



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 5 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2024

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a restful Christmas break. This newsletter will help to keep you informed about what your children will be learning this term. If we need to share information with you, we will use the 'StudyBug' service so please make sure we have an up-to date mobile phone number for you. Please see school newsletters too about specific events in your child's school.

English: We will be working hard in English to develop the children's reading, writing and speaking and listening. We will be reading a number of fictional texts including: *Robot Girl* by Malorie Blackman and *The Sleeper and the Spindel* by Neil Gaiman. We will also be learning lots of factual information about rainforests to deepen the children's understanding of how we can continue to protect this phenomenal ecosystem. 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry, will be used to support our learning on this topic. Understanding the impact of deforestation will form part of their learning during this unit of work and they will write persuasively to express their opinions about the topic. The children will end the unit of work by writing their very own letter to a logging company stating reasons why they should care more for rainforests.

Maths: In our maths learning this term, the children will be focusing on securing their understanding of the written methods of all four operations and using them for reasoning and problem solving. They will tackle questions that require them to apply their knowledge of calculation in many ways, such as word problems, missing digit calculations, understanding errors and investigating statements. We will then move on to learn about *multiplication and division* and then *measurement*, when we will identify *perimeter and area* of shapes and learn how to find these. The children will learn how to recognise equivalent fractions, compare and order, add, subtract and multiply fractions and to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa. They will also learn to write percentages as fractions. The maths calculation videos on our website are there to support your understanding of the methods we teach and also so children can continue practising at home. They are really good to follow.

Science: Our first science topic is 'Living Things and their Habitats' which will provide an opportunity for children to explore the different life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects and birds. We will also learn about 'Animals including humans'. This topic will give the children some insight into the life cycles of animals and the stages and changes they go through. Animals, including humans will see us into the 2nd half of the spring term where we will look at the stages of development in humans, from birth to old age.

Thematic: Our continuing theme for the first part of the term will be: The Vikings are Coming! In the latter part of this term, our theme is: Crime and Punishment. In history, we will be learning all about the types of crimes that were committed during different historical ages and how it was perceived by the law at that time. In geography, we will be learning about transportation and focusing on Australia, exploring its geographical features and some of the countries culture. In Art, children will learn to create their own 'street art', and Aboriginal dot art as well, to link in with History. Places of interest, linked to our theme, that you could visit with your child are: the Tower of London.

Trips and events: We are looking forward to our days at Whitgift School, where the children will enjoy lessons in science, computing and languages. Our residential trip is planned 18th of March and we are excited to take part in a range of outdoor activities including abseiling and climbing. For RE, we have planned a visit to the Sikh Gurdwara where the children will, have a chance to see artefacts and others related objects to Sikhism.

What you can do to help: Please make sure that your child reads every night and that you sign their reading diary at the end of the week. Regular reading is proven to improve children's learning. Ask them questions about what they've read. Ask them what they think the words mean or what the character might be thinking or feeling. There is no such thing as a night with 'no homework': every night is reading night! Lists of spelling words for each year group are available on the website and children are expected to know these by the end of the year. Times tables need constant revision - children should know these facts instantly, in mixed order, and know the corresponding division fact. 'Mathletics' is our on-line maths homework. Children are expected to earn 1000 points (a bronze certificate) each week but are welcome to earn more points! 'Live' Mathletics is particularly good for developing mental maths skills. Your child also has access to Purple Mash via the online learning on our website where they can learn and practice several skills. Classes also publish a preview of the maths and English on their Google Classroom so that pupils can practice some skills for the following week.

The Year 5 Team

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

Dates for your diary:	
<u>Whitehorse Junior Manor</u>	
Jutland class assembly	Friday 26th January
Lipizzan class assembly	Friday 2nd February
Sikh Gurdwara	TBC

<u>Ecclesbourne Primary School</u>	
Friday 9th February	Museum Day
Sikh Gurdwara	TBC
<u>Cypress Junior School</u>	
Friday 9th February	Museum Day
Sikh Gurdwara	TBC

<u>Atwood Primary School</u>	
Friday 9th February	Museum Day
Week Commencing 4th March	Whitgift Week
18th-20th March	Carrotty Wood