



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Nursery Newsletter: Spring 1, 2023

**W**elcome back for another exciting half term! We hope you had a great Christmas break and we are really enjoying the children telling us all about it. We have lots of new learning ready to go for 2023 and this newsletter will give you an overview of everything we are focussing on. Our topic this half term is **'Run Run As Fast As You Can!'** where the children will focus on traditional tales. These include lots of stories that we are sure you will recognise and can talk about with your children at home.

**Communication & Language:** Over the next half term, when looking at traditional tales, we will be encouraging them to listen carefully to stories, understand what is happening in them and begin to act the stories out in their own imaginative play. We will be giving the children lots of opportunities to do this through role play, small world and outside provision. We will continue to encourage the children to use full sentences when telling the story and encourage them to re-enact the stories collaboratively. Please continue to ask your child questions about their day and the stories they are covering! Encourage them to expand their vocabulary and talk confidently about their learning.

**Personal, Social and Emotional:** As the children are now mostly settled into the nursery environment, we will begin to encourage their learning behaviours within the classroom. This will include resilience to keep going when something is tricky, focussing to complete a whole task and managing their distractions around them. This will support the children to continue to make steady progress across this year and beyond. We will also continue to encourage friendly behaviour with other children and support the children to build and grow friendships in the classroom.

**Physical Development:** The children have really enjoyed getting to know their outside areas and we will build on this during the coming term. We will continue to encourage climbing, crawling, jumping and balancing at all opportunities to help the children further develop their gross motor skills. When outside we will also be encouraging the children to think about their spatial awareness, being aware of what is around them, this could be other children or equipment. Growing their spatial awareness will mean the children can navigate the inside and outside areas more safely and efficiently.

**Literacy:** This half term, we will be looking at a variety of texts focussed around traditional tales including 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. When looking at each new text, we will be focussing on new vocabulary, encouraging discussions and asking and answering questions related to the story. We will be exploring lots of activities relating to the stories around the classroom and fully immersing the children in the text. During Autumn 2, we introduced the 'Foundation of Phonics' scheme from Little Wandle Letters and Sounds and began to work on the children's oral blending. We will be building on this during Spring 1 by introducing a sound a week. Each week, we will introduce the sound at the beginning of the week and have activities throughout the week that encourage the hearing of that sound in words not the identification of the written grapheme. These activities will encourage the oral blending alongside their children's sound awareness and identification. The sounds we will be looking at this term are s,a,t,p,i.

**Mathematics:** In mathematics this half term, we will be covering a variety of topics including size, length and positional language. We will be focussing on a new topic each week and building on the language around this topic and children's overall understanding of the concept. We will also be looking at number but focussing on ordinal language within number such as, first, second, third etc. Please continue to ask the children about their learning and use mathematical language when doing day to day tasks e.g. "Who is the tallest in our family?", "Can you make the longest worm with playdough?", "Can you put the dinosaur next to the train?".

**Understanding the World:** In Understanding the World this term, we will look at the different properties of materials. We will be linking this to our stories each week and looking at it closely when reading 'The Three Little Pigs'. We will compare the materials each pig used to build their house and see which one was the best choice for a house. When looking at a variety of materials we will encourage new language related to the materials e.g. strong, weak, wobbly, bendy, soft, hard etc.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** In Expressive Arts and Design this term, we will be focussing on imaginative play and encouraging the acting out of stories. This links to our Communication and Language aims. We will be setting up small words and role play areas to encourage the children to retell the traditional tales we are teaching each week with their friends. When playing alongside them, we will be encouraging them to develop the stories in their own way and use the repeated refrains they know well e.g. "Run run as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the Gingerbread man!"

**The Nursery Team**

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

