



The Pegasus Academy Trust



Reception Newsletter: Autumn 1, 2025

Welcome back to all of our returning families and a very warm welcome to those who are new to Eccelsbourne Primary School. 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 some everyday nursery rhymes such as 'Humpty Dumpty' and listening to stories. 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 stories are structured.

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), 'The Rainbow Fish' (by Marcus Pfister), 'Funnybones' (by Janet & Allan Ahlberg) and 'The Leaf Thief' (by Alice Hemming). 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.

When teaching phonics we 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/>

Later this term, there will be a parental workshop 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. The children will be learning how to compare numbers and begin to use vocabulary such as 'more' and 'fewer'. A parental workshop for the teaching of maths will also be available this term. Keep checking the website for updates.

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!

Reception curriculum meeting for parents: Wednesday 8th October at 9:15 in the hall

Parents' Evening appointments available on: Monday 6th October & Wednesday 7th October – more details to follow

We hope that this newsletter will help to keep you informed about what your children will be learning this term. If we need to share further information with you, we will use **Studybugs** so please make sure you download the app.

The Reception 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
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
Wednesday 8 th October 9.15am	Reception Curriculum Meeting for parents in the hall
Friday 17 th October	Wear red to Show Racism the Red Card
Monday 20 th October	Individual and sibling photographs
Thursday 23 rd October	Flu vaccine (information and consent forms sent home via Studybugs)
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
Thursday 11 th December 2.30pm	Reception 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.