

27.2.26



Our Week in Year 1



Hope you all enjoyed your half term break and arrived back refreshed for the second half of Year 1. This week we have learning...

English - The children wrote about their half term holidays using their sentence writing knowledge.

Maths - We learnt about related facts (fact families adding and subtracting) and measurement using a ruler.

History - We began our new Toys and Games topic. Thank you for all the toys, the children loved showing them to their friends and describing them in their books.

RE - Our new topic is called From Desert to Garden. The children developed their understanding of what Ash Wednesday means and why we change our prayer tablecloth to purple.

Science Fair - Thank you for your contributions for the Science Fair. The children really enjoyed looking at all the experiments in the hall on Tuesday.

Science- we continued with our topic learning about how scientists use data to answer questions. The children made a tally chart about the class pets.

Notes for parents

Next week we will have games on Thursday (5th March), please make sure your child comes into school in their correct games kit on this day.

Homework:

Reading - Continue to read regularly including your RWI books x 2 and any other books you may have at home.

Handwriting - Please practise these letters in your child's handwriting book. To help you with this, please watch and follow the videos below. The children will be familiar with these videos as we have used them in our handwriting lessons.

Letter i - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/q7w1DBAj/uR1L9DpZ>

Letter l - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/w9gE8nmP/zvdkoIpd>

Letter t - <https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/pApdpBs0/Ie7o98G7>

Spelling - New words this week - **do to by my Monday**

Use the Edshed/Spelling Shed website. Your child's login will be in their reading record. Let us know if you have any problems logging in.

The spellings can be practised on the website and/or on paper. Each week the children will learn the spelling words and a strategy for additional practice e.g. rainbow writing.

Maths.co.uk - Please complete the quiz 'Length and Height - Y1' on Maths.co.uk.

Extra learning practice at home - Please do check your child's bag / reading record book for any extra practise work being sent home e.g. practising phonic sounds, handwriting, sentence writing etc. Please complete and return where needed.

Other Notes

Year 1 trip to Milestones Museum. Please ensure you have returned the signed permission slip via Scopay. Thank you to those who have offered to help on the trip. We will let you know if we require your help.

Helen Arkell Sponsor read - Please continue to read at home and raise money for Helen Arkell 😊 Deadline is Monday 9th March. More details below.

Lent Concert - Wednesday 25th March (1.45-3.00pm) & Thursday 26th March (9.15-10.30am) - more details below.



Prayer Bag - Please see letter below explaining all about our new Year 1 Prayer Bags for the children to take home and enjoy! They will be sent home to one child every **Friday**. Please return the bag by **Thursday (latest)** so we can check the inventory and send out to a new child every Friday. Thank you!

History - Our new topic next half term is 'Toys and Games': -

As part of this topic, we would like to invite parents to come in and share with the children some of their old toys from the past. We plan on doing this during the week of **9th March**. If you are able to come in, please let Miss Dalton and Mrs Edgell know.

Glue Sticks - we are running very low again. If you are willing and able to donate any glue sticks, we would be very grateful. Thank you for your donations so far!

PE (every Tuesday for Swans and every Wednesday for Skylarks) - this term, PE will be moving outside. Please ensure your child has the correct and weather appropriate kit (all named), together with **outside trainers**. No earrings on PE and Games Day please.

PE Changing - We have noticed that some children need quite a lot of time to get changed. Please could you practise changing quickly in/out of clothes as we only have a limited amount of time for PE changing in school.

Please also check that your child's kit still fits them. The children are growing and some are finding that their PE kits are too tight to put on or take off. Thank you.

Book Bags- Please can you check your child's book bag regularly and clear it out at the end of each week. We have noticed some of their book bags are rather full! Please also check your child's name is clearly written on the outside of the bag.

Book Bag Key Rings - A reminder that your child should only **have 1 small** keyring on their bag. We are noticing that some children have quite a few including large teddy type keyrings. This causes difficulty in storing the bags. Please can you check your child's bag. Thank you.

Diary Dates

Monday 2nd March - World Book Week! **Dress up day is Thursday 5th March** (see details below)

Wednesday 4th March 7.30pm- Papaya parent talk (see details below)

Friday 6th March - Year 1 School Trip to Milestones Museum in Basingstoke to explore their new topic of Toys and Games. Further details have been sent separately. Please remember to complete the permission form online.

Wednesday 11th March - Farnham Federation Schools - Ball Skills Event! William Cobbett Primary School is hosting this exciting event just for Year 1 children. The children will meet other Year 1's from other local schools and be put into mixed groups to ensure a festival atmosphere. Please arrive from 3:45pm for a **4pm start**. Parents/carers must attend but the teams will be supported by Sports Leaders from the host school (so parents can simply enjoy cheering on!). We look forward to seeing lots of you there!

Thursday 12th March 3:15-4:00pm - Open Book Afternoon. Parents/carers are invited into classrooms to look at their child's exercise books.

Friday 13th March - INSET DAY. School is closed.

Monday 23rd March - Parents Evening (in person)

Wednesday 25th March - Lent Concert (1.45 - 3pm)

Thursday 26th March - Lent Concert (9.15 - 10.30am)

Have a great weekend!

The Year 1 Team

Lent Concert 2026

This year's Lent Concert (in aid of Mary's Meals and the Catholic Children's Society) will be on **Wednesday 25th March (1.45-3.00pm) & Thursday 26th March (9.15-10.30am)**. This concert is a fantastic fundraising opportunity where each year group joins together to perform a song. Please put the dates in your diaries; further details will come out nearer the time.

This year our Swans and Skylarks will be singing 'Together As A Family' from BBC Assembly Songs. Please have a look at the following link where you will find the lyrics, a demonstration, and a backing track. They have also some actions, please do support your child's practise where possible. Thank you! [All together as a family - BBC Teach](#)

WORLD BOOK WEEK 2026

Dear parents and carers,

St Polycarp's World Book Week will start from **Monday 2nd March to Friday 6th March, with World Book Dressing Up Day on Thursday 5th March**. Every year during our World Book Week we are overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our school community. We will have lots of fun activities taking place throughout the week including:

Special guest readers: We are inviting you as parents, careers or family members to come and read to your child's class, either in English or another language of your choice. This can be at the end of the day or a time that is convenient for you, we know your children will love it! Please let your class teacher know if this is something you can do.

Use your £1 World Book Day book token to get a FREE book! Getting a free £1 book for your child is easy - simply take your £1 book token to your nearest bookseller and swap it for a World Book Day £1 book OR get £1 off any book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more. You can find your nearest bookseller at worldbookday.com/participating-retailers.

Thursday 5th March we will be dressing up. We want the children to use their costumes to share their favourite books, and we encourage you to use things you already have at home. We will be carrying out a World Book Day parade at school to celebrate our love of reading!

We hope you'll join us as we come together to celebrate all things reading!

Best wishes

The English Team

Mrs Edgell and Miss Vardy

Helen Arkell Sponsored Read

Dear Parents,

For our charity event this year, Year 1 have decided to complete a 'Sponsored Read' to raise money for The Helen Arkell Centre.

The Helen Arkell Centre is a local dyslexia charity and Hazel and their mascot 'Teddy Arkell' came to visit school this week. During the visit we learnt a little about dyslexia, how our money will help and Teddy's favourite book.

As parents, we ask you to sponsor your child to read at home as much as possible over the following 3 weeks, (16/2, 23/2, 2/3). You could sponsor an amount per book or page. We are aiming to not only raise money for this worthwhile charity but also raise the profile of reading. The books can be your school banded book or ANY OTHER BOOK your child wishes to read.

We will send home a sponsor form. Money will need to be returned **to school** by Monday 9th March.

Thanks in advance for your support with this event.

Mrs Edgell, Mrs Walker and Miss Dalton

PAPAYA Parent Talk

*We're delighted to invite all parents and carers to a special PAPAYA Parent Talk, led by Donna Dove, an experienced speaker who works with families on building healthier relationships with technology. This will take place on **Wednesday 4th March 2026 at 7:30PM in the Pope Francis Hall (accessed through blue side gate).***

The session will explore how, as parents, you can support children to thrive in a world filled with digital devices, while helping them develop healthy habits, resilience and balance. Donna brings practical insights grounded in psychology and children's wellbeing.

The session will cover:

- *How screen time affects children's development and what healthy use looks like.*
- *Strategies for managing technology at home, including routines, boundaries and positive modelling.*
- *Supporting children's mental health in the digital age—what helps and what doesn't.*
- *How to navigate tricky moments, such as online pressure, device arguments, or "just one more minute..."*
- *Simple changes families can make immediately to reduce stress and create calmer, more connected home life.*

Donna's sessions are known for being warm, practical, and judgement free, with plenty of reallife examples that parents can relate to.

This is a valuable opportunity to:

- *Get expert guidance tailored to today's challenges*
- *Learn easy, realistic strategies you can apply straight away*
- *Feel more confident about supporting your child's wellbeing*
- *Connect with other parents who are facing similar issues*