



## Year 5



Dear Parents and Carers,

The highlight of our week was without a doubt our amazing Viking workshop on Tuesday. The children looked wonderful in their costumes and accessories. Both classes were delighted by the artefacts, weapons, battles, language and quiz. It was a great success! It was lovely to see the children's enthusiasm and engagement throughout the day!

In Maths, this week we moved on to short division and in English we were writing our adventure narrative using direct speech and figurative language. In Science we have been investigating how gravity is affected by air resistance and water resistance.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Peneda, Mrs Maliphant and Mrs Gregson.

### Upcoming Events

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 3.30pm - Movie Night**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Mental Health Awareness Week**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – DT project**

**Half term Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – first day back after half term**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Open Books**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - (School closed) - INSET Day**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March- Parents' Evening (in person) and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March- Parents' Evening (online)**

### Information

PE: Tuesday -**Doves only** Children should come into school wearing their school uniforms and will change into PE kit at school.

PE: Wednesday - **Pheasants only** Children should come into school wearing their school uniforms and will change into PE kit at school.

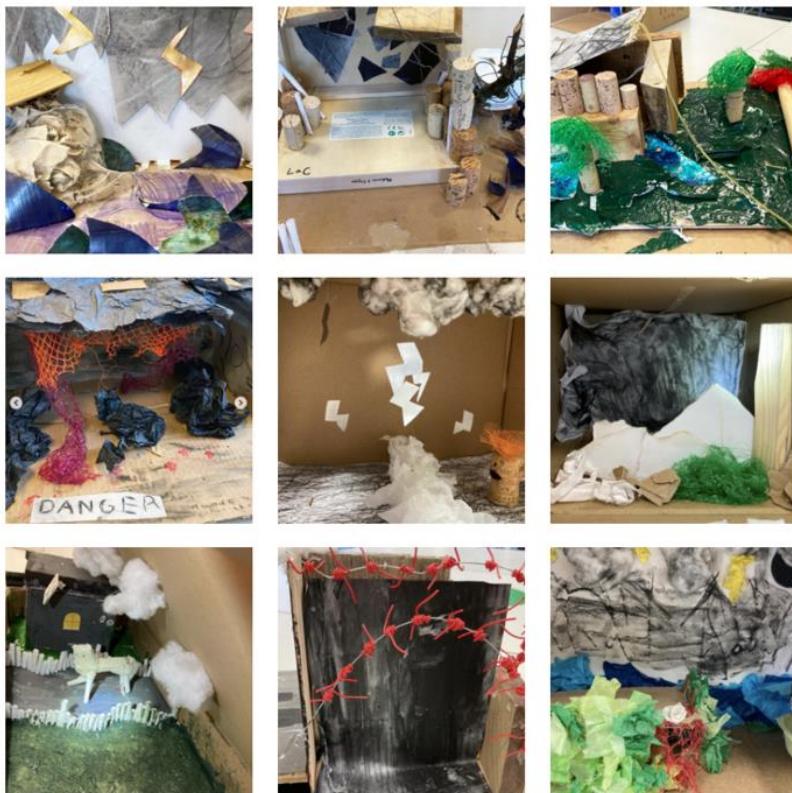
Library: Monday (Pheasants and Doves). Children need to bring their library book back EVERY week.

Games: Friday (both classes) **Children wear their Games kit on Fridays all day.**

### **Art Project: Set Design**

In Art this term, we will be working in small groups on a set design project, inspired by professional set designers. In small groups, we will be creating 3D model sets using drawing, painting and construction skills.

Each group will need one cardboard box for the main structure. We would also welcome donations of clean recycled materials for the children to use in their set designs. Thank you.



### Prayer bags

Here in the St Polycarp's family, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus through playing, praying, loving and learning together.

To support us in continuing to live out our mission, your child will have the opportunity to bring home our class *prayer bag*. It includes simple, age-appropriate resources to help you pray together as a family. The prayer bag will be brought home by a different child in the class each week.

You'll also find a prayer diary where you and your child can write any thoughts, prayers or intentions if you wish. The prayer bags will be sent home on a Friday and returned the following Friday.

The prayer bag is a wonderful way of linking the prayer life of our school and home by encouraging the children to practise and lead their own prayer sessions with their families and share their spiritual experience. We hope this shared experience brings moments of peace, connection and joy to your home.

Thank you

### Homework:

Maths homework will reflect the learning that is done in class during each unit. It is set every Friday on Maths.co.uk. Logins have been sent home. We suggest that children write down their working

out on paper when completing the questions from maths.co.uk before entering the answer electronically. Sadly, paper copies cannot be provided. Children are not required to hand in their answers. If you would like further practice, you can use MathsBot.com Year 5 Arithmetic. At St Polycarp's we follow the White Rose Maths Scheme and wanted to signpost the helpful videos which are available to parents and pupils free of charge.

Here is the link for the White Rose videos "Maths with Michael." It is on the website under the maths section as well.

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/mathematics/mathematics-with-michael>

### **Weekly Spelling Quiz Update**

From Spring term, weekly spelling quizzes will include 6 spellings from the current week's list, 2 from the previous week and 2 from an earlier quiz within your child's year group. This approach uses retrieval practice, which helps children strengthen their memory and move spellings into long-term retention, rather than just learning them for a single test.

Please don't be concerned if scores dip slightly at first while children adjust to this format - this is a normal part of the learning process and will support stronger spelling knowledge over time.

### **Spelling homework:**

Spellings are set every Friday with a spelling test the following Friday giving children one week to learn them. This week's spelling:

changeable
noticeable
manageable
agreeable
knowledgeable
replaceable
microwaveable
salvageable
rechargeable
irreplaceable

### **Reading**

Please see below for the Key Stage 2 reading guidance. When the children finish reading a book, they need to complete an online quiz at home before changing the book.

**Children should aim to complete as many quizzes as they can but are expected to complete at least 3 quizzes per half-term.**

We have noticed that there are still some children who have not completed many quizzes since start of term. Check that your child is completing the reading quiz – this is part of their weekly homework. Children can complete the quizzes at school during lunchtime homework club on Fridays if they are not able to do them at home. Please ask them to speak to their class teacher about this.

[Find the link to AR here.](#)

### **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.

### **Times Table Rockstars (TTRS)**

As a guideline, **children should aim to practise their times tables as much as possible, preferably daily**. Please encourage the children to practise those times tables which they are less secure with.

If you have any questions or messages for your child's class teacher, please come and speak to us at the end of the day or email [info@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk).