



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 1 Newsletter: Spring 2026

Happy new year! We hope that you have had a fantastic break and look forward to having a wonderful term working together. This newsletter will help to keep you informed about what your children will be learning this term. If we need to share information and letters with you, we will use Google Classroom and the 'Studybugs' service so please make sure we have an up-to-date mobile phone number for you. Important dates can be found easily by going to our website and clicking the events section.

English: We will read the story 'Lost in the Toy Museum' by David Lucas and go on a treasure hunt (similar to the story!) to find our hidden toys. The children will write a recount of where they went on their treasure hunt and also about what they did during the toy workshop from the Museum of Croydon. In their writing, they will use time adverbs to sequence the events. They will also be learning about instruction writing and make their own cup and ball toy. When reading, 'The Three Little Pigs' by Mara Alperin the children will begin to understand a simple story structure (beginning, middle and end). They will retell the story in groups. The children will use the poem 'The Sound Collector' poem by Roger McGough to inspire them to create their own version and then perform them to the class. We will be using the story and 'Chalk' by Bill Thomson to enthuse the children to write. Children will be developing ideas for their own stories. We will also focus on the development of oral and written sentences with different sentence starters and use of correct punctuation.

Maths: We will be learning about place value in numbers up to 50, including how many tens and ones are in a 2-digit number. The children will learn to add and subtract numbers within 20 including becoming more confident using number bonds to 20 and their related subtraction facts, e.g. $17 + 3 = 20$, $20 - 17 = 3$. We will practise using their addition and subtraction skills in a range of contexts such as to solve missing number or money problems. We will learn about 2D and 3D shapes and begin to recall their properties. Children will solve problems relating to weight, length and height.

Science: The focus in science this term is materials. We will be looking at objects made from different materials and will use the correct scientific vocabulary for the materials themselves and their properties. The children will be investigating which material is the most suitable for use as a boat.

Thematic: This term our thematic topic is 'Toys'. The children will develop their understanding of toys from the past and also how toys have changed. We will be looking at the materials toys are made from and how they move. We will be designing and making our own toy from recycled materials.

Trips and events: This half term we will have a visitor from the Museum of Croydon who is coming to share some old toys with us. The children will have a chance to see how toys have changed and put them into chronological order from oldest to most modern.

What you can do to help: The most important way you can support your child is by reading with them as often as possible. It is essential that you listen to them read aloud and also that you read to them so they are exposed to a range of different texts. Ask your child lots of questions to help develop their understanding of what they have read. Please try and write in your child's reading diary to keep us informed of their reading at home. Encourage the children to write for a variety of reasons, such as creating shopping lists and invitations, or writing their own stories. We would love the children to share any writing they do at home with the class so we can celebrate it. We teach phonics using Little Wandle Letters and Sounds' and they have a huge range of fantastic resources for parents which you can find here: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>. In maths, help your child to recognise the numbers to 50 and find 1 more and 1 less. Continue to count forwards and backwards and practise number bonds to 20 to help the children develop their confidence when using these.

The Year 1 Team

Don't forget to check our website for news and upcoming events:

www.pegasusacademytrust.org

Dates for your diary	
Tuesday 6th January	Visitor from Museum of Croydon for toy handling session.
W/c Monday 2 nd February	Thematic Week
Friday 6 th February	Museum Day
Monday 9 th February	Drama Workshop - Midnight in the Toyshop
Thursday 26 th February	Materials Workshop
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Monday 9 th March & Wednesday 11th March	Parents' Evening