



The Pegasus Academy Trust

Year 4 Termly Newsletter: Autumn 2023

Welcome to Year 4. We hope that you have had a restful summer holiday and we are now looking 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 further 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. Something to keep in mind this year is the statutory Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term. Year 4 children are expected to know all of their times tables with quick recall by the end of year.

English: We will be working hard in English to develop the children's reading, writing and speaking and listening skills. We will be reading a number of fictional texts such as *The Promise* by Nicola Davies, *Krindlekrax* by Philip Ridley and *Winter's Child* by Angela McAllister. We will read and perform nonsense poems by Spike Milligan and Edward Lear and study texts about Boudicca and Romulus and Remus that link to our thematic theme 'When in Rome'. These texts will inspire the children and enable them to write in a range of genres such as dialogue, diary entries, narrative, newspaper articles and non-fiction. They will be practising and developing their writing skills including the use of descriptive language and punctuation including inverted commas for speech as well as grammar. We will also be focusing on spelling and building on learning from Year 3 to further our understanding of spelling and phonics. In line with the school handwriting policy (<http://www.pegasusacademytrust.org/curriculum/writing-and-handwriting/handwriting>), we will be teaching weekly handwriting lessons with the aim of all students developing a joined and fluent style.

Maths: In maths this term, our focus will be place value. This will involve recognising the place value of numbers with up to 4-digits, ordering them and rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. We will also learn about negative numbers and how to use Roman Numerals up to 100. We will develop our understanding of column methods for addition and subtraction and learn about length and perimeter. Videos to support methods taught in class can be found on the school website <https://www.pegasusacademytrust.org/curriculum/mathematics/calculation-videos>. For each unit we cover, we will help the children apply their new maths learning to investigations and mathematical problems, developing a deep understanding of these skills. We will use talk partners and collaborative tasks to develop children's understanding of mathematical vocabulary and to encourage them to verbalise their thinking. By the end of year 4, children need to recall all the times-table facts up to 12x12. To support this at home, children can access Times Tables Rockstars and also Purple Mash which are online resources .

Science: Our science topics are States of Matter and Electricity. In States of Matter, we will study the differences between solids, liquids and gases, investigate the different states of water and learn about the water cycle. In our topic on Electricity, we will find out all about circuits, switches, conduction and the many uses of electricity. We will also attempt to make our own circuits linked to Reading.

Thematic: This term our theme is: When in Rome. In history, we will learn about the Roman invasion of Britain, Boudicca and the Celts. We will discover how Roman inventions and innovations are still in use today. In geography, we will learn how the Roman Empire spread, about Roman society and will compare Celtic Britain to Rome. In art, children will design a Roman shield and study mosaics. In DT, we will create replica Roman purses. Places of local interest, linked to our theme can be found at <https://www.londonxlondon.com/roman-london/>. A virtual tour of the Crofton Roman Villa in Orpington can be found at https://karu.org.uk/crofton_roman_villa. You could also visit the local library to research Ancient Rome.

Trips and events: This term, we will have the opportunity to take the children to a Hindu temple (dates TBC) to experience and learn more about our RE topic Hinduism.

What you can do to help: Please make sure that your child reads every night and could you kindly 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. Every night is reading night! Lists of spelling words for each year group are available 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. As previously mentioned, by the end of Year 4, children are expected to know their times tables to 12 x 12. All children have a multiplication grid in their reading diary and should be familiar with how to use this. They also have logins and access to Times Tables Rock Stars and Purple Mash. 'Mathletics' is our on-line maths homework and children are expected to earn 1000 points (a bronze certificate) each week but are welcome to earn more! 'Live' Mathletics is particularly good for developing mental maths skills and fluency. Children will come to school on their PE day wearing their full PE kit - black tracksuit bottoms or shorts and a white t-shirt. We will be outside as frequently as possible for some of these sessions, so they can also wear their school jumper. Many thanks for your support.

The Year 4 Team

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

Dates for your diary:
Half term break 23 October—31st October

Whitehorse Manor Junior School

19 September	Multiplication Check meeting BRIG 3.45pm
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20th September	Multiplication Check meeting at WHMJ 4pm
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TBC	Visit to a Hindu temple
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Monday	Connemara PE day
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Monday	Camargue PE day
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Monday	Morgan PE day
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Tuesday	Sycamore PE day
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