



Pegasus Class Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you and your family enjoyed the Christmas break and we welcome you back to school for the spring term. Below you will find an overview of each subject and what your children will be learning, as well as ideas for helping them at home. We really do appreciate all of the support that you give your children at home. We see such a difference in class, when children are reading regularly and taking the time to practise tables and spellings. This term will see the year 6 children really focussing on getting 'secondary ready' ahead of their SATs, which take place in May, and support from both home and school is so beneficial.

We will also be sharing details of our summer activity week (to include a two-night local residential), as well as the summer production, which we know many children are already looking forward to!

Please always feel welcome to use the class email address pegasus@bkpsch.org to communicate directly with me. It is checked daily and I will always endeavour to get back to you within 24 hours. Should you need to report an absence, please use the school office address, as Mrs Field needs to complete register checks each morning.

Kind regards

Mrs Baker

Maths: Pupils will continue to be taught within their year group.

Year 5 will focus on **geometry** to begin with. They will apply their understanding of multiplication and division to solve problems involving area of shapes. They will then move onto calculating with **decimal fractions** (confident tables knowledge is essential here)

Year 6 will focus on **fractions and percentages** before half term and will then move to learning about **ratio and proportion**, as well as revising knowledge of shape: area, perimeter, position and direction ahead of SATs.

Jigsaw: Dreams and Goals will involve working as a part of a group to choose and carry out acts of kindness, which will make a difference to others. After half term, **Healthy Me** will include thinking about emotional as well as physical health. Children will learn about the impact alcohol and other substances can have on the body.

Computing: Our main focus will be work relating to **Safer Internet Day**, an annual event which takes place in **February**. This year the theme is 'Inspiring Change'. We would like to find out about the children's perspectives on new technologies and how they feel the internet can be used to make **changes for the better**. We will also consider what can influence how people feel and act online and offline.

PE: Our skilled PE coach, Miss Rossiter, will develop the children's understanding of movement and patterns in **dance**. After half term children will continue to learn strategies for playing **net games**. (**Smart PE kits** to be worn to school on Tuesdays – school jumpers or cardigans please)

English:

Our class reader for this term is 'The Wolf Wilder,' by Katherine Rundell.

In our focussed **reading** lessons, we will read a variety of different texts and learn to find evidence to support our ideas when discussing what we have read. We will also have a weekly **spelling** lesson and a spelling dictation, to help learn common spelling rules and patterns. In our **writing**, we will focus on organising our ideas into paragraphs and writing a combination of different sentence types to avoid repetition. We will explore a range of conjunctions to help us join ideas within sentences and across paragraphs. We will also explore the use of commas, brackets and dashes, and continue to learn how to use colons and semi-colons in our explanations. We will continue to practise joined and fluent **handwriting**, making sure that our letters are correctly formed and consistently sized.

R.E. Humanism: we will learn about a range of religious and non-religious world-views, as well as the key beliefs of some influential humanist thinkers. After half term, we will focus on **Christianity** and the children will learn about the core concept of Salvation.

At Home

- Please support your child to develop their reading stamina by **reading daily** at home. Children in year 5 and 6 should be reading fluently and with expression.
- Please support your child to practise their **times tables and division facts** (everyone has a login for TT Rockstars and Purple Mash)
- Please help your child learn to be responsible for completing and handing in their **homework each week** (set each Monday and due in every Friday)
- **E-Safety:** Please continue to have conversations at home about how to behave safely and appropriately online. We continue to find increasing situations where children have been exposed to unsuitable content or act inappropriately because of content and activities they have accessed on home devices.
- **SATs:** Year 6 children have been given revision cards for Maths and English. These are really helpful to revisit, understand and practise key skills. Daily practise with an adult at home would help to build children's confidence.

Humanities: Mrs Baker will be leading a **geography** topic on land use and climate change in the polar regions. Mr Burman will be leading a short **history** topic on England, from Pre-history to the Iron-age.

Science: Mr Burman will lead two topics up until Easter. The first will involve learning about **Earth and Space**, as the children explore the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the sun and the movement of the moon relative to the Earth (Just to note, if the children were able to download the free app Sky View on a mobile device, it would be really useful for some homework). The second unit of work is on **animals and their habitats**.

Music: Building a groove - to start the term, we will consider how drum patterns, base line and riff fit together to create a catchy groove. After half term we will continue our composition focus and learn more techniques for **song writing**.

Art and DT: We will begin the term by analysing different types of **shelters**, with a view to designing, making and evaluating our own. After half term, we will focus on creating **art through technology**. We will study the work of well-known digital artists, including David McLeod and Sean Charmatz.

French: Which job? – we will practise our speaking and listening skills as we learn the key vocabulary for a range of professions. Children will learn to **ask and answer questions** about what they would like to be in the future.