

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fabulous full half term we have had at school, seeing our friends and getting back to the school routine. The children have all worked so hard and we are all very proud of them.

### **Permanent Head of Infant School**

I am delighted to announce that, following a formal recruitment process by our Governors, Mrs Scott, has been appointed as our permanent Head of School.

Mrs Scott has been our interim Head of School since September so we are all very pleased that she will be continuing in this role and supporting our school to be even better!



### **Our School Vision and Values**

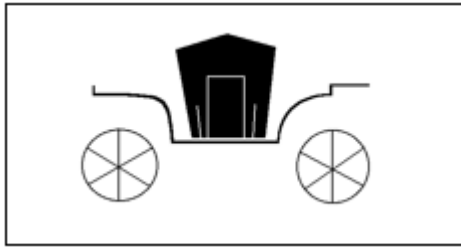
During the half term, we would like to invite you as a member of our Polehampton School Community, to be a part of **our consultation on the development of our school values**. The online poll (see link below) will ask you to consider the values you deem the most important and vote for them accordingly. You may wish to complete one as a parent and then support your child with completing their own too.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LPXXs6Pg00eiarnBIP0l9x3iBddUBYVCpavfl7uQekhUQVIXQzgyS0dESFIYNEhBM0FST1FETIUwOC4u>

As part of our ongoing work, the school senior leaders, RE and Curriculum Lead, Governors and Church Team have been collaborating **to further develop the schools' Christian vision**. We have carefully chosen a bible verse that we feel passionately about as it fully reflects our Polehampton ethos. At Polehampton, we encourage our children to aspire to great things and for the light of their lives to shine and make a difference in their classrooms, throughout the school, when they return home and into their community. We recognise that we are all special in God's eyes and have unique talents, which we nurture so that each of us has the opportunity to become the very best person that God intended us to be.

*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, **let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven**". **Matthew 5:16***

We would like to invite all children to take part in a **competition to help us to design a new logo, which incorporates this vision**. The logo must be representative of both the Infant and Junior schools, and must include the school carriage (this links us to the story of Edward Polehampton). **Please submit your entry to your class teacher the first week after half term**. We can't wait to be inspired by your creative ideas!



### Infant School

- **Request from Blue Class-** We are looking for **donations of padlocks and keys** of all different sizes for a maths problem solving activity that we would like to set up. Please do drop them into the school office at either school. Thank you!
- **Infant class photos** - we loved having real whole class photos to send home this week! Orders can be made online or through the school – see information in your pack. The deadline is Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June.
- **Yr2 Parents - Welcome to the Junior School letters** – we emailed a welcome letter to you yesterday. Please do let us know about any connections to houses by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June, so we can allocate everyone before the uniform closing date. Thank you!

### Junior School

- **Swimming lessons** – we are SO pleased to be able to offer swimming lessons next half term! You will have seen the email on Wednesday this week, so please refer to that for all the details. The children have all watched a video by Mr McGlone explaining all about it as we realise it's a long time since our Upper School children had lessons and it will be new for Year 3 AND Year 4.
- **Pokemon cards** – please note that children are not permitted to bring in cards to school.
- **School lunches** – Thank you for topping up your child's lunch accounts. Please remember to keep them in credit for next half term.
- **Second Hand book sale in September** – do sort out any books you would like to donate for a second hand book sale we will be running in September. We will ask for them to be sent in next half term.

### Twitter @Polehampton

You might recall that one of our great discoveries from lockdown was Rob Biddulph, the children's illustrator. Well, we are all over the moon, because he re-tweeted one of our tweets this week! Yr2s used one of his videos and did some magnificent pictures, using his techniques.



**Rob Biddulph** ✓ @RobBiddulph · 5h

Drawing caterpillars feels very appropriate today. Fab pictures, team!  
#EricCarle

• **Polehampton C of E Schools** @Polehampton · 6h

Yr2 enjoyed a @RobBiddulph art session this week, following research into colours and camouflague on our field.



### **Covid issues over half term**

We have been asked by the Department for Education to share the following information with all parents and carers with regards to any positive cases once the school has broken up for half term.

*“If a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may be been infectious whilst in school.”*

We would ask that you email the school admin with **COVID MATTERS** in the subject line. The offices are not staffed during the half term break to take telephone calls. If you have any other coronavirus issues over the holidays, please email us.

### **Travelling over the half term or over the summer holidays**

Please take note of the travel restrictions for any region or country you are visiting. Please ensure you follow any quarantine rules that exist for place you visit. If you are planning for the summer holidays, please note that school starts on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (Yr6 - check the secondary school dates). We want every child to have the best start to their school year, so we expect all children to be ready to start on our first day.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england>

**Who can get vaccinated? People aged 30 and over**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/who-can-get-the-vaccine/>

**Thru Christ – Our local churches**

As you may know, Revd. Anna and our church team serve Twyford, Ruscombe and Hurst under the name of Thru Christ. They have just released a new Vision video, sharing their vision for the future of the local church community and explaining how they welcome all.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-uNGf5RG-4>

**Attachments and Links**

- **Vacancies – Teaching Assistant position – [see website](#)**

We hope you have a lovely half term!

Miss Ball, Mrs Medcalf, Mrs Scott and Mrs Castell and all your Polehampton Team

**Diary Dates**

- **Next school week**
- **New or amended dates**

Date	Event	Details
<b>Mon 31<sup>st</sup> May – Fri 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>School closed for half term</b>	
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Closing date for consultation on school values</b>	
<b>Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Empathy Day – work happening in each school on the subject “Walk in Someone Else’s Shoes”</b>	
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Goodies uniform order deadline for delivery to school by the end of term	
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Goodies uniform order deadline for home delivery by 31 <sup>st</sup> August	
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Last day of term	School closes early Non-uniform day