



Year 5



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very busy week again in year 5!

Both classes have enjoyed carrying out investigations on the effects of friction in our Science topic of unbalanced forces and children have produced some lovely artwork as we have been learning about the meaning words of the Our Father in RE.

In Maths, this week we moved on to multiplying fractions of quantity and in English we continued with new topic of persuasive writing, focusing on emotive language and rhetorical questions. As we approach the end of our History topic, we have been evaluating the impact and achievements of the Vikings who raided, traded and settled in Britain, across Europe and beyond during a period of over 273 years.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Peneda, Mrs Maliphant and Mrs Gregson.

Upcoming Events

Monday 9th February – Friday 13th February – Mental Health Awareness Week

Monday 9th February 2026 – DT project (preparing root vegetables)

Friday 13th February – wear pink and red mufti for Tanzania charity organised by One World (see poster below)

Half term Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026 – first day back after half term

Tuesday 24th February – St Polycarp's Science Fair (more information to be shared soon)

Thursday 12th March – Open Books

Friday 13th March - (School closed) - INSET Day

Monday 23rd March- Parents' Evening (in person)

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

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

Thursday 26th March- Parents' Evening (online)

DT

On Monday 9th February 2026 we will be doing our DT project (preparing root vegetables). Please can the children bring in **one root vegetable** each on this day. The children will be planning their recipes in the WC 2nd February 2026 and will inform you which root vegetable they will need to bring in. Please contact us if you have any questions about this.

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.**

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:

referring
preferred
transferring
reference
referee
preference
transference
difference
inference
conferring

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.

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 Pheasants and Doves will be singing and playing an amended version of '**Hey Soul Sister**' by Train. The children will be singing from memory so please do support them in practicing using the lyrics and chord structure pasted on the next couple of pages.

If your child is in the Polyphonic's choir, they can rehearse using our new online platform, Muse Class Primary; <https://www.eemusicclass.co.uk/shared/DZgYjHvIGzS8mxC4> Find the songs ('Play On' and 'Fireflies'), click on 'view song' then scroll down to 'Available Learning Resources' and access the 'interactive content' by clicking on 'lyrics'. Feel free to explore other options also (e.g.: 'Audio' - 'Accompaniment – backing track only' once lyrics have been learnt).

Hey Soul Sister – Train

Chord sequence 1: (Verses & Bridge)

C / / /	G / / /	Am / / /	F / / /
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Chord sequence 2: (Chorus)

F / / /	G / C G	F / / /	G / C G
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Song Structure & Song Lyrics:

Verse 1:

C / / /	G / / /	Am / / /	F / / /
Hey	-ay -ay _____	-ay -ay _____	Your
C / / /	G / / /	Am / / /	F / / /
lipstick stains	On the front lobe of	my left side brains	I knew I wouldn't for-
C / / /	G / / /	Am / / /	F / G /
get you, and so I went and	let you blow	mind	Your
C / / /	G / / /	Am / / /	F / / /
Sweet moonbeams	the smell of you in every	single dream I	dream I knew when we col-
C / / /	G / / /	Am / / /	F / G /
lided you're the one I had de-	-cided was one of a	kind	

Chorus:

F / / /	G / C G	F / / /	G / C G
Hey soul sister	Ain't that Mister	Mr on the	radio, stereo the
F / / /	G / C G	F / / /	G / / STOP
Hey soul sister	I don't wanna	miss a single	thing you do

Back to chord sequence 1, 'hey-ay' then into verse 2

Verse 2:

Just in time
I'm so glad you have a focused mind like me
You gave my life direction
A game show love connection we can't deny

I'm so obsessed
My heart is bound to beat right out of my untrimmed chest
I believe in you, like a light you guide me onwards,
And I'm always gonna wanna blow your mind

Chorus

Bridge: (Chord sequence 1)

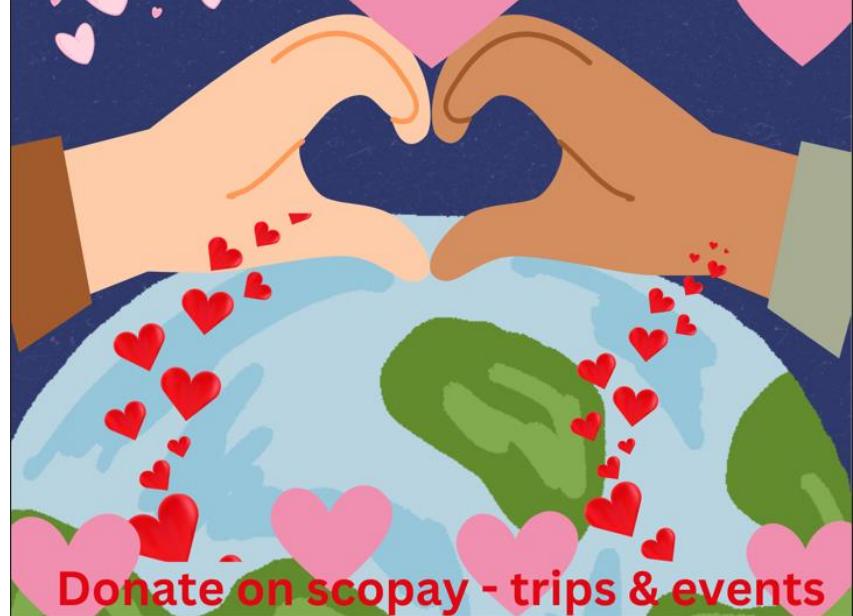
The way you can cut a rug
Watching you is the only drug I need
So gangsta, I'm so thug
You're the only one I'm dreaming of
You see, I can be myself now finally
In fact, there's nothing I can't be
I want the world to see
You'll be with me

Chorus x 2

Hey-ay x2

...tonight...

*The One World Committee
invites the children of
St Polycarp's to dress in red
and pink Mufti on
13 February 2026
to show love and solidarity
to the Ihemi Community,
Tanzania.*



Donate on scopay - trips & events