



# The Pegasus Academy Trust

## Year 2 Termly Newsletter: Autumn 2021



**W**elcome to Year 2. We hope that you have had a fantastic summer and look forward to having a wonderful year 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, notice boards and the Pegasus website which we suggest you check regularly for up-to-date information.

**English:** During the autumn term, we will be working hard in English to develop the children's reading, writing and speaking and listening. We will be reading a number of fictional texts such as "The Lonely Beast" and "The Bear and the Piano" to fuel our story retelling and love of reading. We will also be reading the story "Traction Man" and creating our very own rescue mission for him to undertake. We will then be writing instructions for Traction Man to follow in order to complete this mission. We will also be researching and fact finding using a wide range of non-fiction books, making links with our learning about healthy living in science and looking closely at our history topic, which this term will be 'The Tudors'. We will use our discovered facts to write information booklets all about Henry VIII and consider how to vary our sentence starters in order to draw in the reader. Every week, the children will be learning about different aspects of spelling, grammar and punctuation and using this to improve their writing skills. The children will also be having daily phonics sessions in order to best prepare them for the Phonics Screening Check that they will be taking in the second half of the autumn term.

**Maths:** In our maths learning this term, the children will be focusing on place value (e.g. to know that the number 23 is made up of 2 digits that tell us how many tens and ones there are in the number and that  $23 = 20 + 3$ ) as well as looking at different ways we can add and subtract numbers. Please help your child with as much practical maths as possible; remembering that it is important that they can explain the method they used to solve a calculation. Children will be working with money learning how to add together two totals, find different ways to make the same total and find the change. We will also work on telling the time to the nearest 15 minute intervals and it would be great if you could practise this at home with your child.

**Science:** Our science topic this term will be 'Animals including humans' and we will be learning all about the human life cycle and what animals and humans need to survive. We will be studying the human body and naming key body parts, including different bones and joints. Children will be thinking about what makes 'healthy living' and will look at different food groups as well as making up their own healthy plates. We will be learning about how important exercise is to keeping healthy and different ways we can keep fit. Children will be learning about how exercise creates changes in our bodies. Lastly, children will be looking at the importance of hygiene and ways in which we can keep clean.

**Thematic:** Our topic this term is 'The Tudors' and the children will learn all about the reign of Henry VIII and how he ruled England 500 years ago. We will be finding out what Tudor life was like for the rich and poor and what kind of king Henry VIII was. We will be bringing this topic alive by visiting Henry VIII's most famous palace, Hampton Court Palace, and discovering the fate of his six wives. The children will draw and paint Tudor portraits of Henry or one of his wives and will create and design their own Tudor roses or Tudor shield which they will later use to create a printing pattern. We will also be comparing King Henry VIII to our modern day monarch, Queen Elizabeth II.

**Trips and events:** To enrich our RE learning, Nabhi from the London Institute of Vedic Education, will be visiting us and delivering an interactive workshop based around the Hindu festival Diwali. We will be taking a trip to Hampton Court Palace to learn more about Henry VIII.

**What you can do to help:** The most important way you can support your child is by reading with them as often as possible. Your child will have the opportunity to change their reading books and will have access to a selection of books on 'Bug Club'. 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. Please try and write in your child's reading diary daily to keep us informed of their reading at home. Please could you ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kits on PE days and when they have sports for enrichment sessions. There will be a chance for you to meet with your child's teacher this half term to talk through their next steps for learning during our Parents' Evenings which will be taking place the **week beginning Monday 11th October from 3:30 to 6:30pm**. You will be able to sign up for a slot nearer to the time. We also look forward to seeing you for our year 2 curriculum meeting on Friday 1st October where we will also share information about the SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) the children will be taking next May. If you have any general concerns or questions in the meantime, please ask!

Miss T Cashmiri—Year 2 Team Leader

**Don't forget to check the website at: [www.pegasusacademytrust.org](http://www.pegasusacademytrust.org)**

**Dates for your diary****Cypress Primary School**

Friday 1st October, 9am

Year 2 Curriculum Meeting in Lower School hall

Week commencing Monday  
11th October

Parents' Evening - more details to follow

Thursday 21st October

Thematic trip to Hampton Court Palace

Thursday 25th November

Diwali Workshop