



Australia Class Newsletter

Autumn 2026

Welcome back! And welcome to Year 2! I hope that you all had a lovely summer break. These are some of the themes and units of work that we are going to learn about this coming term.

Overall Themes

This half-term our Topic is 'Superheroes' and we will be linking our English learning to this theme alongside other curriculum areas. The second half of term is 'Journeys'.

Superheroes Day - KS1 - Thursday 22nd October

English

In English (during Autumn 1), we will be using a range of texts to delve further into our theme. We will explore ***Superkid*** by Clare Freeman and ***Supertato*** by Sue Hendra in greater depth to support our narrative story writing and factual, informative writing. We will also explore poetry during the autumn term to develop our creative writing skills.

The autumn 2 is topic is journeys and focus texts will include ***Journey*** by Aaron Becker and ***Where My Wellies Take Me*** by Michael Morpurgo. We will also expand and deepen our understanding of literacy by explicitly learning about expanded noun phrases, grammar and punctuation to ensure we are using them correctly in all our writing and composition.

There will be weekly spellings tests for all children. Word lists will be adapted to suit all needs abilities. Please encourage your child to practise their spellings each week. All the words will be taken from the Year 2 National Curriculum and should be embedded by the end of the academic year.

As ever, in English, we will develop our reading, writing and speaking and listening skills. During our weekly Guided Reading sessions, children will continue to read texts that teach them inference, deduction, reading strategies, vocabulary and the content of fiction and non-fiction books. It will be based at their level and will encourage progress within their reading. There will also be ample opportunity for your children to **DEAR** (Drop Everything And Read). The aim is to ignite a passion for reading and develop their vocabulary.

*** Please write in your child's reading log at least three times a week - reading logs will be checked daily in school. Remember, extra dojos are awarded for frequent home reading!***

Maths

This term, we will focus on place value, addition and subtraction and finally, geometry. All children will learn new mathematical concepts using physical equipment (manipulatives) and pictorial representations before progressing to the abstract stage.

***Please continue to use My Maths, Numbots and TT Rockstars at home to develop fluency.**

Science

This term, children will be learning about animals, including humans. We will also revisit seasons and deepen our understanding of seasonal change and how it connects to lifecycles of animals and humans then; they will use knowledge of these areas previously learnt and build upon their understanding. This term, children will also engage in investigation and observation that will enhance their depth of learning.

PE

There are two PE sessions each week, generally scheduled for Wednesday (indoor) and Friday (outdoor), and this term we will be focusing on dance during indoor lessons and running, jumping, balance, throwing and catching and general agility for outdoor lessons.

Your child will need a drawstring bag with a named PE kit for indoor and outdoor sessions. As the weather cools down, please can I ask that children have additional layers of PE clothing.

PE kit should be brought in every Monday morning and, after indoor PE, will then be taken home on Wednesdays. On Fridays, the children may come to school in their PE kits. Please also ensure that your child's footwear fit and each item of clothing is FULLY LABELLED.

Class Worship & Religious Education

Our days always contain interactive Class Worship, a prayer or elements of learning taken from the new statutory curriculum subject: Relationships & Health Education curriculum (previously named PSHE). Our Christian Value for this half-term is love. Occasionally, class worship is led by Father Paul or by Mr. Holloway. In RE during Autumn 1, pupils will be exploring Judaism - with a focus on Mitzvah (the Jewish commandments). Autumn 2 will focus on the Nativity story as we prepare for the KS1 performance before the end of term. Year 2 will take the leading roles.

Art and Design

This term, children will develop their technique when using colours, texture, design, form, lines and shape. They will create art works based on Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol.

In DT, they will look at structures and bridges. This will link well with the topic of Journeys; the children will learn to make their own bridges using a variety of materials. They will then test them with various weights to test stability and strength.

Computing

We will continue to use Purple Mash as a comprehensive educational learning tool. Your child will be doing some further work on coding and algorithms. The principles of online safety will be integral throughout.

RHE

Year 2 pupils will be learning about physical health and wellbeing. We will discuss ways to keep themselves safe within the home (Inc. online) and outdoors. We will also focus on The Colour Monster book, this explores feelings, emotions and how to manage them.

History - Autumn 1

In our history sessions, we will be thinking about the famous figures throughout history who have done something 'super'. We will focus our lessons on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Emmeline Pankhurst and Mary Seacole.

Geography - Autumn 2

Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features using maps. We will learn how to understand maps and keys. We will also learn about the UK and the countries and capital cities within.

Music

Pupils will explore pulse, rhythm and pitch. They will use their voices to sing songs, chant rhymes and use their creativity to compose their own songs and chants. We then hope to perform at our Showcase class assembly later in the term.

Homework

A homework grid is available via Google Classroom. We ask that your child completes one activity or a piece of work each week. Depending on the task, we ask that you upload completed work onto Google Classroom, email australia@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk or bring it into class.

NOTICES -

NUT-FREE SCHOOL - Just a reminder: Please remember we are a nut-free school, so please do not send in anything that is a nut or contains nuts please.

We urge you to get in touch if you have any problems or concerns no matter how small and insignificant you think they are. We look forward to working with you on the next step in your child's education.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Packham

Dates to Remember

Flu Vaccinations - Friday 18th September

Harvest Fayre - Saturday 26th September

Meet the Teacher - Wednesday 30th September @ 3.30pm

Italy/Australia/India visit to St. Mary's Church - Friday 9th October

PTA AGM (all welcome) - Thursday 15th October @ 3:30pm

Individual School Photos - Friday 16th October - full uniform please

Superheroes Day - KS1 - Thursday 22nd October

INSET DAY - Friday 23rd October

Half-Term - Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Parent's evenings (in school) - w/c: Monday 2nd November

Australia Class Assembly - Thursday 5th November @ 9am

PTA Fireworks - Friday 6th November @ 5:30pm

KS1 Nativity - 8th and 9th December @ 2pm and 5pm

KS1 Disco - Wednesday 16th December 2025 (5pm)

Christmas Jumper Day/Class parties/Last day of term - Friday 18th December 2026

School re-opens - Monday 4th January 2027