



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Reception Newsletter: Autumn 1, 2020



Welcome back to all of our returning families and a very warm welcome to those who are new to the Trust. It has been great to see how quickly the children have started to settle in as they embark on the next stage in their learning. 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 '**Marvellous Me**' where the children will have the opportunity to learn and share what makes them, their families and their friends special.

Communication & Language: Over the next half term, the children will be reciting all of the everyday nursery rhymes so that they can develop their speaking and listening skills as well as their 'story telling' language. Through reading family-themed texts, the children will develop their communication and language skills and begin to understand how to structure their very own stories.

Personal, Social and Emotional: So as to get the year off to a great start, the children will be learning all about their new environment 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 through being taught how to take turns and share when using toys and equipment.

Physical Development: In our outdoor learning area, we will be working on spatial awareness; large and small body movements and playing turn-taking games which require team work. The children will also get to recognise different parts of their bodies and how they can use these in their movements. We will also be spending time in class on activities that develop the children's fine motor skills and build the strength in these to hold a pencil effectively.

Literacy: This half term, the children will be immersed in to the following books: 'So Much' (by Trish Cooke), 'Owl Babies' (by Martin Waddell) and 'Clever Sticks' (by Bernard Ashley) to name but a few. However, to start our term off we will be participating in a Trust wide unit of work around the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. The work around this book is aimed to help the children re-connect with each other and re-engage with school life.

When working on key texts, the children will be encouraged to verbally tell their own stories and begin to write them through the use of marks, symbols and emerging letter shapes. Through the use of Jolly Phonics and Letters and Sounds, we will be learning the names of the letter and the sounds they make. Later this term, we will make a parent workshop available on our website for you to watch which will explain our curriculum and how we teach phonics so that you can help support your child with this learning at home.

Mathematics: In mathematics, we will be learning to count, recognise and write numbers to five. We will be doing this in a very practical way by learning number songs and counting small objects. We will be investigating shape in the environment and learning about some of their properties such as the number of sides and corners they have. The children will be learning how to compare numbers and begin to use vocabulary such as 'more' and 'less'. A parental workshop for the teaching of maths will also be available later this term. Please keep checking the website for updates.

Understanding the World: In this area of learning, we will be observing the world around us and asking questions about why things happen and how things work. As part of our work around the text 'Here We Are' we will be using technology such as Google Earth and exploring the Earth's place in the wider universe. All the work linked to this text aims to help the children to develop a sense of themselves as citizens of the world and what it means to belong to a wider community.

Expressive Arts and Design: In art and design, the children will be creating their own self-portraits using a range of different media, familiarising themselves with the features of theirs and others' faces. Whilst doing so, the pupils will develop their cutting skills and hand-to-eye coordination as well as exploring the properties of materials and how they can be manipulated and combined to create a finished product to be proud of!

The Reception Team

Don't forget to check the website for news and upcoming dates at:
www.pegasusacademytrust.org

| Dates for your diary | |
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| | <u>Cypress Primary School</u> |
| Friday 18th September | Jeans for Genes Day - wear jeans to school and donate £1 to charity |
| Friday 25th September | MacMillan Cancer Support - donate £1 and be entered into a draw to win a yummy cake made by Ms Shadbolt! |
| Friday 23rd October | Last day of half term |
| Wednesday 4th November | Children return to school |
| Wednesday 16th December | Last day of Autumn term |
| | We are hoping to add some more dates to the diary, including some Christmas celebrations. Watch this space! |