



Year 6



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed getting started with our learning in Year 6 this week. We have begun reading our first class text of the year, *Holes*, by Louis Sachar, which the children are loving so far. We have also been taking a look at the second creation story in RE, which has inspired some beautiful artwork. We have started our learning on classification of living things in Science and population in Geography.

Miss Kelly and Miss Vardy

Year 6 Team

Important information:

PE and Games are on a Monday and Wednesday. Children can come into school in their PE kits on these days.

Important dates:

Monday 14th and 28th September – Individual and committee photos. Please send your child in their full school uniform with their PE kit.

Tuesday 15th September– If you are interested in getting involved or learning more about the wonderful PTA at St Polycarp's, please come along to the AGM in The Pope Francis Hall at 7:30pm.

Week of 21st-25th September – PGL residential trip. Please see the PGL meeting PowerPoint on the Y6 page of the website for further information. Please see kit list further down (**children do not need to bring any money**).

Friday 25th September – Xavier Creative Inclusion Challenge deadline – see below for more details.

Monday 28th September at 2:45pm – Y6 Parent Meeting in Kites.

Friday 2nd October – INSET Day

Saturday 10th October– KS2 District Cross Country Race – see below for more details.

Monday 19th October – Elite Swimming Squad Trials – see below for more details.

Changes to Spelling Teaching in Years 2-6

Dear Parents and Carers,

From September, we will be using Read Write Inc. (RWI) Spelling across Years 2-6 and will no longer be using Spelling Shed (EdShed).

Children will take part in daily spelling lessons, which provide a clear and consistent approach to spelling, building on the phonics and handwriting programmes already used in school. Research shows that frequent practice and consistency help children to remember and apply spelling patterns more effectively in their writing.

There will be no formal weekly spelling homework or tests. However, we recommend regular practice at home. Your child's weekly spelling words will be shared in the newsletter, and additional activities (in Spelling Extra Practice Zone) can be accessed through the RWI Spelling Portal: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-pupils/pupil-home>

Username: polysyear6

Password: y6polys

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Vardy & Mrs Edgell

English Leads

Homework:

Spelling: There are currently no words to practise as the children are reviewing rules and spellings from Year 5.

Maths: Times tables Rock Stars regularly. Maths.co.uk homework will be set from next week.

Reading: At least 15 minutes per day. Children should quiz on a book once they have finished it.

Reading in Key Stage 2

Handy Hints

- Make reading part of your daily routine.
- Short sessions – 15 minutes per day.
- Continue to read out loud to an adult as well as independently.
- Try to read a range of books including fiction and non-fiction.
- Complete the Accelerated Reader quiz at home, ideally within 24-48 hours of finishing the book.

How can parents help?

Reading improves with practice.

Encourage your child to read at home, share your own books, discuss books, ask questions about the book they have read and visit the local library.

Check that your child is completing the reading quiz – this is part of their weekly homework.

KS2 DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY RACE

KS2 children are all invited to represent the school at the District Schools' Cross-Country meet in Farnham Park on Saturday 10th October 2026

To sign your child up please use the following

link: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/ObSBgayFRJ>

They will be racing for approximately **2000 metres**. The race will be in a **clockwise direction** unless conditions cause a change to the direction. Note the course is hilly and can be muddy.

There will be a KS2 boys race at 10:00am followed by a KS2 girls' race at 10:20am.

If your child requires medication such as an inhaler, it is the parent or responsible adults' duty to carry it, not the schools'. Please note that First Aiders will be there to provide first aid if there should be an emergency and will be situated near the event 'operations' table. **Every child must come with a responsible adult who stays at the event until the child is finished.**

We do not time the children but give them a position number as they pass the finish line. The idea at each race is to do as well as they can and try to beat their personal best position. Parents are welcome to watch the races. Once your child has raced, **please do not collect your child directly from inside the running funnel.**

There will be medals awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in each race. There are also cups for the best boy's school team performance and the best girls' school team performance. In addition, the Bell cup is awarded for the school scoring the most overall points. The point system is based on our top six finishing positions in each race.

Registration and Gathering Area:

The schools will register the children at the bottom of the park just up from the Bear Lane/Park Row entrance to the park. (Bear Lane/Park Row entrance GU9 7LF) Go into the park, from the bottom entrance, over the stile and meet St. Polycarp's staff on the left hand side where they will register your children. (Just left of the path and adventure playground)

PARKING

Parents must park in the town car parks and walk to the registration point. Please find a map attached. **Please do not park on the roads adjacent to the park such as Park Row and Bear Lane as we must be considerate of residents to retain our licence.**

PLEASE NOTE PARENTS HAVE BEEN ASKED BY WAVERLEY COUNCIL NOT TO PARK IN THE : park/golf car park, cricket ground or smaller rangers' car parks on Folly Hill. Parents and carers are asked not to block residents' roads or drives. Please note this is a **condition of our licence from Waverley Council** to run the event. Marshalls will be present to ensure parents don't flout this requirement.

Surrey Police have been informed and will be contacted if people cause a problem with parking. Please don't let St. Polycarp's down by ignoring this request.

CROSS COUNTRY EVENT INFORMATION

DATE: Saturday 10th October 2026

PLACE: Farnham Park, Bear Lane/Park Row entrance at the bottom left-hand corner of Farnham Park. Please see map attached.

MEETING POINT: Bear Lane/Park Row entrance, just over the stile to the left-hand side of the path below the adventure playground. (See attached map)

TIME OF EVENT: 9.15am Registration at meeting point – Mrs Ramsden aided by other St. Polycarp's staff. After registration the boys and girl's teams will be warmed up by St Polycarp's staff. At the end of the race St. Polycarp's staff will keep the children in the finishing pen for the parent/carer to collect at the end of each race.

9.15am register

9.30am warm up

10.00am Boys Race

10.20am Girl's race

10.45ish! presentation

REQUIREMENTS		
School P.E. kit	Trainers or Astros – No Spikes	Water bottle

Elite Swimming Squad Trials

Monday 19th October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am running swimming trials for this years' 'Elite' swimming squad. Our qualified swimming coach will assess the children along with myself. All children who are interested in joining the team **must** attend the trials on the 19th October 2026 at 7:30am till 8:00am at Farnham Leisure Centre. All previous members of the swim squad **must** trial out for a space on the new team squad too.

LINK - <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/66sAgQiRHR>

Trials

Y3 & Y4 children must be really water confident and be able to swim a recognised stroke for 25 metres on both their front and back. (1 length of Farnham Swimming Pool) The children need to put their face in the water and be happy to jump into the swimming pool. They must be able to tread water.

Y5/6 children must be water confident and able swim a recognised stroke for 50 metres on both their front and back. (2 lengths of Farnham Swimming Pool) The children need to put their face in the water and be happy to jump into the swimming pool. They must be able to tread water.

Those wishing to trial out must complete the online form. Please use the following link. Parents must stay for the duration of the trials and are responsible for transporting their child back to school. This is due to the number of children potentially attending.

If your child is successful in gaining a space in the swimming squad, they need to make a commitment to attend all the Monday sessions unless ill. Times for swim squad are as follows:

Timings: **7.15am** – change. **7.30am – 8am** swim coaching. **8am** – change. **8.15am** your child should be ready to transport back to school

If your child is successful in obtaining a space in Swim Squad The children will receive a letter to inform them if they are successful or not. If successful, a further letter will be given about payment and their start date. Parents need to be committed to getting your child to the pool for 7.15am each Monday. Your child will then need to be transported to school after weekly sessions.

Some of the children from the squad will then be selected for the District Schools' Gala in February.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Ramsden

INFORMATION SHEET

TIME OF ARRIVAL AT POOL: 7.15am

MEETING POINT: Farnham Leisure Centre Foyer (Dogflud Way, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UD)

ADULT SUPERVISION: Mrs. Ramsden, Qualified Swimming Coach, Qualified Lifeguard (Supplied by Leisure Centre). Parents will be asked not to be pool side.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SWIM TRIAL:

Swimming Costume

Goggles

Swim Hat

Towel

Medication Required

School Uniform for the school day

OTHER INFO: Parents must stay for the duration of the trial and then transport your children back to school. Parents may organise their own lift shares.

There will be a fee involved for being part of the swim squad and you will be advised of this, along with swim dates and times, if your child is successful in the trials and obtains a space in the swim squad.

PLEASE READ

****** In previous years children from swim squad have been walked to school with a staff member and parent helpers in readiness for the school day. However, due to staffing changes this option is not be possible going forward. Therefore, please make sure your child can return to school after Swim Squad sessions in the morning******



What to bring

Please ensure that all items are named.

CLOTHING

Clothes are likely to suffer wear and tear and also get dirty and/or wet therefore you should bring several changes of old clothes for doing activities.

- ☐ **Tops & jackets**
 - ☐ T-shirts
 - ☐ Long sleeved shirt/T-shirts
 - ☐ Waterproof jacket
 - ☐ Fleeces/jumpers

Your arms will need to be covered to do some activities.

- ☐ **Trousers or leggings**
but not jeans as they get heavy and cold when wet



- ☐ **Underwear & socks**

Your socks will need to cover your ankles to do some activities.

- ☐ 1 or 2 sets of **clothes for the evening**



- ☐ Suitable **nightwear**

Please note: Bedding (a duvet and pillow) are provided for all international guests.

FOOTWEAR

- ☐ **2 pairs of trainers**
 - 1 for activities
 - 1 old pair for watersports
- ☐ **1 pair of dry shoes**
for evening activities



OTHER ITEMS

- ☐ **2 towels**
 - 1 for showering
 - 1 old one for activities

- ☐ Reusable **drinks bottle**



- ☐ Small **rucksack/bag**

- ☐ Labelled **bin bag** for wet and dirty clothing



- ☐ **Washbag** including soap, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste (please do not bring Aerosols)

TRAVELLING IN THE...



...SUMMER?

- ☐ Shorts
- ☐ Baseball cap/sun hat
- ☐ Sunscreen



...WINTER?

- ☐ Warm coat
- ☐ Hat and gloves

Lost property

We recommend you write a list of what you pack to check before you come home. If you do leave anything behind, please contact your party leader who will contact PGL. Postage will be charged for returning lost items.

Football School

Groups taking part in the football school should bring appropriate clothing to participate. We recommend bringing shorts, t-shirts, a tracksuit, football boots and shin pads.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING

- ✗ Electrical devices
- ✗ Computer games
- ✗ Jewellery/valuables
- ✗ Aerosols

If you bring your **mobile phone**, please note, it is not covered by our insurance.



Xavier Creative Inclusion Challenge



CREATIVE INCLUSION CHALLENGE

WE ARE, WE BELONG



The "We are, We Belong" Creative Inclusion Challenge is a Xavier wide competition designed to encourage our young people to explore themes of equality, diversity, inclusion and belonging, through creative expression.

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO PRODUCE ORIGINAL WORK THAT REFLECTS:



Respect for others



Understanding of different identities and experiences



Inclusion within school and society



Positive change and student voice

The competition promotes creativity, empathy, critical thinking, and community engagement while supporting personal development.

SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY BY FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

STUDENTS SHOULD CREATIVELY EXPLORE:

- ✓ What makes people feel included or excluded
- ✓ Celebrating differences
- ✓ Building on our inclusive schools and communities
- ✓ Advocacy and kindness
- ✓ Representation and identity

EXAMPLE COMPETITION BRIEF FOR STUDENTS

YOUR CHALLENGE
Create a piece of work that answers this question:

"What does belonging mean to you?"

You can use any creative format to:

- Share experiences
- Raise awareness
- Inspire change
- Celebrate identity
- Promote inclusion

Your work should encourage others to think differently and help create a more welcoming school community.

"We Are, We Belong" invites students to use creativity to celebrate diversity, inspire inclusion.

Whether through art, film, poetry, music, or campaigning, every student has a voice that can help build a more welcoming and respectful school community.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

STUDENTS MAY ENTER INDIVIDUALLY OR IN TEAMS.



ART & DESIGN

- Posters
- Paintings
- Digital artwork
- Photography



FILM & MEDIA

- Short films
- Social media campaigns
- Podcasts
- Animation
- Video essays



WRITING & SPOKEN WORD

- Poetry
- Short stories
- Speeches
- Articles
- Rap/spoken word



PERFORMANCE

- Dance
- Drama
- Music
- Monologues



INNOVATION & CAMPAIGNING

ALL SCHOOL YEARS WELCOME TO ENTER



PRIMARY
Years 1-6



JUNIOR
Years 7-9



SENIOR
Years 10-13