



Year 2 – school week beginning 23.02.26



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy start to the Half Term! Your children have been incredible, and they have really impressed our visitors with all their RE knowledge and understanding. They are true Stewards! Not only have we had the Catholic School Inspectors wandering round, on Monday a Dragon also decided to pay us a visit and broke into our classrooms! We have been working hard in English to think of adjectives which describe a dragon and we started learning about similes. In maths we continue building our multiplication and division skills, please continue motivating your children with their Times Table homework!

**Key dates:**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** – World Book Week! Dress up day is **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March (see details below)**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm**- Papaya parent talk (see details below)

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 3.15 to 4:00pm**- Open Books in classrooms

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March** – Inset day (no children in school)

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – Parents Evening (In person)

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March** – Lent Concert (1.45 – 3pm)

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Lent Concert (9.15am – 10.30am) & Parents Evening (online)

**Homework expectations:**

<p><b>Spellings; Quizzed on Friday</b></p>  <p>This week's words are challenge words (Common Exception Words)</p> <p><b>every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast</b></p>	<p><b>Maths.co.uk – Checked on Friday</b></p> 
<p><b>Times tables – 3 minutes of Times tables practice a day or 21 minutes per week.</b></p> 	<p><b>Reading – 10 minutes a day</b></p> <p>RWI –please read the book your child has brought home.</p> <p><b>Renaissance</b></p> <p>RWI –please read the book your child has brought home.</p> <p><a href="#">Find the link to AR here.</a> Please complete at least <b>one</b> Accelerated Reader quiz per week (dependent on the size of the book).</p>
<p><b>Handwriting practice – this week we consolidated previous learning.</b></p>	

Please see below details on upcoming Art competitions:

Have a wonderful weekend,

Miss Bellapaisiotou

Mrs Murphy

## Lent Concert 2026

This year's Lent Concert (in aid of Mary's Meals and the Catholic Children's Society) will be on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March (1.45–3.00pm) & Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> 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 Swallows and Swifts will be singing and playing chimes and bells to 'Scales and Arpeggios' from the Arisocats. The children will be singing from memory so please do support them in practicing using our new online platform, Muse Class Primary; the song is accessible through this link: <https://www.eemusicclass.co.uk/shared/DZgYjHvIGzS8mxC4>

Find the song, 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).

If your child is in the Polyphonic's choir, they can also rehearse the choir songs using this same link: <https://www.eemusicclass.co.uk/shared/DZgYjHvIGzS8mxC4> The songs that choir are singing are 'Play On' and 'Fireflies'. Again, all words will need to be learnt by heart.

## **WORLD BOOK WEEK 2026**

Dear parents and carers,

St Polycarp's World Book Week will start from **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, with World Book Dressing Up Day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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](http://worldbookday.com/participating-retailers).

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 real-life 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*



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# EASTER PAINTING COMPETITION

COMPETITION IS OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 7-11 YEARS OLD

## THEME GUIDE:

- A SCENE RECALLED FROM PALM SUNDAY AND THROUGH THE EASTER SEASON.
- 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

**5th April 2026**

FREE ENTRY

Prizes

**Winner: £30**

**2nd place: £20**

**3rd place: £15**

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



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# NATIONAL PRAYER COMPOSITION

COMPETITION IS OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 7-11 YEARS OLD

## THEME GUIDE:

- “A PRAYER FOR EVERYONE WHO WORKS WITH AND CARES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR FAITH COMMUNITY.”
- THE PRAYER SHOULD BE NO MORE THAN 50 WORDS.
- IT MUST HAVE SPIRITUAL CONTENT AND COMPOSITION

AN ENTRY WILL ONLY COUNT IF **ALL** OF THE FOLLOWING ARE PRESENTED CLEARLY ON THE BACK: **CHILD'S NAME. AGE. DATE OF BIRTH. SCHOOL YEAR GROUP. NAME AND FULL ADDRESS OF SCHOOL.**

## INFORMATION:

Submission Deadline  
5th April 2026

FREE ENTRY



Prizes

Winner: £30  
2nd place: £20  
3rd place: £15



Children should bring their prayers to school by the deadline and we will organise a collection with Brother Brian McDerimid.