



## Year 5



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another wonderful and busy in Doves and Pheasants. We finished reading our class text 'Diver's Daughter' and we also wrote balanced arguments based on the book. We enjoyed planning our DT projects (a reminder below about what the children will need) and should have come home with a list of one or two easily source able materials to bring in on Monday.

In Doves we enjoyed joining Year 1 for some peer reading. Pheasants are now excited to join Year 1 after half term.

Good luck to all of the children taking part in the school cross country event this weekend.

### ***DT - Tudor Mazes***

*In the final week of term, Year 5 will be working in pairs to create their own mazes as part of our DT learning this half term. The children will be **designing their mazes during the week commencing 11 May** and **building them in week commencing 18 May**.*

*To complete the project, pupils will need to **bring in all the materials required to make their entire maze which they planned in their designs**. Your child will let you know what materials they need to bring in. Please can these be brought into school by Monday 18 May.*

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Peneda, Mrs Maliphant and Mrs Prentice

### **Upcoming Events**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May** - District Farnham Schools Cross Country (see below for more information)

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May** – children to bring in their DT materials

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – St Joan's Feast Day (children in St. Joan's may come dressed in yellow mufti, if they wish)

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Marion Celebration, led by Year 5 at St Joan's at 9am – parents are welcome - *We invite each child to bring a single flower to school on Friday 22 May 2026 as a loving offering to Our Lady during our Marian celebration.*

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Half Term

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** – Y5 school trip to Horseshoe Lake – please ensure you have completed the permission form on SCOPAY.

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June** – Summer Fayre

### **A message from Mrs Ramsden:**

#### **Y5 Trials**

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June there will be trials for the new Y6 league teams for the next academic year 2026/27. All children who wish to trial out and very welcome to trial.

There are sign-up sheets in Mrs Ramsden office and children are invited to put their names down, if they would like to trial out for the teams.

Children will be selected on performance, commitment and attitude to teamwork and sportsmanship.

Please also be aware if children are unsuccessful in making the league teams there will be plenty of other opportunities for the children to access festivals, tournaments and other sporting opportunities throughout the academic year.

Boys Football team- maximum 10 spaces available  
Girls Football Team- maximum 10 spaces available  
Higher Netball Team - maximum 9 spaces available  
Aspire Netball Team - maximum 9 spaces available

### **Praying the Rosary in the Month of May**

Year 5 Spiritual Council will be leading the Rosary each breaktime in the Spiritual Area. If your child has their own Rosary beads and would like to join Spiritual Council, they are welcome to bring them in. Spiritual council will also have spare Rosary beads.

### **St Polycarp's Polyphonics Choir**

If your child is in the choir for Summer Term, they can rehearse using the following link: <https://www.eemusicclass.co.uk/shared/N70Fqk9XP1AkzT6K> Clicking on the link will take you to a page showing icons for our three songs. Click on the icon of your choice and then use the interactive content – lyrics to rehearse with words on screen function. To sing without lyrics and voices, use the audio – accompaniment function.

Our first performance of the term is on Saturday the 20th June at the Summer Fayre, at 11.30am.

**Friday 15th May 3:15pm - International Food Bake Sale** - The EDI (Equality, Diversity & Inclusion) Committee would love to celebrate all of the diverse cultures we have within our St Polycarp's family by hosting a bake sale of lots of yummy international food... but they need your help! If you would like to make/bake and donate food (sweet or savoury) for their international bake sale please bring it to the office on Friday 15th May (there will be tables set up. If it needs to be refrigerated, then please bring it direct to the bake sale from 3:10pm). The bake sale will take place on **Friday 15th May** from **3:15pm** on the **KS1 playground**. Please bring **cash** only. All proceeds will be donated to 'Challenges' (<https://disability-challengers.org/>), a charity that gives disabled children and young people the opportunity to play, have fun, and make friends in a safe and supportive environment. Thank you so much for your support!



### **Homework:**

#### **Year 5 Weekly Challenge**

*(Optional – for those who enjoy an extra challenge!)*

#### **Year 5 Challenge Homework: Create a Piece of Performance Poetry**

#### **Your Challenge**

Create and rehearse an original performance poem lasting 30–60 seconds. Your poem should be written to be *performed*, not just read — think about voice, pace, expression, and movement.

You may perform it live in class or record it at home.

### Success Criteria

Your performance poem must include:

- Clear rhythm — a beat or flow your voice can follow
- Repetition — a repeated word or line to build impact
- Powerful imagery — words that help the audience picture your ideas
- Performance techniques — changes in volume, pace, tone, or gesture
- A strong message — something you want your audience to think or feel

Aim to use at least three of these features.

### **Homework expectations**

Homework club has now started.

Please support your child to complete **all** homework tasks set for them each week. Check to see if your child has any outstanding Maths tasks on Maths.co.uk and please allow them to complete these as soon as possible. In doing this, you will be reinforcing classroom learning and it will give you essential information about how your child is progressing in that area of learning.

- x1 Maths.co.uk assignment
- x1 Accelerated Reader quiz per week (at least)
- Times table rock stars 21 minutes per week (at least)
- Weekly spelling practise

Please come and chat to your child's teacher if you have questions about this. Thank you for all you do to support your child's learning in school. It makes a huge difference to their academic progress and their confidence in class.

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/maths/maths-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.



Challenge words

accompany

communicate

conscience

desperate

disastrous

interfere

nuisance

queue

restaurant

rhythm

### **Reading**

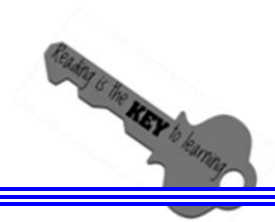
Please see below for the Key Stage 2 reading guidance. When the children finish reading a book, they need to complete an online quiz at home before changing the book.

**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.

### **Handwriting**

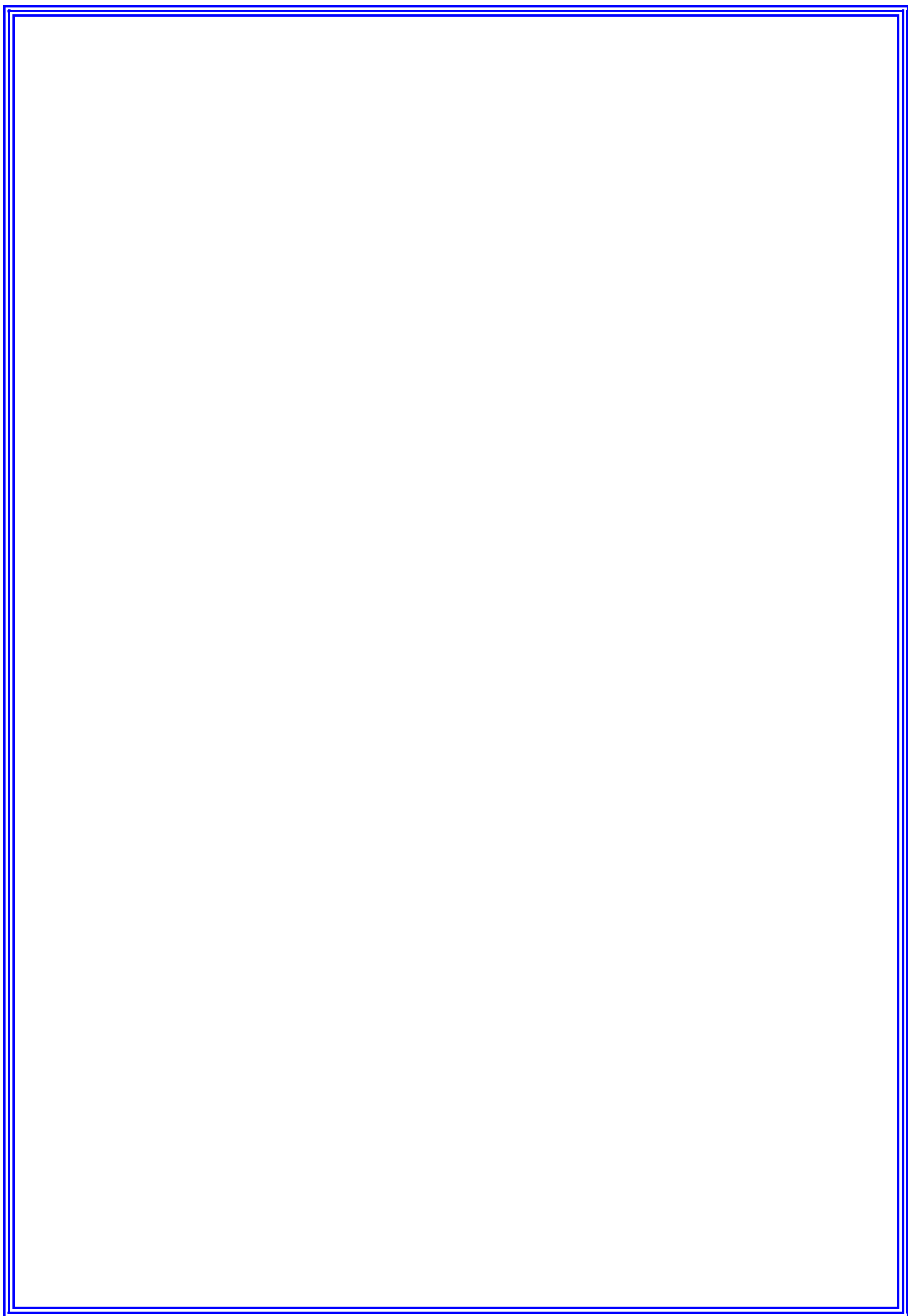
Handwriting videos are now available to access at home. The children have great fun following these in school. Please follow the following link :

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/2xyKsbDJ/rrlDh5Ta>

### **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).





## St. Polycarp's Primary School Outdoor Athletics Club (Years 3-6)

**Fun filled outdoor athletics sessions. If your child enjoys running, jumping or throwing and wants to develop their agility, balance and coordination or simply wants to improve their fitness for other sports come and join us...**

**Dates:** Tuesday 14th April to 14th July 2026 (excluding half term)

**Time:** 3.15 - 4.15pm

**Where:** St. Polycarp's playing field (outdoor)

**What to bring:** Running kit (including warm and waterproof clothing or sun hat and sun cream), trainers and a drink

**Cost:** £117 for the whole summer term

**How to book:** Contact Brian Stopher at Destination RUN for more information at [brian.destrun@gmail.com](mailto:brian.destrun@gmail.com)

Clubs organised and run by Brian Stopher (GB athlete, England Athletics qualified running coach, qualified & experienced PE teacher, ex-head of secondary school PE, & former National Champion)



# EAT THEM TO DEFEAT THEM!

This year, St Polycarp's will be taking part in Veg Power's "Eat them to Defeat Them" campaign.

In 2018, Veg Power created the annual campaign to encourage children to eat more vegetables.

Please see <https://vegpower.org.uk/eat-them-to-defeat-them/> for more information.

This week, all children will be taking home a sticker chart, to celebrate trying and eating a range of vegetables.

If you are happy for a picture of your child taking part, to go on the school instagram, please email this to the front office., for the attention of Mrs Murphy.





## PARENT AND CARER BELONGING WORKING GROUP

Would you like to join a working group looking at what it means to be part of the school community?

**This is the Xavier Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Belonging Pledge.**

### BELONGING PLEDGE

1. The school embraces all children into school life, all staff champion inclusion

2. Trust core Catholic values are integrated to ensure our school cultures are inclusive

3. We work together to ensure children can be the best version of themselves

4. Relationships and trust are central to championing diversity and inclusion.

5. Intelligent and dignified support is provided to those who need it

6. A shared language and definition for inclusion and diversity exists within the Trust to ensure a consistent approach

7. Through their school experiences, pupils are passionate about their role as global citizens.

8. We actively listen to the voice of our community and act to empower individuals to be seen and heard. Everyone is seen as an individual

9. Leaders and governors demonstrate commitment in championing equality, diversity and inclusion

10. Staff and governors show empathy and humility; They are consciously aware of their own bias.

### PARENT AND CARER BELONGING WORKING GROUP

Mrs Woolley is looking for a small group of parents to attend a working group, meeting termly.

The intent of the group is to discuss your experiences of the school and to ensure the school community is as open as it could be and that everybody feels valued.

If you'd like to be help us deliver our belonging pledge, and would like to be a part of this, please let us know by emailing:

[sendinfo@stpolicarps.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:sendinfo@stpolicarps.surrey.sch.uk)