

Polygraph News

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of September and school is in full flow. Today we celebrated St Polycarp's International Day and it has shone a bright light on our wonderfully rich, diverse school community. It has been a day of joy, community and diversity – how lucky we are!

It can be quite difficult to sum up all that goes on in school and what the St Polycarp's experience is like for our children. As I have said to you before, I ask the children to tell visitors and prospective parents about our school and I never quite know what they will say! Luckily for me, children see it as an opportunity to share how proud they are of our school and all that it encompasses. They speak confidently about their learning, their wonderful teachers and the challenges they enjoy. Yesterday for the first time a child said school felt like 'home' and that alone tells me we are doing something right! We explored what they meant and it included knowing expectations, feeling relaxed and confident with those around them and being able to speak to people if things aren't going right at any given time. I hope all our children and families feel a sense of 'home' at St Polycarp's and that all our new children and families develop a strong sense of belonging to our highly successful school.

I would like to say a huge thank you to parents who attended yesterday's EYFS/KS1 Literacy Evening and all of you who support the school and your children with their learning each day. Sincere thanks also goes to the outgoing PTA committee for their fabulous work last year in organising events to support and enrich our community and raise funds at the same time! Welcome to our new committee and thank you for putting yourselves forward. The work of governors, PTA and volunteers helps make our school the success it is.

Today I share a little of what we have been up to over the past few weeks.

Key Dates

- 6th October All Hallows Open Evening – ideal for Year 5 and 6 parents and children
- Friday 7th October INSET day – school closed for all children
- **9th October Prospective Parents Open Morning 10am – 12.00 noon. Encourage your friends to come along and find out about our fabulous school!**
- 18th and 20th October 3.30-6.15 pm -Parent Open Evenings via Parent Cloud
- 24th -28th October Half term
- **31st October – closing date for applications to secondary school**
- 28th November school closed
- Wednesday 21st December school breaks up for Christmas holiday. Closure 1.30pm
- 9th January Spring term starts

Staff News

New learning Support staff:

Mrs Jayasinghe, Mrs Heron, Mrs Manning, Mrs Rousell, Mrs Zahidi and Mr Kammin.

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New teachers:

Miss Lee is leading EYFS and teaching Robins Class, Mrs Gray is teaching Year 2 Swallows, Mrs Murphy is teaching Year 3 Nightingales, Miss Corless is teaching Year 4 Jays and Mr Jacobs has joined the Year 6 team as Kites teacher. Mrs Ramsden is teaching PE from Year1-Year6.

I am delighted to welcome them all to St Polycarp's in their new roles and know you will make them welcome. Mr Finch is now working part time and Mrs Horrocks is recovering well from her operation. Her role as RE Co-ordinator has passed on to Mrs Walker and Mrs Horrocks will be assisting Mrs Walker in this role on her return later this term.

Keeping Children Safe

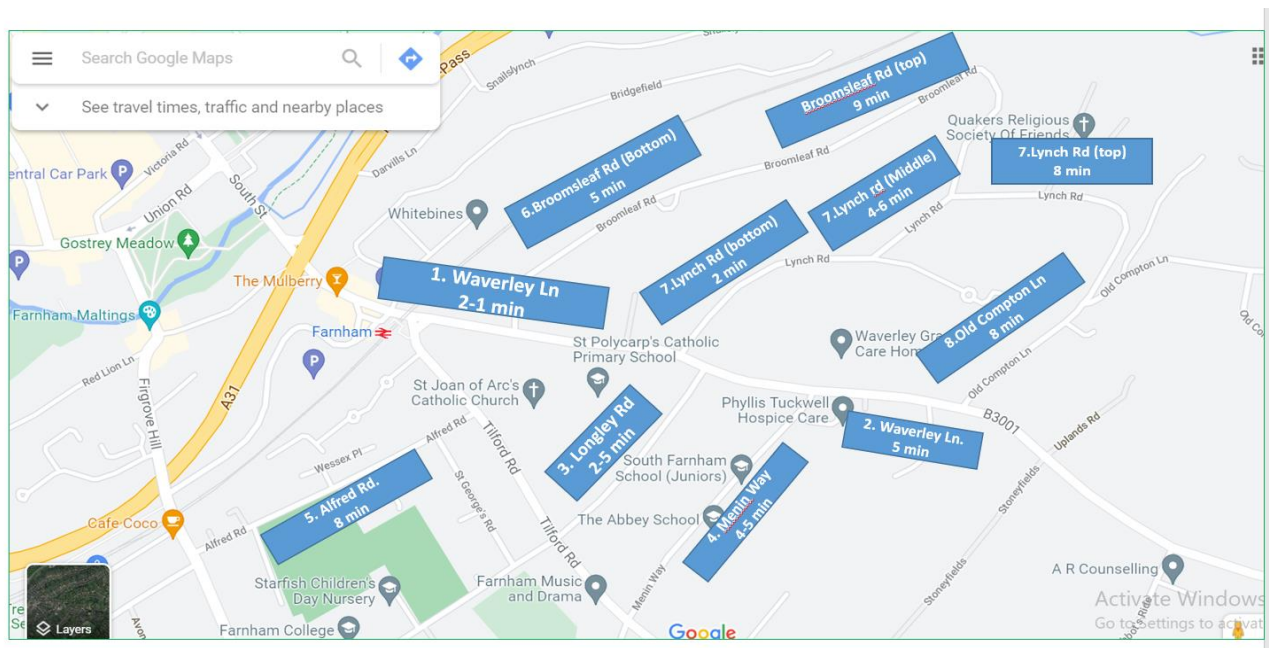
Morning drop off:

Our drop off is available from 8.30 am. At the present time this is suitable for Year 1 upwards. If your child is in reception and has an older sibling, they may use drop off. If your child does not have an older sibling please do not use drop off until later in the year. If anyone is able to help organise a 'walking bus' for Reception children please let me know.

Parking:



'Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe' is our school behaviour code. Please remember it when parking and using drop off. Sadly, this week a parent was spoken to in a discourteous manner causing upset to parents, volunteers and children. This is not acceptable behaviour.



Please remember that parking in the Church or Staff car park is not permitted unless there has been a prior arrangement to do so.

If anyone would like to get involved in positive parking initiatives please let me know.

I encourage Year 5 and 6 children to meet parents and carers. If you give permission for your child to leave the site to meet you elsewhere this must be confirmed in writing to the class teacher.

Contact Details

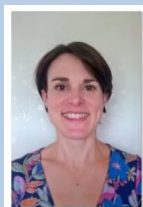
We need to make sure we are able to contact parents if necessary. Please make sure the school office has all your up to date contact details (address/telephone numbers/ email address etc) if these have changed recently. **It is vital that we have up to date contact numbers at all times.**

Pastoral Care

In our aim to support children's emotional needs, we are lucky to have an excellent Pastoral Care Team. Please see the school website for additional information to contact our team:



Mrs Trafford



Mrs Woolley



Mrs Rosemary Pointon



Mrs Logan



Mr Peebles

Deputy Head
supporting with behaviour and transition

SENDco
(Special Education and Disability coordinator)

HSLW
(Home School Link Worker)
Rainbows – supporting children with separation and bereavement
'Going the Extra Mile'
Supporting our Young Carers

ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)
Providing specific emotional literacy support

Mental Health Champion

Clear Communications

Please adopt the following systems:

- Emails for staff should be sent to info@stpolycarps.surrey.sch.uk
- We work hard to respond within a period of 3-5 working days during term time if possible
- Informal communications with staff can be made at the beginning or end of the school day when possible or arrangements made via email
- Any discussions requiring more than a few moments, an agreed time must be made
- Communications for the office staff should be placed in the post box outside the main entrance
- Written communications for PTA should be placed in the PTA post box outside the main entrance
- The website is updated each Friday (link sent out via email)
- Key dates are publicised on the school website calendar

School Census Day



On Thursday 6th October the school Census will determine our future school funding. As part of this, we receive funding linked to each child in EYFS and KS1 who take a school lunch on this day. In previous years we have managed 100% uptake and I hope that we can achieve this one again.

Twelve15 will be providing a Harvest Festival Special Menu for all children on Census Day, and I would like all children in Years R, 1 and 2 to have a school lunch if at all possible. Please see the attached flyer for full details. Please order your child's meal using ScoPay.



Welcome to the New Year

Our year 6 children with the help of their class teachers, Mrs Hinchliffe and Mrs Worley led the first school mass of the year. Thank you to all of them as it's not an easy thing to organise right at the beginning of the year!

We prayed for our community and for those in need near and far. We asked for God's help to make our journey through the year one filled with learning, success and friendship.

EYFS Welcome Robins and Puffins

Starting school has been so much fun! We have settled into Robins and Puffins so well and we have enjoyed getting to know our class and teachers. We have played lots of team games and learnt all about our friends and their families. We have also been talking about our favourite stories. We have been reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Going on a Bear Hunt. We acted out the story of Going on a Bear Hunt outside and went on our very own bear hunt.



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Year 1 – All about me

Swans and Skylarks have settled well into life in Year 1. We have enjoyed lots of fun lessons about ourselves and our families. We asked some interesting questions and made some excellent observations.

What is our Belly Button for?

My heart is inside my body but I can feel it on the outside.



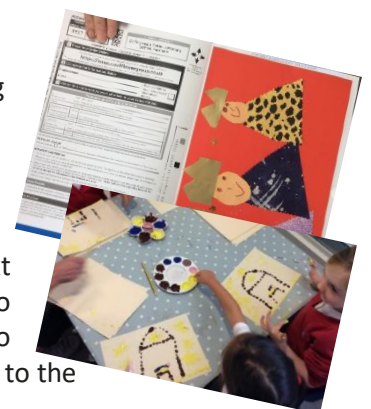
Thank you for sending in your family pictures for us to share. 😊

Year 2– What a fabulous time at Alice Holt Forest



PTA Christmas Cards

This week, the children have been busy making Christmas Cards. The PTA have sourced a new, local printing company to use for this popular annual fundraising event.



Look out for your child's design over the next few days. The details included allow you to order online. Artwork should be sent straight back to school **no later than Monday 10th October** where it will be sent to the printers.

No orders can be received after this date.

Thank you in advance for supporting our school via the PTA.

Year 3 – Creating and analysing texture and shading

Kingfishers and Nightingales have settled into year 3 wonderfully, what a fantastic start to the year!

Something interesting we have been working on as artists recently is creating texture using a pencil. We have been studying pencil hardness (HB, B, 2B, etc.), we have looked at textures we can find in the room around us and in nature and we have practiced our mark making skills.

We then run a weekly class gallery which helps us analyse and understand each other's work and who doesn't love to receive lovely feedback!

TEXTURE



SMOOTH



ROUGH



HARD



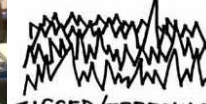
SOFT



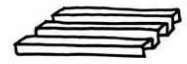
WOVEN



BUMPY/LUMPY



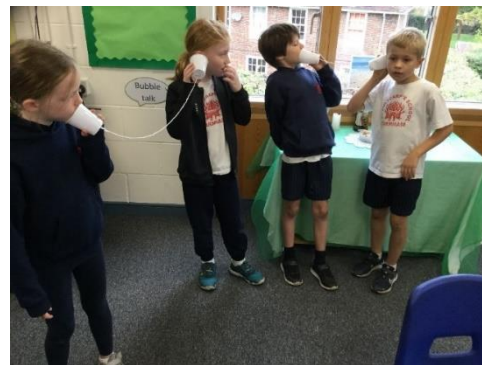
JAGGED/IRREGULAR



RIDGED



Year 4 we have been exploring how sound travels through different mediums. We investigated whether the length of the string affected the quality of the sound – can you guess our findings?

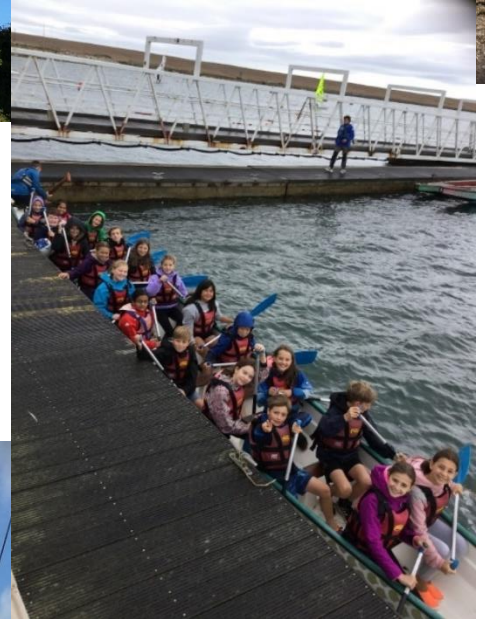


Year 5 had a wonderful time learning about Poland today – thank you Mrs Heron 😊



Year 6 residential

On Monday 12th September, Year 6 went to PGL Osmington Bay, in Dorset, for a week of challenging team-building activities. There was a brilliant range of activities which enabled the children to develop new skills and conquer their fears! The children had a fantastic time and were great representatives of the school. A brilliant week was had by all! Thank you, Year 6, for being such super sports for the week!



St Polycarp's Geography Challenge

Who can walk the North Downs Way throughout October?

Miss Corless, our geography lead, has organised a walking challenge for the month of October. The challenge is to walk as much of the North Downs Way as you can and create a poster of your journey. You do not have to walk it all and can break it down into smaller sections. This can be done as a family or even larger groups! On Monday 31st October, children will bring their final posters into school and will be awarded a participation prize as a Poly's Walker! Keep us updated with your progress on Twitter by tagging us and using #Polyswalkingchallenge. You may even see some teachers along the route...

Safe travels!



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Disco Fridays!

Mrs Woolley and Mrs Ramsden have been busy setting up fun playground zones for our children. These include construction, nature, traditional games and quiet club. On Fridays, Mrs Ramsden has set up KS1 and KS2 discos. What an amazing way to finish an amazing week! Thank you to Mrs Woolley and Mrs Ramsden for coordinating these fantastic opportunities for the children.



Playground Zones

This week we have started our new playground zones. Some Yr6s have taken on the responsibility to run zones on a Monday-Thursday and provide children with fantastic playground activities. Our week is finishing with Mrs Ramsden running Disco Friday! The zones now on offer are: Nature zone, construction zone, games zone and international games zone.

If you know of any international games, please teach it to your child who will be able to show one of the zone leaders. [If you have spare Lego that you can donate, we would love to use it in the Zones.](#) Thank you

Y4 swimming assessments have taken place.

Look out for letters in your children's bags regarding the results of the assessments and whether your child needs further swimming lessons in Y4.

Those who have passed will receive a certificate which should be in their bags!

KS2 Swimming Trial- Monday 3rd October

Reminder to parents who signed their child up for the swim squad trial that the trial is on Monday 3rd October at 7.15am at Farnham Leisure Centre

KS2 Swim Squad - Monday 10th October

The swim squad training for existing members and those successful at the swim trial will begin on Monday 10th October. You will receive a letter early next week with all the details after the trial has taken place.

The existing squad do not need to attend the trial.



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

Parents **MUST** apply to their Local Authority (either Surrey or Hampshire County Council). You can apply online from **2nd November 2022** via your Local Authority website. 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.

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@stpolicarps.surrey.sch.uk.

Admissions for Secondary School 2023

Parents of Year 6 children moving to secondary school also need to apply online to their Local Authority (either Surrey or Hampshire County Council) at www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions. Online applications can be submitted from now until **31st October 2022** - early applications (by mid-October) are encouraged!

Catholic secondary schools (including All Hallows) and some other secondary schools will require you to complete their Supplementary Information Form (SIF). The SIF for All Hallows includes a requirement for the form to be signed by Mrs Best. Please drop these in to the school office for signing (before October half term). Please see individual school websites for information regarding open day arrangements this year.

Finally, I would like to stress the importance of your child's full attendance unless they are unwell or I am aware of other circumstances. I monitor all non attendance and am grateful to all of your support with this. If your child is absent there will be a gap in their learning, children learn best when they are here!

Best wishes to you all for a happy and peaceful weekend.

Mrs Paula Best



ACTIVE, P.E. AND SPORTS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022

Sports Leadership

Sports Council Reps

All classes now have sports council reps. The older reps will be collecting weekly data on the Daily Run. They will have a meeting half termly.

Y5/6 Sports Crew Leadership:

Twenty of our Year 5/6 children have been selected to receive sports leadership training led by Active Surrey at Weydon School alongside children from other district primary schools.

Y5 PhysiFun Leadership:

Mrs Ramsden has run a session to train our ten new Y5 PhysiFun leaders. They will help Mrs Ramsden and Mrs Trafford run the Physical Fundamentals Thursday afternoon club for groups of children across the school on a rota throughout the academic year.

Y4 Wellbeing Warriors

Active Surrey will be coming in this term to train all our Year 4's to be Wellbeing Warriors.

Wellbeing Warriors

Developed with Surrey Educational Psychologists, this classroom-based session is designed to help Year 4 pupils learn how mental wellbeing can be improved by being more active.

Children are shown how moving more can positively influence them and helped to understand how a lack of physical activity can affect our emotions. Delivered through practical, interactive tasks children are encouraged to make personal commitments on their class' Tree of Wellbeing to show what new habits they will adopt.

This session delivers elements of the 'Physical health and mental wellbeing' section of the PSHE curriculum and 'Healthy me' element of the Jigsaw curriculum and supports schools with evidence for their Healthy Schools Approach.

This includes a weekly 10 minute follow up in class, where pupils reflect on their progress. Allows schools to measure the behaviour change that pupils may make from the initial training.

Y3 Sports Leaders

Those children who were trained in Y2 to be young sports leaders will be given jobs to assist physical activity throughout the academic year.

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Y2 Young Sports Leaders

Later in the academic year some Year 2's will receive sports leadership training FROM Active Surrey.

Educating the children through sport

Chelsea Foundation in collaboration with US-based organisation the Anti-Defamation League are coming into school on Monday mornings to provide lessons and activities alongside out teachers to help schools and pupils talk about difference and diversity, celebrate inclusion, understand discrimination and how it makes people feel, and work to make everyone feel included and safe at school. This scheme lasts for six weeks. The scheme fits really well with our Catholic ethos and our school code of treating everyone with respect.

Y6 'Say No to Hate' Programme:



NO TO HATE – THIS IS US

- To champion diversity and show the collective power inclusion and tolerance brings us all
- Year 5 & 6 – Mixed Groups
6 Weeks
- 50:50 educational resources-based and drama activities
- Main topics:** challenging discrimination, understanding targets of hate, stereotyping, etc.
- 88% positive change within pupil attitudes

Y4 ADL Programme:



ADL PROGRAMME

- Aligning values and beliefs relating to Antisemitism, Racism, Discrimination & Inclusion. To empower young people to celebrate differences.
- Year 4/5/6 – Mixed Groups
6 Weeks
- Main topics:**
 - Exploring Diversity & Equality
 - Celebrating Inclusion
 - Understanding Racism
 - Recognising Different Faiths
- Trans-Atlantic USA Virtual Event

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Event to watch out for:

Due to our strong links with Chelsea Foundation fifteen upper KS2 children will have an opportunity to go to Chelsea's Stamford Bridge for a Black History event later this term. Letters will be given to the children who are to attend.

Y6 Football training

The lunchtime football training has started for Y6 boys. **Y5 boys** football training starts in spring 2023.

KS2 Girls' Football

This term Miss Rendall will be running a Y5/6 girls' football club and Mrs Ramsden will shortly introduce a Y3/4 girls' football club.

Y6 District League football

The district league football has started and our team played their first game against St. Peter's School. They lost their first game but have had a talk with their Chelsea Coach and are preparing for their next matches.

Y5 Salesian Football Tournament



Y5 attended the Y5 Salesian Football Tournament. Eighteen schools participated. Our team did really well and got through from the group stages to the semi-finals. We lost to the overall winners in the semis.



Y2 Aldro Football Tournament

Mrs Trafford and Mr Peebles took fourteen of our Y2 girls' and boys' to the Aldro Football tournament. We entered two teams and each team played many matches throughout the afternoon. Both teams won lots of matches and drew and lost a few. There were no overall winners. Our children were fantastic and grew in confidence as the tournament progressed; scoring some fabulous goals. Our goalies made some amazing saves. The children were beyond excited and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The children felt very special in their St. Polycarp's football kit representing the school. They made us very proud with their sporting attitude always shaking hands with their opponents and being positive towards each other.

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Y5 Trip to Chelsea's training Ground at Cobham

Some Year 5's have been invited to take part in a special football event with Mrs Trafford at Chelsea's Cobham training ground. Due to the Queen's funeral this event has been moved to October. The names of the children who wanted to go were put into a hat and 15 lucky names were drawn.

Information about Stamford Bridge Chelsea Tickets given out to families recently:

Due to the Queen's death the Chelsea women's v West Ham match was postponed. It took place at the Kings' meadow Stadium this week so they couldn't enable people to use the Stamford Bridge tickets.

The good news is they are going to let you use them at another Chelsea womens' match at Stamford Bridge later in the season. As yet no date has been announced.

Y5/6 Netball Trials

Within the school day Mrs Ramsden took the Y5 and Y6 for open netball trials and the two teams have been selected for forthcoming events.

Y5/6 Fun Netball

There will be a netball club run for any keen Y5/6 children who did not make the teams run by Mrs Hodgkin.

Y6 District League Netball

Our netball team had their first ever netball match. Their first opponents were St. Peter's and although they lost their first match they really gave it their all and were very supportive of each other.

Y2 Multi-Sport District Festival at Potter's Gate

All Y2 children have been invited to take part in a district sports event at Potter's Gate School on Wednesday 5th October. If you haven't sent your form in to Mrs Trafford please make sure you do by Tuesday morning at the latest as the people hosting need to know numbers.

Daily Run_After a long summer holiday all the children are once again running 15 minutes daily. Even our new reception children have started their daily run and some have managed to run five laps of the field

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already. Our KS2 children need to really make an effort to push themselves whilst running in order to build their stamina for the upcoming cross country race in Farnham Park.

Autumn KS2 District Cross Country Race:

The Autumn District Cross Country race will take place on Saturday 15th October for Y3- Y6 children. The children who wanted to participate have all taken letters home. Please can they return the permission forms to Mrs Trafford next week.

Active Zones

New this academic year we have introduced some active zone activities at lunchtimes from Monday to Thursday to encourage all our children to be active on the playground. These zone activities are planned by Y6 Active Zone leaders with the help of the P.E. staff. The lunchtime TA's oversee these zones.

Table Tennis

Our children have been fully utilising the table tennis tables at breaktimes and it is lovely to watch them so engaged when they are playing.

Swimming:

Y4 Swimming Assessment

Y4 children all went to Farnham Leisure centre to be assessed for the swimming National Curriculum . The National Curriculum requirements are that in an ideal world (without Covid interfering!) that all children by the end of Y6 manage to:

Swim 25 metres on their back using a recognised stroke and then without stopping 25 metres on their back of a recognised stroke.

Tread water for ½ a minute and spin around whilst treading water.

Submerge under the water to test their water confidence.

Several Y4 children passed their National Curriculum Test and the remainder of the year group will have further group swimming lessons later in Y4, 5 and 6 if necessary. Parents will receive a letter ahead of any swimming lessons.

Y5 Curriculum Swimming

Our Y5's had assessments and swimming lessons last academic year. Those children who haven't yet passed their National curriculum swimming will have group lessons later this year and in Y6 if required. Parents will receive a letter ahead of any swimming lessons.

Y5 Group 1 swimming lessons start on Monday 3rd October at 8.15am at Farnham leisure centre where Mrs Trafford will meet them in the foyer.

KS2 Elite Squad Swimming Trials

The trials for the KS2 elite swim squad will take place on Monday 3rd October at 7.15am at Farnham leisure centre where Mrs Trafford will meet them in the foyer. Note the existing squad do not need to re-trial. Parents/Carers will receive notification shortly after the trial as to whether their child has got in. Some who successfully trial will start on 10th October 2022 and some in March 2023 when Y6 leave the squad.

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KS2 Swim Squad Training

Training for the 2022/23 Swim squad will start on Monday 10th October and this term will finish on Monday 28th November.

Swimming Gala 2023

Note children from the elite swim squad will be selected for the District Gala swim team. The gala will take place on Thursday 9th February 2023. Further information will follow nearer the time.

Active PhysiFun Bags

Watch out for the active PhysiFun bags coming home shortly on a rota for families to share fun active games with their children. If anyone has an outstanding bag at home from the summer term please can you return it to the front office for Mrs Trafford.

Starmark Award 2021/22

We are delighted to say we have just been awarded the Starmark Award for 2021/22 for KS1. This is an award given when physical activity and P.E. are of a high standard. We are proud to announce we were awarded the top 3 star award. We already hold the top **Platinum School Games Mark award for KS2**

Mrs Trafford