



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Reception Newsletter: Summer 1, 2021

Welcome back. Firstly, we would like to start by thanking you all for the support you gave your children with their learning during the earlier lockdown this year. The work would not have been possible without you. As we enter our summer term, and hopefully no further lockdowns, we begin our traditional tales topic entitled 'Far, Far Away'. We will be reading 'The Billy Goats Gruff', 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'The Princess and the Pea' as well as talking about and sharing other well known, and loved, traditional tales.

Personal, Social and Emotional: We will continue to have a focus on developing the children's personal, social and emotional skills over the next few weeks. This is an area of learning which is very difficult to develop remotely. Now the children are back together we will be reminding them how to share and turn take successfully. We will also be encouraging them to think about what makes a good friend and how we solve conflicts when they fall out.

This half term, we are really encouraging the children to become independent learners. Therefore, we will continue to work on Building Learning Powers so that the children become resilient, independent workers. It would really help if you could encourage your child to be a 'Tryosaur' (where we try our best at all activities) at home. For example, dressing themselves, feeding themselves using cutlery and attempting writing their name or other words by themselves before asking for help.

Literacy including Communication and Language: In their literacy work, the children will be spending time getting to know some traditional stories really well. They will use actions to accompany the stories so they can retell them from memory. This will enable them to orally rehearse their stories before they write about them. We will be encouraging them to use their sound knowledge when writing captions and simple sentences.

Please support your child by encouraging them to write for different purposes for example shopping lists, short stories, letters, postcards and simple notes or messages, prompting them to use their letter sounds to help them to spell the words they wish to write. Please don't worry if your child doesn't spell them correctly - they will in time. The most important thing is that they are willing to have a go!

Thank you for the lovely comments in the reading diaries. We enjoy reading them. Please continue to read with your child each day, or as often as possible, and record their progress in their reading diaries.

Maths: We will continue to help the children to recognise numerals around them, with particular emphasis this half term on the 'teen' numbers e.g. thirteen, and use them as labels for sets of objects. We will help the children to understand that teen numbers partition into one ten and a group of ones. For example 13 can be partitioned into one ten and three ones.

In our shape, space and measure learning, will be beginning to use everyday language related to money. The children will be working with money, recognising the value of different coins and applying this knowledge practically.

Physical Development: Fine motor skills will be a big focus this half term. We will be encouraging the children to take part in many activities, which will develop skills such as the ability to pat, twist, pinch, roll, squeeze, stretch and push malleable materials. All of these activities will help to develop the muscles in their hands, which will in turn create a stronger pencil grip. In addition to this, as always, we will be using our outside area to develop gross motor skills such as throwing and catching a ball.

Understanding the World: There are lots of things that have started to grow in our flowerbeds and outdoor areas around our school. Whilst we missed our usual spring planting this year, we will be supporting the children in investigating what has grown in our absence and how we take care of these plants. We will also be planting our own bean plants later this half term as part of our work on the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk.'

Expressive Arts and Design: This half term, we are looking at different artists and using their work as an inspiration for our own pieces. The artists we will be focusing on include Matisse, O'Keefe, Klimt and Kandinsky. The 10th May is Pegasus's Art Week with the theme of art in nature. During this week, the children will have the opportunity to explore and work with lots of different media. They will follow the journey of an artist from sketching to the final masterpiece! Look out on the website for an exhibition of some of their work.

The Reception Team

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