

# Polehampton C of E Schools ~ 7th October 2024

"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:16

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Throughout October, the children will be celebrating Black individuals who have made a difference to their lives, the lives of their family and the lives of those around the world. This will run alongside assemblies which will be centred around the purpose of Black History Month, which is to celebrate (not to focus on oppression/racism as this work is done through our curriculum). It is important for our children to see how cultural diversity has shaped our society and to develop their understand of racial equity. We've encouraged the children to talk about this with you at home. Our first step, with the youngest children, was to become dermatologists and understand skin. If you would like support with how to help facilitate the conversations with your children at home, please do ask.

"Children notice race from an early age. They also observe and can understand injustices among people. However, research shows that not all caregivers discuss race, identity, and racism. Some avoid the topic altogether. There are significant repercussions when we do not provide space for these formative conversations. Silence allows stereotypes, biases, and racism to be reinforced."

Lingras, K.A. (2021). Talking With Children About Race and Racism. *Journal of Health Service Psychology*, 47(1). doi: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42843-021-00027-4>.

### Infant Diary Dates

Harvest Donations  
10th October  
INSET Day (School Closed)  
Friday 25th October  
HALF TERM  
Individual Photos  
Monday 4th November  
Flu Vaccinations  
7th November  
Year 2 - 3 Open Evening  
14th November, 18:30  
Children in Need  
15th November  
Non-Uniform & BAB  
28th November  
Panto  
29th November  
Christmas Fayre  
30th November  
Blue Class Nativity  
3rd December  
Year 1/2 Nativity  
4th December  
Year 1/2 Nativity  
5th December  
Christmas Jumpers & Lunch  
18th December  
End of Term  
20th December, 1:40

### Junior Diary Dates

Harvest Donations  
10th October  
Individual Photos  
16th October  
INSET Day (School Closed)  
Friday 25th October  
HALF TERM  
Year 3 Tea & Songs  
(Y3 Parents Invited to attend)  
8th November  
Children in Need  
15th November  
Year 6 Measurements  
20th November  
Non-Uniform & BAB  
29th November  
Christmas Fayre  
30th November  
Panto - South Hill Park  
4th December  
Year 4 Christmas Play  
11th December, 19:00  
Year 5/6 Carol Concert (TBC)  
17th December, 18:30  
End of Term  
20th December, 1:50



We are looking to recruit new lunchtime controllers (12:00 - 13:30) at the junior school. We are also looking to recruit a Cook for Polecats.

Last week's housepoint winners are:

Stanlake

### A huge congratulations to our Polehampton Young Leaders

School Council	Planet Protectors	Librarians
Aurelia & Lewis Ryan & Bella Bea & Laurie Annabelle & Oscar Freddie & Hattie Diya & Reuben	Damien & Elizabeth Rex & Penelope Hadriel & Alfie Lena & Chloe Martha & Lily Amelia & Jojo	Halle, Olivia, Max, Verity, Flynn Jack, Oliver, Lydia, Laeticia Emily & Eileen Manjarita & James Chloe & Nancy Anara & Matthias

### Harvest



This Friday is our Harvest Assembly, we will share photos of this for parents to see on X. We are donating to ReadiFood because we know that other local schools are donating to Wokingham/Woodley Foodbanks and we wanted to ensure there a variety of organisations will benefit from an area where people give so generously.

### Value Leaders

Friendship - Oliver C & Daisy H  
Gratitude - Rufus & Zoe  
Honesty - Daisy-May & Jasper M  
Perseverance - Amber & Benji  
Forgiveness - Vincent & Odette  
Compassion - Skyla & Teddie  
Grace & Darcey  
Ivy & Matthew  
Riley & Erin  
Ahana & Lottie



Year group information is being sent out today, outlining what your children will be learning this year and housekeeping information for you. You will see that homework has been stripped right back to enable families to **focus on the key skills that are crucial to further learning** - reading, number facts and times tables. We believe this will have a greater impact on the children's learning, based on what we know from research; and will also help families balance the pressures of school, clubs, work and, most importantly, **quality family-time**.

Reception	KS1	Year 3/4	Year 5/6

Have a lovely week! Mrs Medcalf and Mrs Castell