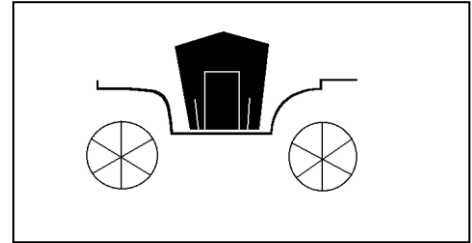


Polehampton C of E Infant School
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Executive Headteacher: Miss Helen Ball BA (Hons) PGCE
Head of Infants: Miss Hazel Snellgrove BA (Hons) GTP

Newsletter No. 16
Friday 31st January 2020

Dear Parents and Governors,



Thank you and Good-bye!

We said a happy, sad goodbye to Miss Kelly in assembly today. We are sad to see her go, but wish her all the best for her next adventures. Thank you for all your work for Green Class, Miss Kelly!



Our Best Books

This term all pupils will be further developing their love of books and speaking and listening skills by becoming 'Book Sharers' for their show and tell. We would like the children to select a favourite book from home to bring in on a Monday morning to share with the rest of their class that week. Please see the attached rotas for each class to see when your child's week is. It would be brilliant if your child can tell us the title, author, genre of the book, something they like about it and why they would recommend it to others. These details will be displayed with the book in each classroom, and we will then read the books (or at least part of them if they are longer books) through the week at story time. Please can you ensure that the book is named and can stay in school for the whole week.

We look forward to hearing all about your favourite books and compiling class lists of recommended reads.



Childline – Not Just for Phone Calls

The Childline website has lots of valuable information, but one area we like is their Calm Zone. The activities aim to help children feel better when they're feeling anxious, scared or sad. These are good techniques for adults use with children. Ideas include: breathing exercises, a 'let it go' box and creating a 'sense drawer'. www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/



Most Children Sleep with a Mobile Phone

A BBC article yesterday said *"More than half of children say they sleep with their mobile phone beside their bed, according to an annual survey of young people's use of media."*

The Childwise report found children getting mobiles at an earlier age, with most now having their own phone by the age of seven.

The average time spent on mobiles by seven to 16-year-olds is three hours and 20 minutes per day.

Researcher Simon Leggett says mobiles can "dominate children's lives".

When phones are always so close at hand, as a "private and personal technology", Mr Leggett says it can be tough for parents to put limits on how children use them."

We would definitely advise parents to keep all devices out of bedroom – keep them in family rooms, particularly overnight.

One parent today mentioned that he uses an app called **"Family Link"** which allows him to control and monitor his child's device, including authorising any apps being downloaded, setting bedtimes, monitoring usage and location. It sounded very useful.



Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 11th February 2020

The global theme is ‘together for a better internet’ and this year in the UK, we are putting the focus on **how young people explore and express their identity online**. Key messages include

- Some parts of your identity must stay private. This is your ‘personal information’ - which includes your name, date of birth, home address, school address, email address and passwords.
- Reminding everyone that any information posted can be passed on, so what you share in private groups need to be considered.
- Information can be retrieved, so anything you post can be found, even if you delete it.
- If anyone, or anything, online makes you feel worried, upset or uncomfortable, tell a trusted adult straight away. The sooner someone knows how you feel, the sooner you can be helped



Playground Supervision Before or After School

We are so fortunate to have lovely play equipment at our school. However, if you allow your child to play on it before or after school, please be close by to supervise their play.

Also a reminder that we don’t allow ball games or scooting in the playground – we don’t have the space when we have extra grown-ups and little siblings about.

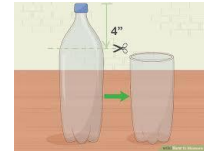
Thanks for helping to keep us all safe and happy.



Local Tree Planting Project

Twyford Parish Council has let us know about “Twyford’s Big Tree Project”. A local family (a Polehampton family, I’m proud to say!) has set up crowd fundraising to purchase, in the first stage, 50 new trees for Stanlake Meadow. They plan to have a big tree planting week in National Tree Week in November. Here is the link to the crowd fundraising for more information and details of how to donate:

https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/twyford-tree-planting-project-2020?tk=b9a7a9f5090e9c43aa6691d5ca81bba7eb2e9eac&fbclid=IwAR2aiLY_mR4udAH5FSUNi5wo-ntQ6qA84OVK7IMjbSqoKI-IOIMli31KYA



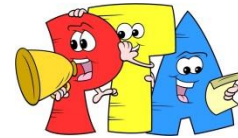
Year 1 Science – Donations of Materials

Year 1 are making rainfall gauges and wind ‘socks’ in science over the next two weeks. We would be very grateful for any empty 2 litre bottles you may have and also strips of fabric, crepe paper and tissue paper. Thank you.



Movie Night

A big thank you to the PTA and staff who made Movie Night so much fun.



The movie night raised £462.72 we hope everyone had a good time.

Blue Class cake sale made £106.00, thank you to everyone that baked, bought and supported the sale. We are sure they will have great fun choosing what to spend the money on.

Diary Dates:

Sponsored Event – ‘Run for books’

Monday 16th March pm – Blue Class

Tuesday 17th March pm – Y2

Wednesday 18th March pm – Y1

More details to follow shortly, but we will need volunteers to help run this event. Please do let us know if you can help on your year groups day – Thanks.

PTA Meeting 11th March:

All welcome please do come along.

Joint Quiz Night 27th March:

Juniors and Infants will be holding a joint quiz night. More details to following soon.

Thank you
The PTA Team

PTA Party Box

We now have a party box available for hire, £10 to hire (£5 deposit back if returned clean and complete). This is a super way to reduce waste – less plastic is always good!

Includes:

- 30 x plates, cups, bowls
- 3 x serving platters
- 2 x jugs

We have already received lots of bookings, so please do get in touch if you would like to hire it.

Miss Helen Ball
Executive Headteacher

Miss Hazel Snellgrove
Head of School

Next week's dates in blue

New or amended dates and arrangements in red

Diary Dates – Spring 2020		
Date	Event	Timing/venue
Tuesday 11th February	Safer Internet Day	Class work in school
w/c Monday 17th February	Half Term	School closed
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day	Dress up as your favourite book character!
Tuesday 10 th March	Parents Evening 1	3.30pm – 6.00pm
Wednesday 11 th March	PTA Meeting	More info to follow
Friday 13 th March	Year 2 Cake Sale	3.00pm - playground
W/C 16 th March	PTA Sponsored Event	More info to follow
Wednesday 18 th March	Parents Evening 2	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Thursday 19 th March	Year 2 Trip to Reading Museum and RISC	More info to follow
Friday 27 th March	Year 2 Fairtrade Coffee Morning	9.00am – school hall. Y2 parents invited
Friday 27 th March	PTA Quiz Night	Joint with Junior School – details to follow
Tuesday 31 st March	Blue Class Spring Celebration Assembly	9.10am - school hall – Parents invited
Wednesday 1 st April	Church Service	St Mary's Church
Thursday 2 nd April	Year 1 & 2 Spring Celebration Assembly	9.10am & 2.30pm - school hall – Parents invited
Friday 3rd April	Last day of term	School closes at 1.50pm

Term Dates 2019-20

Please note that holidays in school term time are not authorised

Spring Term 2020

Inset Day – Mon 6th January

Tues 7th January – Friday 3rd April

Half term w/c Monday 17th February

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April – Friday 17th July 2020

Fri 8th May – Bank Holiday – please note this is a national change from the usual Monday due to VE Day commemorations

Half term w/c Monday 25th May

Inset days – Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July

Term Dates 2010-21

Autumn Term 2020

School open to pupils - Thurs 3rd Sep to Fri 18th Dec 2020

- Inset days - Tuesday 1st & Wed 2nd Sept
- Inset day – Fri 23rd October
- Half term – w/c Monday 26th October

Spring Term 2021

School open to pupils - Tues 5th January to Thurs 1st April 2021

- Inset day Monday 4th Jan
- Inset day – Fri 12th February
- Half term - w/c Monday 15th February

Summer Term 2021

School open to pupils - Monday 19th April to Wed 21st July 2021

- Half term - w/c Monday 31st May