



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Year 1 Termly Newsletter: Spring 2026

**H**appy 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 with you, we will use the 'text to parents' 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:** The children will develop their understanding of the characteristics and structure of stories. We will be using the stories 'Lost in the Toy Museum' by David Lucas, 'The Three Little Pigs', 'Jack and the Flum Flum Tree' by Julia Donaldson and 'Chalk' by Bill Thomson. Children will be sequencing events and developing settings and ideas for their own stories. We will also be looking at writing instructions for making toys and performing a poem by Roger McGough. Throughout this term, the children will use their phonic knowledge to spell to help them write more independently. 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 look at measure, where children will solve problems relating to weight, length and height. We will learn about the names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes and practise sorting them and making patterns with them.

**Science:** The focus in science this term is materials. We will be looking at things made from different materials, using 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 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 be welcoming a visitor from the Museum of Croydon, who will be bringing a selection of old toys to share with the children. The children will have the opportunity to explore how toys have changed over time and to place them in chronological order, from the oldest to the most modern. They will also take part in a drama workshop called '*Midnight at the Toyshop*', which will provide another exciting opportunity to learn more about toys from the past and present through imaginative play.

**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](http://www.pegasusacademytrust.org)

## Dates for your diary

### Whitehorse Manor Infants main site

Monday 12th January	RedStart Financial Workshop (Green class)
Tuesday 13th January	RedStart Financial Workshop (Yellow class)
Thursday 15th January	RedStart Financial Workshop (Jade class)
Friday January 23rd	Toy Drama Workshop
Friday 6th February	Pegasus Academy Museum Day (opportunity for parent's to see their children's work)
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Monday 2nd March	World Book Week Dress Up Day
Tuesday 3rd March	Read with your child session (2:30 pm)
Thursday 5th March	Author visit (James Sellick)
Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th March	Parents' Evening

### Whitehorse Manor Infants Brigstock site

Thursday 15th January	Toy Drama Workshop
Friday 6th February	Pegasus Academy Museum Day (opportunity for parent's to see their children's work)
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Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Monday 2nd March	World Book Week Dress Up Day
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