



The Pegasus Academy Trust



Nursery Newsletter: Autumn 1, 2025

A very warm welcome to those who are new to the Ecclesbourne Primary School. It has been great to see the children beginning to settle in as they begin their school journey with us. We like to write to you to keep you informed of what your child will be learning about as well as to make you aware of any upcoming events. Our topic this half term is **'If You're Happy and You Know It'** where the children will have the opportunity to learn some nursery rhymes and share some of our favourite stories.

Communication & Language: Over the next half term, the children will be reciting some everyday nursery rhymes such as 'If you're happy and you know it' and listening to stories that focus on repeated refrains. All of this work will help to develop their speaking and listening skills and we will be encouraging them to join in with the songs and stories. We will also be working on building their communication skills when making friends and sharing with one another. Whilst playing alongside the children, adults will be modelling friendly language and encouraging the children to communicate effectively with each other.

Personal, Social and Emotional: As the children enter the nursery environment we will be working on familiarising them with the space and the rules and routines associated with it. They will specifically learn how to show positive behaviours both in their learning and in their interactions with peers and adults. We will be focusing on how to take turns and share, with support, when using toys and equipment.

Physical Development: During the school day, we will be encouraging the children to use our outside equipment to improve their gross motor skills. This will include climbing equipment, bikes, stilts and hula hoops. These activities help improve their gross motor and build important muscles that then support their fine motor skills for writing. Alongside this, we will be working on their fine motor development focusing on activities that will build the muscles in their hands and encourage them to begin mark make purposely.

Literacy: This half term, we will be sharing lots of stories with the children and focusing on a few key texts. *'Owl Babies'* by Martin Waddell and *'Peace at Last'* by Jill Murphy are particular favourites! We will be encouraging discussions around books, fostering a love of reading and supporting the children in enjoying sharing stories. As we enter Autumn 2, we will begin to introduce 'Foundation of Phonics' based activities to encourage their sound awareness and oral blending. However, during this term we know it is important to focus on communication and language within our literacy sessions to set a firm foundation for the next steps. A parental workshop explaining more about how we teach reading will take place this half term. We will also be learning nursery rhymes and encouraging the children to join in with each song, focusing on new vocabulary and performance skills.

Mathematics: In mathematics, we will be practicing our counting skills and introducing numbers 1-5. We will be looking at different representations of amounts 1-5 and also working on counting objects successfully to 5. We do this practically with interesting objects for the children to play with and setting up opportunities to count within our environments. When teaching each number we also use a variety of songs, which we are sure the children will begin to sing at home for you!

Understanding the World: In this area of learning, we will be observing the world around us, in particular our new nursery environment, and asking questions about why things happen and how things work. We will be getting to know the staff at school and what they do so that we know who to speak to if we need help.

Expressive Arts and Design: In art and design, we will be exploring all the new materials, equipment and resources we have access to in our classrooms. We will be letting the children experiment with these and, with support, create their own art work. We will also be using the nursery rhymes we are learning to practise our performance skills and make up our own actions to the songs.

The Nursery Team

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

Dates for your diary	
Friday 19 th September	Jeans for Genes fundraising day
Friday 19 th September 2pm	PTFA Coffee Afternoon for new Reception and Nursery families
Thursday 25 th September 9.15am	Nursery Curriculum meeting for Parents and Carers – in the hall
Friday 26 th September 9.15am	MacMillan coffee morning
Thursday 2 nd October	National Poetry Day
Monday 6 th or Wednesday 8 th October	Parents' Evening
Friday 17 th October	Wear red to Show Racism the Red Card
Monday 20 th October	Individual and sibling photographs
Thursday 23 rd October	PTFA mufti day
HALF TERM	Friday 24th October – Monday 3rd November. Children return to school on Tuesday 4th November.
Week beginning 10 th November	Friendship week
Week beginning 1 st December	Scholastic Book Fair at Ecclesbourne
Wednesday 10 th December 10.30am or 2.30pm	Nursery Christmas Singing
Friday 12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch
Friday 12 th December	PTFA Winter Fair
Christmas holidays	Last day of Autumn term Friday 19th December. Children return to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

