



The Pegasus Academy Trust



CYPRESS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happy New Year to all of our families! We have a busy spring term planned with many exciting learning opportunities. The Year Two themes this term are based on London and include an exciting trip to London and our Museum Week. At the close of Museum Week, we will share the children's wonderful history and art work on **Friday 10th February 2023** (more details to follow).

English: In their Literacy work this term, the children will be reading and listening to a range of fiction and nonfiction texts. Children will be researching using a wide range of non-fiction books with a focus on 'The Great Fire of London'. They will be using their research to write exciting diaries in the style of an eye witness to the fire. The children be immersed in a number of Grimm's fairy tales to develop an understanding of the different features of a fairy tale, such as the setting and characters. Using ideas from these stories they will write their own fairy tale with a twist. Later in the term, the children will be looking at the story 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. They will build their own classroom 'Iron Man' and write commands for him to follow. In school, we are encouraging the children to use noun phrases in their writing to make their work more interesting for the reader. For example, the *huge, metal* monster. What exciting adjectives can you come up with at home? Please continue to support your child at home by reading and sharing stories with them and listen to them read every day. Remember each child has access to Bug Club and which has a great selection of online books along with questions for your child to answer which will help to develop their comprehension skills, alongside their eCollins Reading Practice books.

Maths: This term, the children will be learning to use arrays and number facts to help them with multiplication and division. Please help your child with as much practical maths as possible; remembering it is important that they can explain the method they used to solve a calculation. Children will be working to solve word problems this term and you can help by putting maths problems into a real-life situations and supporting them to understand which mathematical operation they are using. They will be learning how to recognise, name and write fractions such as $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and develop an understanding that fractions are part of a whole. They will be also work on finding the fraction of numbers, shapes and length and investigate equivalent fractions e.g. $\frac{2}{4}$ is equal to $\frac{1}{2}$.

Science: Our science topics this term are 'Materials' and 'Plants'. In our materials topic, children will be looking at the properties of different materials and the reasons they are chosen to make different objects. The children will investigate how the shapes of solid objects made from certain materials can be changed and how to identify the differences between types of plastic. Children will also design their own waterproof jacket for Traction Man using the material that they think will best protect him from the rain. In our plants topic, children will be looking at the different things a plant needs to grow and survive. They will be planting their own daffodil bulbs and a selection of vegetables. They will watch them as they grow and make a record of their observations. The children will then have the chance to make a potato salad using the ingredients they have grown themselves.

Thematic: This term, our topic is 'London'. This topic will include work in art, design and technology, history and geography. In history, we will be learning about 'The Great Fire of London', when it happened, why it happened and how it affected London. In geography, the children will look at where London is located on maps, learn about some of the significant landmarks and develop an understanding about why London is an important city. In art, we will be making pictures of the fire and a silhouette of the London skyline. In DT, the children will be researching Stuart style houses and using their knowledge to design and making their own house, using a slider to create moving flames. The Museum of London and St Paul's Cathedral are places of that are interest linked to our theme that you may like to visit with your child.

Trips and events: Year 2 will be taking a trip to London on the train to visit some of the London landmarks, including The Monument which was built to commemorate where the fire started. We will also visit St-Dunstan-in-the-East and enjoy the view from an amazing rooftop garden, called 'The Garden at 120'. Details to follow!

What you can do to help: The most important way you can support your child is by reading with them every day. It is essential that you listen to them read aloud and also that you read to them using a range of different texts such as newspapers, recipes and magazines. Please encourage your child to log onto Bug Club and eCollins on a weekly basis and read the books that have been selected by their teacher. It is also important that they answer the questions found when clicking on the green bug. Please write in your child's reading diary to keep us informed of their reading at home. There will be a chance for you to meet with your child's teacher this later in the term to talk through their next steps for learning during Parents' Evening. If you have any general concerns or questions in the meantime, please just ask!

Mr G St Aimee - Year 2 Team Leader

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

Please see important dates on the reverse of this letter

Dates for your diary

Cypress Primary School - Year 2

Monday 23rd January	National Autistic Society led Coffee Morning for Parents/Carers (9am, Lower School Community Room)
Friday 27th January	London Fire Brigade workshops for Year 2
Thursday 2nd February	Coffee Morning for Parents/Carers of children with SEND (9.15am, Lower School Community Room)
Friday 10th February	Museum Day - details to follow
13th-17th February	Half term
Tuesday 21st February	Safer Internet Day
27th-3rd March	Book Week - details to follow
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day
6th-10th March	Parents' evening week - details to follow
Friday 17th March	Sports Relief/Comic Relief fundraising day
31st March	Last day of term