

# Polygraph News

St Polycarp's Catholic Primary School, Waverley Lane, Farnham, Surrey,  
Website: [www.stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs P. Best B Ed MA NPQH

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Today I would like to begin by thanking every one of our wonderful staff for all they have done to support the children this month and indeed throughout the term. Not only have they created well organised, engaging learning environments and a purposeful learning atmosphere, they have been prepared to go above and beyond to ensure the children have a wonderful experience of school in the broadest sense. We have had a fabulous World Cup Day and of course glittery art days this week. My thanks also goes to you all for the support you have given the PTA as they get ready for the Christmas fair today. I hope it marks the beginning of Christmas preparations if you haven't begun feeling 'Christmassy' already!

## Key Dates

- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am whole school mass led by Year 4 – parents welcome
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am EYFS Nativity for parents
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December Christmas lunch
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 9.15-10am Christmas Carol Service – parents welcome
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December school breaks up for Christmas holiday. Closure 1.30pm
- 22nd Dec-6th January Christmas holiday. Term begins on Monday January 9th 2023

## Keeping Children Safe

### Online safety

Please try to stay one step ahead of your children and keep yourself informed on how to keep them safe. Please see these websites if you haven't done so already.

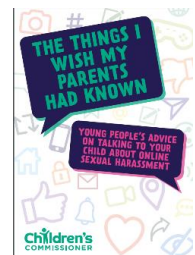
Think U know: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

NSPCC: [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk)

[www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety)

ChildLine: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

and



### Stay safe in the car

I thought it would be helpful to remind you keeping your child safe in the car:

You must only use a child car seat if your car's seat belt has a diagonal strap, unless the seat is either:  
specifically designed for use with a lap seat belt

fitted using ISOFIX anchor points

You must also:

deactivate any front airbags before fitting a rear-facing baby seat in a front seat

not fit a child car seat in side-facing seats

The Child Car Seats website has information on how to choose a seat and travel safely with children in cars.

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## Staffing

This Christmas we say goodbye to Mrs Horrocks who is retiring after 18 years at St Polycarp's. She has taught a huge number of children and worked with many staff over the years and will be greatly missed by all. We look forward to celebrating with her over the coming weeks and I am sure you will join with me in wishing her well.

## Meeting with parents

So far this half term I have met with parents from Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and I look forward to meeting parents from EYFS, Year 5 and Year 6 in the coming weeks. The sessions have been very informal and provided an open communication between myself and parents. They provided a forum for parents to share anything that is going well and things that could be improved. We are fully committed to making communications streamlined and clear and I am grateful to parents for the feedback they have provided. Hopefully you will see improvements quickly and as always if there are concerns please come directly to school so that we can be aware and put things right. From this week we have gone back to the communication system we operated pre Covid. EYFS and KS1 classes will continue with their weekly newsletters. Years 3-6 will introduce a brief weekly communication for parents. Newsletters will be saved on the website in the Year group section/newsletters. Homework links will be available in the homework section on the year group page. Spellings will be available for the term.

## Robins and Puffins



We can't believe we have nearly finished a whole term in Reception, we have had such an amazing time! This month we have been busy getting ready for our Nativity 'The Big Little Nativity'. We have been learning our lines and singing the songs. We can't wait to show you! This week we enjoyed our Christmas



Art Day. We made our sparkly decorations and cards our wonderful Christmas wreath. We have also been reading lots of Christmas stories and learning all about the Nativity story.

and Mrs Davies helped us make

## Year 2 getting ready for Christmas





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## Year 1 having fun getting ready for Christmas



## World Cup Day



Y6 played a fantastic game during our World Cup day. The children supported one another and showed excellent teamwork and determination. A fantastic time was had by all!

*Please see Mrs Trafford's Sport Report for more photos of the day*

## Reading wall

We are so proud of our writers across the school and are delighted with our new 'publishing wall' in the library. Don't forget to go and see some of the work displayed when you come in for open afternoon after school on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 3.05-3.45pm.

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### The Hive



As we continue to develop our wrap around care provision please note that we will be offering 'Christmas Club' on Friday evenings in December. Please book via Scopay in the usual way.

On our last day of term (21<sup>st</sup> Dec) we will be running The Hive 1.30-6pm.

We are planning to offer holiday provision (externally sourced) for February half term and will update before the end of term.

### Year 3 had a fabulous time at Gilbert White's House



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## Teacher Training 2023-24

**Thinking of becoming a teacher?**

Did you know you can.....  at our school?

St Polycarp's School is a long established provider of teacher training and has trained many outstanding teachers in our local schools. We are committed to training the best teachers for your children. We offer a 1 year school-based programme where you will learn on the job from expert classroom practitioners. We are proud to work with a wealth of experienced and well-trained staff across a range of inspiring schools to provide the highest calibre of teacher training.

For more information, visit: [www.stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk/train-to-teach](http://www.stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk/train-to-teach)

"You are guided through your training by excellent mentors, and surrounded by excellent teaching."

"The support and personalisation of the course is exactly what I needed."

"It's really inspiring to see how passionate the trainers are... they really champion their subject."

**Find out more...**

Visit our website to:

- Read our course interactive brochure to find out why we are right for you.
- Sign up for one of our information events listed on our website (online or alongside classroom experience)

Open for applications now

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training>

Provider code: 2EG

For more information, get in touch...

Twitter: @StPolys\_Ed

Email: [traintoteach@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:traintoteach@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk)

Take a look here 

If you are interested in becoming a teacher please find all you need to know in our attached flyer. Making the right choices and having all the information to hand is essential, so please attend one of our online information events which can be found on our Train to Teach section of the school.

website: <http://www.stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk/TeachingSchool/Teaching-School-Events/>

Alternatively, email us at [traintoteach@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:traintoteach@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk) if you have any questions regarding a career in teaching and you too may inspire the next generation of children.

## St.Polycarp's children at the turning on of the **Farnham Christmas Tree Lights' Concert.**

We had a fabulous turn out – thank you to everyone for supporting the event – we all loved the Christmas singing! Some children also sang for Showshack – what a busy day!





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**Year 1's Autumn Walk learning about our local area**



**Y3&Y5**

**We love reading with our reading buddies!**





## Supporting the community

Year 6 are looking forward to taking part in their Reindeer Run to raise money for Phyllis Tuckwell (our year group charity). This will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Sponsorship forms and a letter will have come home with your child this week. We look forward to contributing to this fantastic cause.



This week you donated a huge number of Christmas Gifts to the [Salvation Army Toy Appeal](#) to support local families in need this Christmas. Thank you for your genericity even in these financially challenging times – you are amazing!

Next week our Year 3 children will begin visits to the local nursing homes to sing to and with the elderly bringing joy and love to our local community. Thank you Mrs Hinchliff for making this possible

## Office Information

If your child is absent from school for illness, a medical appointment or any other reason including being late please leave a message on the absence line of the answer machine. This is to allow your child to be marked with the correct attendance code. Please do not email the office as the email may not be read in time for registration.

## Admissions for Reception 2023

Access information regarding admissions via [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions)

The closing date for **primary** level admissions is **15th January 2023**. Please note: to qualify for a place at 4 years of age, a child must have been born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018.

Please let us know if you will be applying for a place for a sibling in the school as it is helpful to understand how many places are likely to be available to new families.

For any queries or to pick up a Supplementary Form (faith applicants), please contact our Admissions Officer, Mrs Sarah Regan either via the school office or at [admissions@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk).

I wish you all a lovely weekend and joyful Christmas preparations.



Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts. May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when He comes. Amen

Mrs Paula Best

## ACTIVE, P.E. AND SPORTS REPORT NOVEMBER 2022

At St.Polycarp's we have used our sporting links to help us educate the children in their understanding of diversity and tolerance. Read this account from one of our Y6 pupils about our trip to Stamford Bridge:

# TRIP TO CHELSEA STADIUM AT STAMFORD BRIDGE

### Black History Month Event at Stamford Bridge

**On 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 some of the Year 6 students went to Stamford Bridge Chelsea FC Stadium. As it was Black History Month ,Chelsea had organised a programme. There was one other primary school, a few Year 7's and 8's and lastly there a few students from Oxford University.**

**There was an intro by a few of the staff there. They set up many workshops for us, each taught by different coaches. Some of the coaches there taught us at games and lessons at St. Poly's. Here my 3 favourite workshops:**

Workshop 1: We drew a picture of someone to congratulate, then we wrote a short message to them saying how great they are.

Workshop 2: We had Victor for this activity. We sat in groups to find and explore different foods, singers and inspirations. There were many new and surprising things that I discovered.

Workshop 3: Lastly we were to make rhyming words with the name of football players.  
'Running fast like Sterling,  
Like a wind hurling.'

At the very end we all got crammed up in a photo like a tin of sardines. Every single activity was extreme fun, we enjoyed our day at Stamford Bridge. At the end we got a book ('THIS IS US') along with that we got a poster of 41 football players animated. We said our farewells and made our way back to the bus and to our school. We hope to do it again sometime later in the future.

By Avantika Joe



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### Black History Month Event at Stamford Bridge





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### St. Polycarp's Football updates:

It has been a busy month for football at St. Polycarp's not only did we watch England win their first match of the World Cup in the school hall but we held our own St. Polycarp's 'World Cup Tournament' and theme day. Congratulations to all the winning classes. What memories we made.

### St. Polycarp's World Cup Day 2022





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In addition to that our teams across the school have been really busy.

**KS1 football teams played a mini tournament against Highfield.**

It was an absolute joy to see the joy the children experienced playing for their school. They played their hearts out. They were so proud to wear the St. Polycarp's football kit. We were really impressed by their footballing skills and teamwork. We are pleased to say they convincingly won this mini tournament. The district had better watch out when these children are in Y6!

**Y4 District Football Tournament.** Our Y4 boys did really well and by the end of the group stages were even on points and goal difference with St. Peter's at the top of the group. The group stage was decided on penalties and we were ecstatic to win and get through to the semi finals. Sadly we were beaten in the semi finals by William Cobbett.

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### **Y5/6 Girls' District Football.**

Another successful footballing event. Our girls' were tying on points at the top of the group stages and lost out on penalties.

### **Y5/6 Girls' Friendly Matches.**

In order to give more girls the opportunity to play football we took two girls' teams to play several friendly matches at South Farnham. The girls' enjoyed their afternoon of playing.

### **Cross Country**

The children of our cross country club have continued to practice their running so we are ready for the next set of races later in the academic year.

### **Swimming Squad**

Our squad have been training hard for the district gala. They have been working on their starts and finishes. They will now be selected for individual races and relays.

### **Curriculum Swimming**

Our first Year 5 swimming group have made excellent progress, many already achieving their National Curriculum Swimming Award. What has been great to see is how many children that started in the small pool now have the confidence to swim in the big pool and tread water in the deep end. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Year 5 group will now start their lessons.

### **Y5 Lacrosse**

As well as tried and trusted sports at St. Polycarp's we like to try out new things and we are really pleased that Miss Kelly has introduced the sport of Lacrosse to some of our Y5 children. We are looking forward to setting up some fixtures with other schools in the future.

### **Y5/6 Mixed Tag Rugby Festival**

St. Polycarp's took two mixed teams to the annual Christmas Rugby Festival and are delighted to report that we were the overall winners of the event winning the most matches.



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### **District Floorball Tournament**

For parents who don't know Floorball is a little like ice hockey without the ice!

We took our Y5 team to the District Floorball tournament for their first set of matches. Fourteen district teams participated and we came 6<sup>th</sup> overall which was pleasing considering it was the first time they had played the sport and largely against Y6 opposition. We feel the team show great promise going forward.

Mrs Trafford