



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Reception Newsletter: Spring 1, 2020

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to all of our families! We are delighted at how well the children have settled back into their reception classes and are ready and raring to learn. Our theme this half term is 'Monsters' and is called 'Watch out, there's a monster about!' Through this topic, the children will be engaging in lots of practical expressive arts and design technology-style activities, giving them many opportunities to develop both their spoken and written English.

Communication, Language and Literacy: In their literacy work, the children will focus on developing an understanding of story structure (beginning, middle and end) through reading stories about fictional monsters such as *Not Now Bernard* by David McKee, *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson and *Bog Baby* by Jean Willis & Gwen Millward. The children will also be learning to read and spell common 'tricky' words (E.g. *the, to, you, was*); writing for different purposes (e.g. lists, letters, instructions and stories); using descriptive language and retelling stories by creating their own versions of familiar narratives.

Maths: Having dedicated last term to learning about the numbers 0-5, this half term the children will be taking the time to explore the digits 6-10, taking each one in turn. As well as learning how to recognise and order these digits, the children will learn how to find one more and one less of a given number through simple addition and subtraction and find different ways of making each value e.g. $3+4=7$, $5+2=7$, $7+0=7$ etc. Please support your child at home by playing games which involve using dice, number cards or number lines. Look for opportunities, such as laying the table for dinner to encourage your child to count out objects and compare groups of objects when they are helping you around the home.

Physical Development: In our PE lessons the children will continue to develop travelling and balancing skills as well as carry on their work on spatial awareness. Children will be thinking about how exercise helps us to be healthy and talking about other ways in which we all look after our bodies. Talk to your child about what food is good for them and what is not. Why do they need to brush their teeth after eating sweets? Why is it important to eat fruit and drink milk? You could help your child by talking about the different fruits and vegetables you eat at home and what they taste like. Encourage your child to taste fruits and vegetables that they have never had before!

Understanding the World: This half term, the children will continue to find out about special times and cultural celebrations which will involve exploring Chinese New Year. We will also be encouraging the children to explore the world around us and looking at similarities and differences.

Expressive Arts and Design: In expressive arts and design, the children will learn how to use a variety of materials and writing tools to make designs for their very own 3D model of a fictional monster! They will then make the monster, learning how materials can be changed by cutting, joining and decorating them. The children will also take part in music activities that will help them to practise and make up their own rhythms, using instruments to play them. Their newly learnt skills will then be used to compose their own monster 'roars' so as to bring their monster model to life!

Trips and events:

Thursday 13th February—Professor Bubbleworks workshop

We will be visited by 'Professor Bubbleworks' and taking part in a fun-filled workshop called 'Alien Slime', which will seek to support the children's developing understanding of materials in science. To celebrate the end of their 'Watch out, there's a monster about!' theme, the children will be holding their own exhibition of 3D work and writing on **Friday 7th February** for families to come in and celebrate—timings to follow soon! Make sure you don't miss out!

Our WOW boards are looking a little sparse. Please help fill them by keeping your child's WOW moments comments coming in. We love to read them and celebrate your child's achievements. These 'WOW Moments' can tell us about anything of interest that you would like to share with us. For example, the first time they tie their shoelaces, dress and undress themselves independently, how they built a tall Lego tower, and many more besides! Please use the slips attached to this newsletter. If you prefer, please speak to your child's class teacher who will happily record the WOW moment on your behalf.

The Reception Team



Miss. Butler
Red Class

Miss Petitti
Orange Class

Miss Staniforth
Blue Class

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

WOW Moments Template
(Please cut into individual slips)

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border. In the bottom right corner, there is a yellow five-pointed star with a blue outline.A large, empty rectangular box with a black border. In the bottom right corner, there is a yellow five-pointed star with a blue outline.A large, empty rectangular box with a black border. In the bottom right corner, there is a yellow five-pointed star with a blue outline.A large, empty rectangular box with a black border. In the bottom right corner, there is a yellow five-pointed star with a blue outline.