



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Year 3 Termly Newsletter: Autumn 2023

**W**elcome to Year 3. We hope that you have had a restful summer and we look forward to a wonderful year working together. 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 information with you, we will use 'Study Bugs' so please make sure you download the app. If this is not possible, please ensure we have an up to date email. Important dates are to be found on the reverse of this letter and can also be found easily by going to [www.pegasusacademytrust.org](http://www.pegasusacademytrust.org) and clicking on the 'Events' tab at the top of the page.

**English:** We will be working hard in Literacy to develop the children's reading and writing. With this aim in mind, we will be reading a number of exciting fictional texts this term such as *Into the Forest* by Anthony Browne, *The Boy who grew Dragons* by Andy Shepherd and *Aesop's Fables*. Through our work with these texts, the children will develop their ability to write in a range of genres including descriptive writing, non-fiction instructions, dialogue and narrative retelling. As well as our fictional texts, children will use their knowledge of the Crystal Palace, linked to our Thematic work, to produce a range of work relating to Waterhouse Hawkins's model dinosaurs. We will also be practising our *prosody* (reading with expression) using performance poetry as a stimulus.

**Maths:** In our maths learning this term, the children will be solely focusing on number. In Year 3, we feel it is very important for children to fully understand the place value of numbers before focussing on other skills. Therefore, the first half term, the children will learn about representing, partitioning, ordering and comparing 2 and 3 digit numbers. When the children are ready, we will build on this knowledge and use the expanded column method to solve 2 and 3 digit addition and subtraction problems. To learn more about these topics and how they are taught please view the Pegasus Calculation videos on the school website. These can be found at: <https://www.pegasusacademytrust.org/curriculum/mathematics>. All of these skills will give the children a good foundation at the start of Key Stage 2 so that they are prepared when we move onto applying these skills to real life problems.

**Science:** Our science topics for this term are *Animals Including Humans* and *Forces and Magnets*. During our study of Animals Including Humans, we will be learning about the human diet and what nutrients the body needs. The children will learn the 3 main functions of the human skeleton alongside some of the names of the bones. Within the Forces and Magnets unit, the children will discover what a force is as well as how magnets work. Working as scientists and undertaking investigations will consolidate this learning.

**Thematic:** This term our theme is *The Crystal Palace*. In history, we will be creating a timeline to situate the Crystal Palace within an historical perspective as well as studying the huge significance and effects of the Industrial Revolution. In geography, we will explore national and international maps using compass skills to identify the participating countries of the Great Exhibition. In Art, the children will use their newly learned sketching skills to create pencil drawings of the Crystal Palace for the front covers of their sketch books. In Design and Technology, children will have the opportunity to design, plan and build their own model dinosaurs based on the Waterhouse Hawkins structures. Places of interest, linked to our theme that you could visit with your child are Crystal Palace Park, Thornton Heath library or the National Gallery in London.

**Trips and events:** We have two local trips planned for this term. In the first half term, each school will visit their local church to gain knowledge of its place in the local community as part of our RE topic on Christianity. After half term, we will be visiting the Crystal Palace Park to see the original site of the palace as well as the dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins up close.

**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 each 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 a reading night! Lists of spelling words for each year group are printed in your child's reading diary 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 and will be introduced soon. Children are expected to earn 1,000 points (a bronze certificate) each week but are welcome to earn more points! 'Live' Mathletics is particularly good for developing mental maths skills. Additionally, helping your children to complete their thematic homework is a wonderful way of spending time with your child whilst supporting their learning.

The Year 3 Team

**Dates for your diary****Whitehorse Manor Junior (Main site) PE days**

Shetland Thursday

New Forest Thursday

Exmoor Tuesday

**Whitehorse Manor (Brigstock site) PE days**

Elm Wednesday

**Cypress Upper School site PE days**

Cedar Wednesday

Holly Thursday

Birch Monday

**Ecclesbourne Primary PE days**

Asteroids Monday and Thursday

Meteors Wednesday and Thursday