



Year 2 – school week beginning 24.11.25



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, Year 2 have been writing their non-chronological reports about their chosen polar animal. We have started rehearsing for our Christmas Liturgy and the children are thoroughly enjoying singing Christmas songs. On that note, we would like to formally invite you to attend our Year 2 Christmas Liturgy on **Tuesday 16th December at 2:30pm- 3:00pm**. Please arrive a few minutes before to allow entry time. Please enter through The Hive door. Some children have been given lines to read in the Liturgy- these can be found in their bookbags. Please practice with your child at home to build confidence.

Next Tuesday (2nd December) is Christmas Art Day. Children can wear Christmas-themed mufti to school. Please be aware, outfits may get messy!

Friday 28th November- Inset Day

Scholastic Book Fair - Wednesday 3rd December till Monday 8th December.

Monday 1st December - School Closure Day

Thursday 4th December- Swifts Carol Singing

Friday 5th December- Swallows Carol Singing

Tuesday 16th December at 2:30pm- 3:00pm- Christmas Liturgy

Thursday 11th December- Sponsored Elf Run (see details below)

Please see details below about [The Giving Tree](#) and the [Christmas Art Competition](#).

This week's homework update:

Maths homework will be set on Friday and due in the following week.

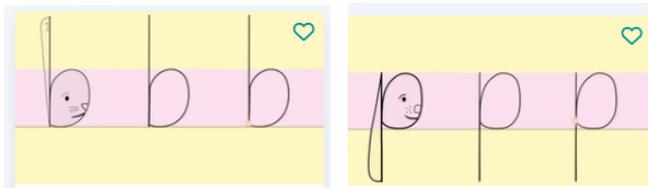
TTRS: Children in Swifts will now be quizzed on their time tables on Tuesdays!

Spellings will be set on EdShed. Children will be quizzed on Friday.

This week's spelling pattern: words ending in 'al'.

[metal](#), [petal](#), [capital](#), [hospital](#), [animal](#), [equal](#), [final](#), [pedal](#), [local](#), [magical](#)

If you have time, please practice handwriting with your children. In our **handwriting formation** lessons, we have looked at the following letters:



Reading - As part of their homework, we ask that children read every day with an adult. If your child has a reading record (phonics), please record their daily reading. If your child is on **Master Reader**, they should complete one quiz on Accelerated Reader per week. The link can be found [here](#).

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Bellapaisiotou

Mrs Murphy

This Christmas season, St Polycarp's will be taking part in The Giving Tree to support children living in refuge (<https://kidsout.org.uk/the-giving-tree/>). These children can receive very little - or in some cases nothing at all. Families (and staff!) will have the opportunity to take a tag from the tree, purchase the gift listed for a child, and return it to school. We will then take the gifts to the local collection point where they'll be distributed to children living in refuge.

How it works:

- Tags will be available to take from Monday 24th November from the tree by the office (exact location TBC).
- Families can take a tag, buy the gift, and return it unwrapped to school, these can be left under the tree.
- Deadline for returning gifts: Wednesday 10th December. This then gives us time to take them to the collection point to be wrapped and distributed to the children in time for Christmas

 **KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA**
Building on the Foundations for our Future

NATIVITY SCENE PAINTING COMPETITION

COMPETITION IS OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 4-11 YEARS OLD

THEME GUIDE:

- **NATIVITY SCENE OF OUR LORD**
- **WRITE BIBLE CHAPTER AND VERSE THAT BEST RELATES TO YOUR PAINTING**
- THE COMPETITOR'S ENTRIES WILL BE OF THEIR OWN FREE HAND DRAWING AND COLOURING PRODUCTION.
- THE USE OF PRE-PREPARED TRACINGS SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED.
- THE ENTRIES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED SIZED EITHER A4 OR A3 ON PAPER OR CARD OF A QUALITY AND COLOUR OF CHOICE.
- THE BIBLE CHAPTER AND VERSE CAN BE WRITTEN ON THE PAINTING, ON THE REVERSE OR ON ATTACHMENT.

AN ENTRY WILL ONLY COUNT IF **ALL** OF THE FOLLOWING ARE PRESENTED CLEARLY: **CHILD'S NAME. AGE. DATE OF BIRTH. SCHOOL YEAR GROUP. NAME AND FULL ADDRESS OF SCHOOL. REMEMBER TO ALSO INCLUDE THE BIBLE VERSE!**

INFORMATION:	
Submission Deadline	Prizes
8th December 2025	Winner: £30
FREE ENTRY	2nd place: £20
	3rd place: £15

Children should bring their nativity scene to school by the deadline and we will organise a collection with Brother Brian McDermid.

1. Mary and Joseph

Mary and Joseph, don't be afraid,
God's chosen you for the plan that he's
made,
He knows what to do, he'll look after you,
Mary and Joseph, don't, don't be afraid.

**2. Bethlehem is Barmy
Tonight!**

Bethlehem's gone bonkers,
Bethlehem's gone mad,
Everywhere is busy and the queues are really
bad,
Tons and tons of people,
It's a crazy sight!
Bethlehem is barmy tonight!

It's busy, busy, busy,
There's something in the air.
It's busy, busy, busy,
It's chaos everywhere.

3. Hello Shepherds

Hello, hello shepherds!
Hello, don't be afraid!
Hello, hello shepherds!
We've got some special news to tell you all
today.

And it's GOOD it's GREAT,
It's news that cannot wait,
God has sent his son.
It's GOOD it's GREAT,
It's news that cannot wait,
He's been born for everyone!

**4. Tell Me A Story Shining
Star**

Tell me a story, shining star,
Tell me where you've been,
Travelling both near and far,
Places that you've seen.

Sing me a song oh winter star,

Sing it loud and true,
Lullaby my listening ear,
Then I'll sing to you!

5. Follow That Star!

Follow that star,
From wherever you are.
Follow that star,
From wherever you.
It burns like an ember,
It's the heart of December,
So follow that star!

Follow that light,
Let it lead through the night.
Follow that light,
Let it lead through the night.
It shines like a beacon,
To the faith that you're keeping,
So follow that light.

It burns like an ember,
It's the heart of December,
It shines like a beacon,
To the faith that you're keeping,
So follow that star,
Follow that star,
Follow that star,
Follow that star,
Follow that star.

6. We Wanna Shout

We wanna shout about this baby,
We wanna tell the world His name,
We wanna celebrate this Christmas time,
The things we've heard today.

Bring praises to Jesus,
Clap your hands for him (*clap, clap, clap*)
Bring praises to Jesus,
Stamp your feet and sing (*stamp, stamp,
stamp*).

7. Away in A Manger

Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus

Laid down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky
Looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing
The baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my side,
'Til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever
And love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children
In Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven
To live with Thee there

8. Jingle Bells!

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh,
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh.

Dashing through the snow,
On a one-horse open sleigh
O'er fields we go,
Laughing all the way (ha! Ha! Ha!)
Bells on bob tail ring,
Making spirits bright,
What fun it is to ride and sing our sleighing song tonight! Oh!

9. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

4 beats intro

You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and vixen
Comet and Cupid, Donner and Blitzen
But do you recall the most famous reindeer of all...

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer
had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw him,
you would even say it glows.
All of the other reindeer
used to laugh and call him names.
They never let poor Rudolph
join in any reindeer games.

Then one foggy Christmas Eve
Santa came to say:
"Rudolph with your nose so bright,
won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"
Then all the reindeer loved him
as they shouted out with glee,
Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer,
you'll go down in history!

10. Mince Pies

PART 1:

Mince pies, mince pies, I'm making mince pies,
I'm getting in a mess, but I couldn't care less,
Because I'm having a lovely time.

PART 2:

Pour in the brandy, pour it in,
Pour in the brandy, pour it in,
Pour in the brandy, pour it in,
Pour it in.

PART 3:

Sprinkle in some raisons, sprinkle in some raisons,
Sprinkle in some raisons, sprinkle in some raisons,
Sprinkle in some raisons, sprinkle in some raisons,
Sprinkle in some, sprinkle in some raisons.

11. We Wish You A Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;

Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;
 Oh, bring us a figgy pudding and a cup of good cheer
 Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We won't go until we get some;
 We won't go until we get some;
 We won't go until we get some, so bring some out here.
 Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We wish you a Merry Christmas;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
 Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
 Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.

FREE books for your school when you buy at the Book Fair!

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

COME to the BOOK FAIR

A pop-up book-store with hundreds of books from just £2.99

DOG MAN Save £3 £12.99 £9.99

Jonty Gentoo Save £5 £12.99 £7.99

LICH ZELLY AND A Wobble JUST £2.99 £6.99

MY BIG FAT FOOD DIARY £8.99

MICHAEL MORPHEUS COBWEB £7.99

YON GATES STAR STORIES £7.99

A work of staggering importance.

Date: Wednesday 3rd December till Monday 8th December
 Pope Francis Hall
 3.15pm

Scan the QR code to pay online!

This Christmas the school is taking part in a sponsored **Christmas Run** to raise vital funds to support **Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care** ...because every day is precious

As the Christmas season draws near, our school is embracing the spirit of giving and your child will be taking part in a sponsored run – a fun, festive event to support the incredible work of Phyllis Tuckwell. Phyllis Tuckwell provides vital palliative and end of life care to patients, their families and carers across our community. This sponsored run is a moment where the children can come together, dressed in festive cheer, to make a real difference to those approaching the end of life.

Your child will be given either a set of reindeer antlers or an elf hat to wear on the day of their run, which they can then take home with them.

They have also been given a sponsorship envelope to take home to try and raise as much money as possible for Phyllis Tuckwell before their run. We know this time of year can be busy and budgets can be tight, but even the smallest donation can have a big impact. Your support helps fund nurses, counsellors, therapists and doctors who support families when they really need it.

Please use the sponsorship envelope that your child has been given to make a cash/cheque donation or you can visit phyllistuckwellhospicecare.enthouse.com/christmasruns or scan the QR code on the envelope to donate online.

The NHS/Government only cover about 25% of costs for Phyllis Tuckwell, which means they have to raise over £25,000 a day to be able to offer all of their services, free of charge, to patients, their families and carers. Your donations will mean that they can continue to be there when needed the most.

Clifton Ingram Solicitors (incorporating Bell's Solicitors) are the sponsor for the Phyllis Tuckwell Christmas Runs this year. As a local law firm, Clifton Ingram is dedicated to supporting the local community. In addition to their sponsorship, they've also supplied fun colouring sheets for the children to take home, with the chance to enter a prize draw to win a Nintendo Switch!

Return the colouring sheet along with the sponsorship envelope on the day of the run.

Thank you for your support!

£10 could pay for two days' worth of aromatherapy oils, bringing comfort and relief to patients worn down by the effects of radiotherapy and chemotherapy.