

Dear Parents and Carers,



### Plans for next term

I'm sure we are all excited to hear the next steps of the roadmap confirmed so, we can make our own future plans.

In school, we are super keen to know what the DFE advice will look like for schools, what they say we can do and when. It's tempting to look at the roadmap and to interpret those broad guidelines for schools. However, we must be patient and have confirmation from the DFE, for example, when can we mix bubbles or stop staggered start and finish times. As soon as we hear, we will make a plan for our schools and let you know.



### Infants Summer Reading Bags – **Parents in current Yr1/2/3**

Last March, we sent home the summer reading bags, so children would have a range of schoolbooks to read. We have not received these all back yet. Could you have a good look at home, for any of the books or the bag – we would be pleased to see any of the contents, as we would like to give them out again this year.



### Online Safety

We know a lot of primary children are using Tik Tok – please note it does have an older age guidance on it. They advise that 12+ should have adult supervision; they do not expect it to be used by younger children. Therefore, if your child is using it, please check out what the risks are.

### The Amazing School Run - 15th - 31st March

After our success in the recent local virtual cross-country race, I am hoping our super keen runners might like to take part in this free national virtual running (and walking) event.

This time, children have the option of choosing their distance to walk or run - 1k, 2k, 3k or 5k. The idea is that children can be signed up now, then every time they walk or run their chosen distance between the 15th and 31st March, their time can be added to their profile. This gives them a chance to improve their time over the two weeks.

More information can be found on the website - <https://thefixevents.com/the-amazing-school-run>. I recommend watching the short video explaining the signing up process and I would suggest registering children sooner rather than later (you don't need to wait until 15th March). When filling out the school's name, just write 'Polehampton' so that results from both of our schools get pooled together. If you have any questions, please ask! Good luck! Mrs Newman – Cross Country Leader, Junior School



### **Infant Easter Bonnet and Basket procession - Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

One of our favourite days of the Infant school year! Please decorate or make an Easter bonnet and/or basket and bring it into school to wear to our Easter and Spring time school celebration. Parents, sadly we are unable to invite you into school for this, but we look forward to sharing with you some photographs and films after the event.

### **Infants – Reminders**

- Please note that at the infant school, you cannot leave your child with the breakfast club staff to escort onto site. They can only supervise the children who attend their club. Please bring children into school yourself.
- Please keep to the lines where we have them and keep 2m+ space in between.
- Thank you!



### **No Nuts Policy**

Can I just remind everyone that we are “no nut” schools please? We have a number of children in both schools with severe nut allergies, so we need to ensure we do everything to protect them.

### **“COVID MATTERS” for emails**

If you need to contact school to let us know your child has developed symptoms, that you have booked a test for them or to let us know about the results of a test, please put “COVID MATTERS” in the subject line of your email so we can search for them more easily.



### **PTA Merger – Parent consultation**

Please see the information about the proposed merger of the Infant and Junior PTAs. We are now consulting with parents.

<https://www.polehampton.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1294&type=pdf>

### **Baking Masterclass: Thurs April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Don't forget to get booked in for our fabulous baking masterclass next Thursday 1st April. The booking deadline has been extended to Sunday evening so please do consider joining us, help raise some funds for the school and have a delicious cake for Easter weekend!

A few junior age children got involved last time and really enjoyed it too so something to consider doing with the kids- no school to get up for on Friday!

We have had some lovely testimonials from those who took part last time:

“What a fun evening had with Kellie decorating a scrumptious cake she made. All delivered to your door the day before the online class. It was clear we all had varied abilities of cake making, but she took her time to explain and answer questions along the way. Learnt a few new skills for sure! Even though my reindeer did not look like the picture ☹ it was a great hour and half!”

“I signed up for the Christmas baking session with Kellie with my 12 year old daughter Martha - it was great fun! We had a great time trying to replicate Kellie's amazing cake decorations and whilst ours wasn't quite the same we had a real giggle taking part and seeing how everyone else got on too - highly recommend!”

Book your slot at [www.polehamptonpta.org](http://www.polehamptonpta.org)

£30 or £40 if you would like a cake provided along with all the other bits you will need! *See attached flyer for more details.*

### **Mon 29th March**

\*Having a lockdown clear out?\* ☹

Polehampton schools next Bags2School collection is on **\*Monday 29th March\***. You can drop your bags to us in the Loddon Hall Carpark between **\*8-9am\*** that day. If you cannot make that time, please message [pjspta@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pjspta@hotmail.co.uk) for an alternative address that bags can be dropped off beforehand.

We accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE\*: (any carrier/bin bag is fine)

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

\* We reserve the right to refuse any unsuitable items

We DO NOT accept:

- Duvets and blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

☆ \*PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS TIME ITEMS MUST BE BAGGED UP IN BIN BAGS\* ☆



### Church News - Easter Trail: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April in Twyford, Ruscombe & Hurst

This Easter, families are invited to visit all four of our churches when you take your daily exercise! Visit each churchyard between 2nd and 5th April to crack the Easter code, with clues hidden at St Mary's Twyford, St Nicholas Hurst, St James' Ruscombe and the Twyford URC on Station Road. Entry instructions will be available at each location. At St Mary's Twyford you'll be able to follow an outdoor egg poster trail all weekend. Visit between 10 and 12 noon on Friday to take part in our covid-safe egg roll! At St Nicholas Church in Hurst our outdoor 'Muddy Church' trail will be available all weekend, and you can visit our Easter garden in church on Friday between 10 and 12 noon. Visitors are politely reminded to maintain social distancing whilst exploring our churchyards in your family or 'rule of 6' group! Find our Facebook event [here](#).

### Attachments

- Easter Trail – from our church team
- Tik Tok – parents' guide
- Cake decoration event by PTA
- Quality Air walk and competition
- Information about Berkshire Maestros – includes information about more affordable tuition and free instrument hire on selected instruments. <https://www.polehampton.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1312&type=pdf>
- Information about Easter clubs – see website <https://www.polehampton.org.uk/page/?title=Useful+Websites+and+Information&pid=17>

### Vacancies

A one day a week infant lunchtime controller position advert has been added to our website.

We hope you have a happy and safe weekend,

Miss Ball, Mrs Medcalf, Mrs Scott and Mrs Castell

### Diary Dates

Date	Event	Details
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Bags to School	Loddon Hall car park 8-9.00am
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>Infant Easter bonnets &amp; baskets and spring celebration</b>	Please make or decorate an Easter bonnet or basket
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	PTA Baking Master Class	See attachment for details
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>Last day of term – non-uniform day</b>	See staggered times for early closure on the last day of term - 1½hr earlier than normal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.00pm collection will be 1.30pm</li> <li>• 3.15pm collection will be 1.45pm</li> <li>• 3.30pm collection will be 2.00pm</li> </ul>