



Year 5



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been another busy week with festive art day on Tuesday and our termly assessments for last part of the week. Children in both classes have worked hard and we are very proud of them all. Thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a great weekend!

Mrs Peneda, Mrs Maliphant and Mrs Gregson

Upcoming Events

Friday 5th December – Christmas Fayre, 3-5.30pm

Thursday 11th December – Christmas run in aid of the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. Children have been given the sponsorship envelopes which they can return on this day.

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Dinner Please ensure you have ordered a lunch in advance. Children can wear Christmas jumpers on this day.

Friday 19th December – Advent Mass. Children should be in full school uniform.

Friday 19th December - 1.30pm finish – School Closure for Christmas holidays

Monday 5th January 2026 – Spring Term begins

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. All books to be returned now before Christmas.

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. 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>

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:

innocence
decent
frequent
emergent
confidence
competence
transparent
eloquence
violent
intelligence

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.

The Giving Tree

This Christmas season, we will be taking part in **The Giving Tree** to support children living in refuge (<https://kidsout.org.uk/the-giving-tree/>). These children can receive very little - or in some cases nothing at all at Christmas. Families (and staff!) will have the opportunity to take a tag from the tree, purchase the gift listed for a child, and return it to school. We will then take the gifts to the local collection point where they'll be distributed to children living in refuge.

Each tag includes the name of a child and the gift they or their parents have said they'd love to receive.

- Tags will be available to take **from Monday 24th November** from the tree by the office (exact location TBC).
- Families can take a tag, buy the gift, and return it **unwrapped** to school, these can be left under the tree.
- Deadline for returning gifts: **Wednesday 10th December**. This then gives us time to take them to the collection point to be wrapped and distributed to the children in time for Christmas.

This Christmas the school is taking part in a sponsored **Christmas Run** to raise vital funds to support **Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care** ...because every day is precious



As the Christmas season draws near, our school is embracing the spirit of giving and your child will be taking part in a sponsored run – a fun, festive event to support the incredible work of Phyllis Tuckwell. Phyllis Tuckwell provides vital palliative and end of life care to patients, their families and carers across our community. This sponsored run is a moment where the children can come together, dressed in festive cheer, to make a real difference to those approaching the end of life.

Your child will be given either a set of reindeer antlers or an elf hat to wear on the day of their run, which they can then take home with them.

They have also been given a sponsorship envelope to take home to try and raise as much money as possible for Phyllis Tuckwell before their run. We know this time of year can be busy and budgets can be tight, but even the smallest donation can have a big impact. Your support helps fund nurses, counsellors, therapists and doctors who support families when they really need it.

Please use the sponsorship envelope that your child has been given to make a cash/cheque donation or you can visit phyllistuckwellhospicecare.enthusie.com/christmasruns or scan the QR code on the envelope to donate online.

The NHS/Government only cover about 25% of costs for Phyllis Tuckwell, which means they have to raise over £25,000 a day to be able to offer all of their services, free of charge, to patients, their families and carers. Your donations will mean that they can continue to be there when needed the most.

Clifton Ingram Solicitors (Incorporating Bell's Solicitors) are the sponsor for the Phyllis Tuckwell Christmas Runs this year. As a local law firm, Clifton Ingram is dedicated to supporting the local community. In addition to their sponsorship, they've also supplied fun colouring sheets for the children to take home, with the chance to enter a prize draw to win a Nintendo Switch!

Return the colouring sheet along with the sponsorship envelope on the day of the run.

Thank you for your support!

£10 could pay for two days' worth of chemotherapy, but what if patients were down by the effects of radiotherapy and chemotherapy?

 **KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA**
Building on the Foundations for our Future

NATIVITY SCENE PAINTING COMPETITION

COMPETITION IS OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 4-11 YEARS OLD

THEME GUIDE:

- NATIVITY SCENE OF OUR LORD
- 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 8th December 2025	Prizes Winner: £30 2nd place: £20 3rd place: £15
FREE ENTRY	

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