking and sharing. Consolidating the concept of a goal through whole class and individual target-setting. Focusing on a task and sustaining attention until the goal has been achieved. Knowing that we can do more than we could when we were younger but that we will be able to more things when we are older.

How You Can Continue To Help At Home:

- Encouraging your child to put on their own coat and to persevere in their efforts to do up their zip;
- Getting them to use and flush the toilet and wash their hands independently (if they are toilet trained) or indicate to an adult if they need changing (for those in nappies/pull-ups);
- Asking them to explain what they are doing or how they made something;
- Reading regularly with your child and writing in the home/school Reading Diary once a week;
- Asking your child to have a go at writing their own name on any drawing they may do. Asking them to make marks for a label and tell you what it says;
- Looking for numbers in the environment e.g. buses, doors, car plates etc;
- Talking to them about opposites – big & little, hot & cold, day & night during their play and whilst you are out and about or sharing books;
- Playing throwing and catching games using a small ball or bean bag.

Reminders:

Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed in appropriate outdoor clothes. This is particularly important in cold weather. Children have free-flow access to the outside area for much of the session. Whilst we make every effort to ensure that hats, scarves and gloves do not go astray, please bear with us if they do. Please ensure all items (including lunch boxes) that come to Little Cypress are clearly named. We have a lost property box in school where any unnamed items of clothing are deposited. Please make sure that you take home your child's water bottle at the end of each day and return it re-filled the next morning.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR CHILD

Many thanks for your continued support and we look forward to another happy and successful term!

The Little Cypress Team

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

Dates for your diary

Cypress Primary School - Little Cypress

Monday 23rd January	National Autistic Society led Coffee Morning for Parents/Carers (9am, Lower School Community Room)
Thursday 2nd February	Coffee Morning for Parents/Carers of children with SEND (9.15am, Lower School Community Room)
13th-17th February	Half term
27th-3rd March	Book Week - details to follow
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day
6th-10th March	Parents' evening week - details to follow
Friday 17th March	Sports Relief/Comic Relief fundraising day
31st March	Last day of term