



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Reception Newsletter: Autumn 1, 2021

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 to 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 some everyday nursery rhymes such as Humpty Dumpty and listening to poetry. All of this work will help to 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 with support when using toys and equipment.

Physical Development: In our PE lessons, we will be working on spatial awareness, using large and small body movements and travelling in different ways safely. 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, we will be sharing the books 'So Much' (by Trish Cooke), 'Owl Babies' (by Martin Waddell) and 'Clever Sticks' (by Bernard Ashley) to name but a few. 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.

This year we have started to use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds phonics scheme. Through the use of this programme, we will be learning the sounds of the letters. For parental support from Little Wandle on how to pronounce the sounds please visit:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>.

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. The children will be learning how to compare numbers and begin to use vocabulary such as 'more' and 'less'.

Understanding the World: In this area of learning, we will be observing the world around us, in particular our new immediate 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, the children will be creating their own self-portraits using a range of different media. They will be familiarising themselves with the features of theirs and others' faces. Whilst doing so, the children will develop their cutting skills and hand-to-eye coordination as well as exploring the properties of materials. They will learn how materials can be manipulated and combined to create a finished product to be proud of!

Class Blogs: For those of you who are new to the school, each class has its own class blog! This can be accessed through the school website (see below). In order to log on to the blog, you will need your child's username and password. This can be found on their Home Learning Passports, which are inside their reading diary. Teachers post an overview of the learning happening each half term on the blog with links to online learning associated to what is happening in class. Therefore, should your child be unable to attend school due to isolation yet feel well enough to continue their learning at home, they can keep up with what is happening in class.

Instructions on how to post and upload your child's learning can be found both on the school website and on the individual blogs. If you have any difficulty accessing your child's class blog, please speak with the class teacher.

Also located on the blog is a section for 'WOW' moments. 'WOW' moments can tell us about anything of interest that you would like to share with us. For example, the first time your child ties their shoelaces, how they built a tall Lego tower and many more besides! We look forward to reading your 'WOW' moments.

The Reception Team

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

Dates for your diary	
Whitehorse Manor Infants main site	
6th October	Reception curriculum meeting for parents
Whitehorse Manor Infants Brigstock site	
7th October	Reception curriculum meeting for parents
Ecclesbourne Primary School	
TBC	Reception curriculum meeting for parents
Beulah Infant School	
6th October	Reception curriculum meeting for parents
Cypress Primary School	
5th October	Reception curriculum meeting for parents