

Bollington St. John's Church of England
Primary School



Where talent grows

Head Teacher: Mrs M. Walker

Head of Teaching, Learning and Assessment: Mrs E. Watson

'Christian Value' – Compassion

*"Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore He will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him!"
Isaiah 30:18*

10th November 2023

Head's Message

Welcome to the first newsletter of this half term. I do hope you all had a productive and helpful parents' evening meeting with your child's class teacher. We have had a very busy two weeks, and now we are proceeding full throttle towards the most magical time of the year. Auditions have taken place and Christmas play rehearsals have begun. So far this term Mrs Jobbins, Mr Timmis, Mrs Hancock and Mrs Woolley have all completed their First Aid training. We have arranged for four children in Class 4 to take part in the Town Council's Youth Parliament and two children from our School Parliament accompanied Mrs Smith to the Discovery Centre on Wednesday. They went to view the Bollington War Memorial's exhibition of the personal items of a local war hero. Keeping on the theme of Remembrance, and mindful of tomorrow's date, our Chair of Governors, Mr Akerman, visited Class 4 to talk about The Great War and 'A Soldier's Life' today. Last week, I had the pleasure of meeting with some of the PTA Class Reps, and will do so again next term. Today, is World Science Day for Peace and Development, and Mrs Watson led a junior assembly to mark this global event. Reception class have been exploring Diwali, the Festival of Lights. Please make sure you ask your child about the diva lamps they have made. Next week, we have our Year 1 Family Lunch, Children in Need and another after school new starter's tour. Finally, I am sending home our ratified Privacy Notice with this email. This document can also be found on our website.

Fireworks

Fireworks on Bonfire Night

Explode in all colours.

One is brighter than all the others.

Shooting off with a sizzle and a snap,

Amber, gold and silver soar up and up

With a fizzle and a crack.

A volcano erupting,

Then turning to black.

By Freja in Class 3

Punctuality

As part of our ongoing focus on attendance and punctuality, we would like to remind families that the whistle is blown at 8.50am. Children should be in the yard at this time to ensure they are in their class on time ready to be registered. Class representatives requested that the whistle is blown

promptly at 8.50am, but this week we have seen a substantial rise in the number of children having to come to the main reception door as they are running late. Can we respectfully remind you that the children should be on the yard by 8.50am. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

PTA

Our thanks go to the PTA for agreeing at their latest meeting to fund our new Mighty Writer literacy aids, as well as resources needed for our new Kapow curriculum. We are also very grateful for the amazing Winter Fair that is being planned and organised. We hope to see you all there.

School Uniform

Please can you check that you have put your child's name in all their items of school uniform. If the uniform is named, we can quickly and easily return any lost items to the relevant child.

Safeguarding Message

It has been brought to the attention of colleagues at various Cheshire East schools that children are accessing a website called Omegle. This website made the headlines in 2021 – please see the BBC report below. The website is promoted as a positive social media platform to share YouTube and Tiktok videos. However, it has been reported that youngsters are being encouraged to post or share sexually explicit videos and pictures.

[Omegle: Children expose themselves on video chat site - BBC News](#)

Diary Dates

13th November – Reception 2024 starters open evening at 4-4:30pm. Families of children starting school in 2024 welcome

15th November – Year 1 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm. Year 1 families invited

17th November – Non Uniform Day for Children in Need

20th November – BBC TV crew meeting with Class 3 to explore and discuss animals and habitats

20th November – Girls on Board Presentation Evening at 5-6pm. Class 3 and 4 families invited

21st November – Tytherington School Forensic Science Workshop for Year 6 students at 12:30-2:30pm

22nd November – Anchor Creative Education delivering interactive spelling and grammar workshops to all classes

25th November – PTA Winter Fair at 12-3pm. All families invited

27th November – Last week of After School Clubs this term

29th November – Presentation to children by Sue Whyatt, a former England goalkeeper

1st December – Wreath Making, PTA event at 7-9pm

4th December – Reception 2024 starters open evening at 4-4:30pm. Families of children starting school in 2024 welcome

5th December – Christingle workshops for all classes

8th December – Christmassy Clothes Day

8th December – School Nursing Team administering flu nasal spray in school

8th December - Class 3 Cake Sale at 3:30pm

11th December – Bikeability for Year 4 and Year 5 students

13th December – Infant Nativity Play (Reception Class and Class 2) at 10-11am and 2-3pm. All Reception and Class 2 families invited

19th December – Junior Christmas Play (Class 3 and Class 4) at 10-11:30am, 2-3:30pm and 6-7:30pm. All Class 3 and 4 families invited

20th December – Christmas lunch (children only)

21st December – Class Christmas Parties

21st December – Last day of term

News from Reception

This week in Reception, we have learnt all about the Hindu festival of Diwali. We have made pinch pot diva lamps out of clay to represent the importance of light in the festival. We have recreated rangoli patterns using chalk on the playground and designed mehndi patterns that are traditionally painted on to hands and arms as part of the celebration. We used the story of Rama and Sita to inspire our drawing and speech bubbles this week. In maths, we have learnt about the part whole model and how we can dissect numbers in different ways.

News from Class 2

In English this week, we have been exploring the story of Goldilocks and how she should apologise appropriately to the three bears. In maths, Year 1 have explored number bonds to 20 and Year 2 have explored adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers from 100. Our geography lessons are taking us on a wonderful journey of exploration of maps and our surroundings, which, this week, included us drawing aerial maps of our classroom. The highlight of our week is of course using our Mighty Writer for the first time, which has been a massive success! We have also begun practising our Christmas nativity play – standby parents for some important information next week!

News from Class 3

This week in maths, the children have worked hard to develop their fluency with subtraction. They have practised column subtraction and counting up using a number-line. In English, the pupils have enjoyed our class book called 'Escape from Pompeii', and we have written a persuasive letter. In geography, we have researched tectonic plates. In computing, the children have started to use scratch coding.

News from Class 4

This week in maths, Class 4 have been working on fractions. Year 5 have been working on finding equivalent fractions and converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions. Year 6 have been learning how to multiply and divide fractions. In English, we have been reading, 'The Unforgotten Coat' by Frank Cottrell Boyce. We have been exploring antonyms and noun phrases linked to the text. A highlight of this week has been our design and technology lessons where we have been learning to make pop-ups and moving parts for the story books we are going to be designing and making for our buddies.

Celebration Awards

Good Work

Class 1 – Josephine for her excellent work using the clay, paying lots of attention to detail.

Class 2 – Emme for a wonderfully written letter of apology in English.

Class 3 – Hugo for excellent research in geography.

Class 4 – Natalia and Phoebe for making a fantastic animation in computing.

Good Citizen

Class 1 – Jonas for trying very hard to make good choices and listen carefully to instructions.

Class 2 – Darcy for demonstrating amazing kindness to everyone this week, but also in her time at our school.

Class 3 – James for always showing resilience.

Class 4 – Abigail for always participating so well in every lesson.

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Ethos Award – Class 2: Dyiako for always being compassionate and being mindful of the feelings of his peers.

House Points – Clarence were announced winners of the first half term.

Sports News

Class 1 – This week in PE, we warmed our bodies up in different ways. Then, we played games that involved a time limit.

Class 2 – We have begun our circuit training mission. This week, we focussed on general muscular endurance through many different exercises.

Class 3 – In PE, we have been playing hockey, passing and learning the correct technique to pass accurately over short distances.

Class 4 – This week we have been circuit training, understanding endurance and muscular endurance and how this effects our body. We also worked on co-ordination and teamwork during aerobics.

Star Sports Performers

Class 1 – Bertie

Class 2 – James and Gruff

Class 3 – Lola-Rose and Olivia

Class 4 – Nathaniel and Matilda