



St Sebastian's Primary School Newsletter

Yearly Newsletter

POLAR BEARS CLASS 2026-27

Welcome back to a new school year and to Polar Bears Class. I hope you all had a brilliant summer break and enjoyed the sunshine.

I am very much looking forward to teaching year 2 this year and getting to know you all.

This year we have planned some super exciting topics for your children: pirates, The Great Fire of London and dragons!

Please remember, if you would like to speak to me about anything, you can catch me at the start or end of the day or email the school office. Mrs Murphy



What's happening in the Autumn Term?

Maths - Understanding the value of numbers to 100, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division of 2, 5 and 10, measurements of length, mass and temperature.

English - Reading 'Little Red Reading Hood' and 'The Twits' to write character descriptions; 'In my heart' poetry and writing letters about the Great Fire of London.

Science - Investigating the uses of everyday materials and then how to be healthy.

We will be discovering the Great Fire of London and constructing Stuart Houses. Our drawing skills will be developed using charcoal and pencils. We will reflect on sacred texts and why they matter, research hot and cold places in the world and develop our online safety and digital literacy. The highlight of this term will be sharing our musical nativity performance with you all at the end of this term.

What's happening in the Spring Term?

Maths - Picture graphs, word problems, money, 2D and 3D shapes and we will start to look at fractions.

English - This term begins with us becoming plundering pirates so we can write leaflets about adventurous pirates and create exciting pirate stories. Whilst learning about nursing in history, we will be writing setting descriptions about hospitals now and in the past and then write informative non-chronological reports about how nursing has changed. Finally we will write entertaining spring haikus.

Science - We will learn about living things and their food chains.

In music we discover different instruments and learn to play the ocarina. We will be looking at what beliefs, values and practices are important in RE. We will create colourful paintings and develop our use of spreadsheets in information technology. We also learn more about India.

What's happening in the Summer Term?

Maths - Continue to look at fractions, time and volume as well as solve lots of varied word problems.

English - Dragons, dragons and more dragons! Writing informative information leaflets and exciting fantasy stories about dragons. Then, after our trip to a wildlife park, we will write a recount of our trip and create information leaflets about the park. Finally we will write some funny riddles.

Science - We discover different habitats then investigate how to grow plants.

If the weather is fine, we will venture out to discover the vivid history of Great Gonerby and learn more about Grantham. Our creativity will be developed through computer coding; by making clay sculptures and moving monsters and learning about the structure and pitch of music.

PE

Our PE days are **Monday** and **Friday**.

Children need to have the correct PE kit in school on these days. PE kit can be left in school and taken home to be washed when



Rewards

We always do our **'best'** to receive:

Verbal praise & stickers

Showing our work to other adults

Values Points & Class Credits

Shine Awards

Reading

At the start of Year 2, while we consolidate our school phonics teaching, your child will bring home a reading practice book matched to their phonic stage. They should be able to read their phonics book independently to an adult so they can practise their fluency. They will also bring home an Accelerated Reader book.



You child will be assessed using Accelerated Reader to provide them with a reading level. They can choose books within this level to read at home. Once they have read the book they can take a quiz in school online to assess their understanding of the book.

Whether your child brings home a phonics book or an Accelerated Reader book, please remember to listen to your child read every night for 10-15 minutes. This will make a huge difference to their progress in reading. Please record any reading at home in their reading diary.

Homework

At the beginning of the year, your child will bring home a new project journal with a homework grid stuck inside. At the start of every 6 week term your child will receive a new homework grid. Please encourage your child to complete one of the tasks **every two weeks and bring it back into school** so that they can share it with the class.

Remember, they can choose which tasks they would like to complete. They may also choose how to present their finished work – they could bring it in; take a photo or stick it into their project book. The children really enjoy sharing their work with the class and the adults love to see what they have been doing at home too - we look forward to seeing their first piece.

Spelling

Initially we will be completing our phonics teaching and will review your child's phonics and the common exception words (CEW) from Year 1.

In the back of your child's reading diary there are spelling lists, any words from the Year 1 list that have been highlighted need to be learnt at home. They will then be retested to check they have learnt them and are ready to move on to Year 2 spellings.

When ready for Year 2 spellings, they will be sent home to learn each week and your child will be tested to check they know them.

Website

[Click for: Year 2 Polar Bear's webpage link](#)

Our website contains a wealth of information that you may find helpful.

On your child's class page, you can find:

- Homework grids
- Knowledge organisers
- Photo updates
- Spellings

On our main website, you can find information about our:

- Policies and reports
- Term dates
- Newsletters
- School information
- School meals
- SEND

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