

## Year 4



Dear Parents/Carers,



We've had another brilliant week in Year 4! In English, we have been learning how to write travel brochures, using a range of persuasive devices to engage our readers. In Maths, we have been working on division and practising different strategies to solve problems confidently. In Geography, we explored where our food comes from and learned about food miles by investigating food packaging to find the country of origin. In RE, we learned about the signs that show Jesus is the Messiah.

Please continue to encourage the children to complete their reading quizzes, times tables practice, spelling, and Maths.co.uk activities at home. We have been so impressed with their fantastic effort so far this term

### **DT Day:**

**We are planning to have a DT Day before half term. As part of the day, the children will be tasting a variety of fruits. Please could you let your class teacher know if your child has any allergies or if there are any fruits you would prefer them not to try.**

**Thank you.**

### Fundraising

This year, our year group charity is the Sean Devereux Children's Fund. The children have learnt about Sean and all the incredible things he did in his life as part of their RE lessons. If you and your child would like to fundraise for this cause, please let your class teacher know.

### Dates

Mental health Awareness Week – w/c 9<sup>th</sup> February (theme: This is my place)

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

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

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Open Book Afternoon 3:20 – 4:00pm

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – INSET DAY (School closed)

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Parent Evening Meetings (in person)

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening Meetings (online)

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Life to the Full – Session about Death and Grief**

Before half term, as part of your child's RE and RHE learning, we will be completing a lesson which introduces children to the topics of death and grief in a sensitive, age-appropriate way from a Catholic faith perspective.

In the session, your child will learn:

- What 'death' means
- About some feelings often connected with grief
- What the Christian faith says about death and eternal life
- Some ways to support themselves and others when they are grieving.

The most important way you can support your child's learning is to be willing to have open, honest conversations about death and perhaps share your own experiences of death and grief if you feel able to.

You may like to pray with your child and as well as praying the following traditional prayer for those who have died, you might like to name any family and friends who have died and ask that they would rest in peace.

**Prayer for Those Who Have Died**

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.**

**May they rest in peace.**

**Amen**

If you have any queries about the lesson, don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher.

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

**Here in the St Polycarp's family, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus through playing, praying, loving and learning together.**

**To support us in continuing to live out our mission, your child will have the opportunity to bring home our class *prayer bag*. It includes simple, age-appropriate resources to help you pray together as a family. The prayer bag will be brought home by a different child in the class each week.**

**You'll also find a prayer diary where you and your child can write any thoughts, prayers or intentions if you wish. The prayer bags will be sent home on a Friday and returned the following Friday.**

**The prayer bag is a wonderful way of linking the prayer life of our school and home by encouraging the children to practise and lead their own prayer sessions with their families and share their spiritual experience. We hope this shared experience brings moments of peace, connection and joy to your home.**

**Thank you**

**Homework**

Friday lunchtime Homework club will commence in January for children who don't manage to complete their homework during the week. As a reminder the expectation is that the following is completed each week:

- 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.

**Spelling** - Your child has been given the following spellings to learn for next Friday. You can also practise these on Spelling Shed.

merriment
happiness
plentiful
penniless
happily
prettiest
nastiness
beautiful
pitiful
silliness

**Times Table Rockstars** – Children are expected to work in the 'garage' section for at least 21 minutes per week. Please encourage your child to complete this.

**Accelerated Reading** – Complete quizzes as and when your child has completed books. This should be roughly once per week. A common issue logging into accelerated reader, is the link, the following link will take you to the St Polycarp's portal which will ensure log in details are correct:

<https://login.renaissance.com/12d2c82e-5d71-4f43-b9a3-32d66f06dfcf?state=1558619e-124e-4167-9a6b-9e1fdd099032>

**Maths** – Maths homework has been set on maths.co.uk.

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/maths-with-michael>

This link will help explain how we have taught mathematical concepts in school. This week we are teaching division.

Many thanks for continuing to support your child's learning. 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).

The Year 4 Team  
Mr Jacobs & Miss Vardy



## 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)

# ➤ MTC PREP SCHEDULE ✕

**SEPTEMBER**

**GARAGE**  
(mins per week)  
**21**

21 minutes a week is the magic number for achieving top MTC scores.

**OCTOBER**

**GARAGE**  
(mins per week)  
**21**

**AUTUMN OUMTC\***



**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

**GARAGE**  
(mins per week)  
**21**

**JANUARY & FEBRUARY**

**SOUNDCHECK**  
(games per week)  
**3**

**GARAGE**  
(mins per week)  
**18**

**SPRING OUMTC\***



**MARCH**

**SOUNDCHECK**  
(games per week)  
**5**

**GARAGE**  
(mins per week)  
**16**

**APRIL**

**SOUNDCHECK**  
(games per week)  
**3**

**STUDIO**  
(games per week)  
**3**

**GARAGE**  
(mins per week)  
**15**

**MAY**

**SOUNDCHECK**  
(games per week)  
**6**

**STUDIO**  
(games per week)  
**15**

**SUMMER OUMTC\***



**JUNE**

**SOUNDCHECK**  
(games per week)  
**21**

\*The OUMTC is our own mini MTC and it is in semi test conditions. It will give you a good idea of how your students will perform on the real thing. Take part in three OUMTCs throughout the year to give you a baseline, benchmark and time to respond to the results



Please see below for guidance on reading in Key Stage Two

## 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.

Check that your child is completing the reading quiz – this is part of their weekly homework.