



Year 2

11.9.26



Dear Parents and Carers,

Swifts and Swallows have both settled so well into Year 2! Children are learning the routines and working hard across the curriculum.

In Maths, we have continued to focus on 'place value' and counting numbers to 100. We have also focused on partitioning numbers and learning about tens and ones on a place value chart.

Our focus text 'Jack and the Beanstalk' has helped us to learn about traditional tale writing. We have retold the story using actions and we have sequenced the events on a story map.

In History, we began our new topic 'What was school like in the past'. We remembered how to use a timeline.

In Science, we began our new topic 'Habitats', learning the characteristics of living processes.

Our new topic in RE is called 'Creation and Covenant'. We have been learning the story of Noah and his Ark from the Old Testament

We are currently reviewing our spelling learning from Year 1. Please do continue to practise any words from last year.

We are also practising again some of the letters the children are still finding difficult. This week we have practised the letters –P, J and K. You will have been given details at the end of Year 1 of the letters your child still needed to practise. Please continue to practise at home.

Parent Information:

Communication: 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.

We kindly request that if there is an urgent message in the morning, please inform the staff in the office and they will ensure the message is passed on.

Belonging Creative Challenge – Please see details below

Reading Expectations in Year 2: Please see the details below.

Changes to Spelling Teaching in Years 2-6 - see below

Dear Parents and Carers,

From September, we will be using Read Write Inc. (RWI) Spelling across Years 2-6 and will no longer be using Spelling Shed (EdShed).

Children will take part in daily spelling lessons, which provide a clear and consistent approach to spelling, building on the phonics and handwriting programmes already used in school. Research shows that frequent practice and consistency help children to remember and apply spelling patterns more effectively in their writing.

There will be no formal weekly spelling homework or tests. However, we recommend regular practice at home. Your child's weekly spelling words will be shared in the newsletter, and additional activities (in Spelling Extra Practice Zone) can be accessed through the RWI Spelling Portal: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-pupils/pupil-home>

Username: polysyear2

Password: y2polys

Homework

Homework will be set on Friday and due in the following Friday.

Spelling – there is no formal homework but please do continue to practise any Year 1 words your child may have found tricky.

Maths- before we officially start our Times table weekly quizzes, we are recapping and quizzing children on their number bonds to 20. Once your child has scored 20/20 on these 3 times we can confirm that this learning is embedded and can move onto times tables.

Please practise number bonds to 20 with your children at home, to ensure this learning is secure 😊

Reading – the children will be bringing home their new RWI phonics books or their AR reading book. We ask that children read every day with an adult. If your child has a reading record (phonics), please record their daily reading.

If your child is on Master Reader, they should complete one quiz on Accelerated Reader per week. Children cannot change their book until they have completed a quiz. The link can be found [here](#).

Dates for the Diary

Library: Friday

Please keep library books in your child's book bag when not being used. This will ensure that the library books are available when needed.

Games: Friday

PE: Wednesday

For Games and PE – A reminder that the children will need to wear their full PE kits (labelled with name) to school. Please ensure all jewellery is removed on these days.

Monday 14th September – School Photos – correct full uniform to be worn.

Tuesday 15th September- If you are interested in getting involved or learning more about the wonderful PTA at St Polycarp's, please come along to the AGM in The Pope Francis Hall at 7:30pm.

Wednesday 16th September – Parent information Presentation 2.45pm Swifts classroom. Come along to find out about your child's learning in Year 2. Please enter via the main office.

Monday 21st September – Clubs start (teacher led).

Monday 28th September – School photos (catch up).

Thursday 1st October – Year 2 trip to Alice Holt (information will follow)

Friday 2nd October – INSET day – school is closed.

Have a fantastic weekend!

Year 2 Team

Reading Expectations in Year 2

Handy Hints

- Make reading part of your daily routine.
- Short sessions – **10 mins** a day is ideal.
- Always make reading fun not a chore.
- Talk and discuss the story.
- Read a range of books not just the ones from school.
- You can use the pictures to help read the text.
- Remember to Fred Talk (sound out) any unknown words using phonic sounds.

Please remember to write the date and title of the book in the Reading Record if your child has one. You can also add a comment if you wish.

Read Write Inc.- Children will be reading each day in their RWI lessons. Children will then bring home reading books every 3 days.

Accelerated Reader- Children who have finished RWI will progress to reading Accelerated Reader books. Books will be chosen according to the ZPD level and changed regularly. A quiz needs to be completed once the book has been read. Every child must have done at least 1 quiz by Autumn half term.

Children's voice – we would love to see what your child thinks about their books. After finishing a book, they could always write a comment.

WE ARE, WE BELONG



The "We are, We Belong" Creative Inclusion Challenge is a Xavier wide competition designed to encourage our young people to explore themes of equality, diversity, inclusion and belonging, through creative expression.

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO PRODUCE ORIGINAL WORK THAT REFLECTS:



Respect
for others



Understanding
of different
identities and
experiences



Inclusion
within school
and society



Positive change
and student
voice

The competition promotes creativity, empathy, critical thinking, and community engagement while supporting personal development.



**SUBMIT YOUR
ENTRY BY
FRIDAY
25TH
SEPTEMBER**

STUDENTS SHOULD CREATIVELY EXPLORE:

- ✓ What makes people feel included or excluded
- ✓ Celebrating differences
- ✓ Building on our inclusive schools and communities
- ✓ Advocacy and kindness
- ✓ Representation and identity

EXAMPLE COMPETITION BRIEF FOR STUDENTS

YOUR CHALLENGE

Create a piece of work that answers this question:

"What does belonging mean to you?"

You can use any creative format to:

- Share experiences
- Raise awareness
- Inspire change
- Celebrate identity
- Promote inclusion

Your work should encourage others to think differently and help create a more welcoming school community.

"We Are, We Belong" invites students to use creativity to celebrate diversity, inspire inclusion.

Whether through art, film, poetry, music, or campaigning, every student has a voice that can help build a more welcoming and respectful school community.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES



ART & DESIGN

- Posters
- Paintings
- Digital artwork
- Photography



FILM & MEDIA

- Short films
- Social media campaigns
- Podcasts
- Animation
- Video essays



WRITING & SPOKEN WORD

- Poetry
- Short stories
- Speeches
- Articles
- Rap/spoken word



PERFORMANCE

- Dance
- Drama
- Music
- Monologues



INNOVATION & CAMPAIGNING

**ALL SCHOOL
YEARS WELCOME
TO ENTER**



PRIMARY
Years 1-6



JUNIOR
Years 7-9



SENIOR
Years 10-13