



## Year 5



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great last week before half term in year 5.

On Monday we welcomed back Mrs Prentice, and both classes enjoyed peeling and chopping root vegetables as part of our DT project.

In Science we have been looking at the effects of levers and pulleys and in PSHE children have produced some lovely mosaics for Mental Health Awareness week on the theme of Belonging.

In Maths, this week we moved on to equivalent fractions and decimals and in History, pupils have been creating their own leaflet on the achievements of the Vikings. In RE this week, we were looking at the virtue of hope, especially how we can challenge ourselves to be the hope for others and to help each other when we find things hard.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Peneda, Mrs Maliphant and Mrs Prentice.

### Upcoming Events

**Half term Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – first day back after half term**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February – St Polycarp's Science Fair in Pope Francis Hall**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Open Books**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - (School closed) - INSET Day**

**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 (9.15 – 10.30am)**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March- Parents' Evening (online)**

### 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.**

### St Polycarp's Science Fair – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**We will be holding our annual Science Fair on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February. The children were very excited to hear about our upcoming Science Fair and are welcome to take part by creating a project at home. Please talk with your child about whether they'd like to get involved and support them with any planning if needed.**

**Families are warmly invited to come and view the exhibitions in the Pope Francis Hall from 3:15–3:45pm on the day.**

**Categories:**

- EYFS & KS1
- Lower KS2 (Y3–4)
- Upper KS2 (Y5–6)
- Group entries

**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/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. This week’s spelling are below but will not be tested until second week back due to half term – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

knight
wreckage
writer
knowledge
knuckle
wreath
pterodactyl
mnemonic
wrestler
knife

## **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@stpolicarps.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@stpolicarps.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 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 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)

<b>C / / /</b>	<b>G / / /</b>	<b>Am / / /</b>	<b>F / / /</b>
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### Chord sequence 2: (Chorus)

<b>F / / /</b>	<b>G / C G</b>	<b>F / / /</b>	<b>G / C G</b>
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### Song Structure & Song Lyrics:

#### Verse 1:

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

#### Chorus:

<b>F / / /</b>	<b>G / C G</b>		<b>F / / /</b>	<b>G / C G</b>	
Hey soul sister	Ain't that Mister	Mr on the	radio, stereo the	way you move ain't	Fair you know
<b>F / / /</b>	<b>G /</b>	<b>C G</b>	<b>F / / /</b>	<b>G / / STOP</b>	
Hey soul sister	I don't wanna	miss a single	thing you do	Tonight	

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...