



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Reception Newsletter: Summer 1, 2026

Welcome back. As we enter our summer term, we begin our traditional tales topic entitled 'Once upon a Time'. We will be reading 'Farmer Duck', 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk' as well as talking about and sharing other well-known and loved traditional tales.

Personal, Social and Emotional: We will continue to focus on developing the children's personal, social and emotional skills over the coming weeks. 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 to resolve 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 the learning disposition of self-regulation. We will share some of the strategies taught so you and the children can practise at home.

Literacy: 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 phonics 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.

Communication and Language: In the classroom, opportunities will be provided for the children to retell the traditional tales they have been learning about in class. This will be through the use of small world play and by using props. They will be encouraged to think about the beginning, middle and end of the story and to use the newly learned vocabulary. We will introduce Helicopter Stories, a method of encouraging children to practice oral story telling and acting out these stories as a class.

Maths: We will be introducing new mathematical concepts this half term from the maths strand 'numerical pattern'. The children will be learning all about how to share quantities equally and doubles. They will also be introduced to odd and even numbers and shown that even numbers are made up of twos and odd numbers have an extra one. We will also be continuing our work on number bonds to 10, ensuring that children have a deep understanding of this and can mentally recall some number bond facts.

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 that 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. We will be supporting the children in investigating what has grown and how we take care of these plants. We will also be using stories such as 'Harry and the Dinosaurs at the Museum' to look at similarities and differences between things in the past and present.

Expressive Arts and Design: This half term, we are continuing to develop and explore tools and techniques needed to create props used for acting out narratives. The children will have the opportunity to use the props they have made in their role play areas or in the outdoor provision. They will also continue to learn a range of nursery rhymes and songs; hopefully adapting them to make their own versions which can be performed to others.

The Reception Team

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