



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 3 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2024

Welcome back. We hope that you have enjoyed the Christmas holidays with your children and they are refreshed and ready to return to school for another term. 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 StudyBugs. Important dates are to be found on the reverse of this letter so we recommend you stick it on your fridge. Important dates can also be found easily by going to www.pegasusacademytrust.org and clicking on the 'Events' tab at the top of the page.

English: We will be working hard in Literacy to continue developing the children's reading and writing this term. With this aim in mind, we will be reading a number of exciting fictional texts such as Prince Cinders by Babette Cole and The First Drawing by Mordicai Gerstein. 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 also have the opportunity to study fantastic, contemporary poetry by Josh Seigal.

Maths: In our maths learning this term, the children will be focusing on a number of areas. We will learn how to solve multiplication problems using the 'grid method'. We will then move onto how to solve division problems mentally and using 'chunking'. To learn more about these topics please view the Pegasus Calculation videos on the [school website](#). Once we have covered these areas, we will move onto learning about fractions. The children need to understand what a tenth is and how it can be defined as well as how to add and subtract fractions. They will also be learning how to recognise equivalent fractions. 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 topic for this term is 'Rocks and Soils'. We will start the new year by learning all about different rocks and their properties. We will discover what is happening inside the Earth beneath our feet as well as how soil and fossils are formed.

Thematic: Until half term, children will continue to learn about 'The Crystal Palace'. The history and geography knowledge the children learned in the autumn term will be extremely useful in the run up to our end of half term 'Thematic Week'. The climax to our Crystal Palace theme will be the Design and Technology aspect of the thematic curriculum. Children will have the opportunity to design, plan and build their own bridge using a range of resources based on the work of Victorian designer Isambard Kingdom Brunel. After half term, our theme will change to 'Like a Rolling Stone'. This is a chance for children to learn all about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. In history, we will study what it was like in the past and how it compares to today. In geography, we will be looking at the changes to land and civilisation over time. In art, children will replicate cave painting art with hand made paint as well as create their own portrait of a Neanderthal person. In DT, children will have the opportunity to sculpt Stone Age pottery as well as craft Stone Age weapons and tools.

Trips and events: At the end of this half term, children will have the opportunity to experience life as a Victorian child and will be immersed in fun activities throughout the day as the conclusion to our Thematic Week. We will then share photos of these events on the school website for your enjoyment. Next term, we have a very exciting group of cavemen and women who will be visiting Year 3 for our new topic, 'Like a Rolling Stone'. 'Real life' Neanderthals will be camping out on the field at Whitehorse Manor Junior School and each class will have the opportunity to spend part of the day with them. They will be discussing life as a caveman and will show children how they survived and how to make different tools. We hope to see as many children dressed up as possible. As well as this, Year 3 children will also have the opportunity to visit the local library. The children will look around, have time to enjoy the books and even become a member!

What you can do to help:

- Please make sure that your child reads every night and 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 are available and children are expected to know these by the end of the year and can be found at: <https://www.pegasusacademytrust.org/media/The-Pegasus-Academy-Trust-Year-3-and-4-spellings.pdf>
- 'Mathletics' is our on-line maths homework. 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.
- Practising times tables with your child is essential to support their maths work further up the school. By the end of Year 3, children are expected to have learned their 3s, 4s and 8s in addition to 2s, 5s and 10s. This is in preparation for the [Multiplication Tables Check](#) which occurs at the end of Year 4.
- 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

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

Dates for your diary	
February	
5th-9th Feb	Thematic Week
9th Feb	Museum Day
26th Feb	Josh Seigal Poetry Visit (WHJUN)
27th Feb	Josh Seigal Poetry Visit (EPS & BRIG)
March	
1st March	Spring Poetry Competition
4th March	Book Week
6th March	Josh Seigal Poetry Visit (CYP)
7th March	World Book Day
11th & 13th March	Parents Evening
April	
22nd April	Caveman Extravaganza Visit (CYP)
23rd April	Caveman Extravaganza Visit (New Forest & Shetland Classes)
24th April	Caveman Extravaganza Visit (Exmoor & Elm Classes)
25th April	Caveman Extravaganza Visit (EPS)