

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' – Endurance**

*"You need to persevere so that when you done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised."  
Hebrews 10:36*

15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### **Head's Message**

Today alone has been such a vibrant and busy day. We started with the children looking marvellous in their non-uniform for Comic Relief. To date we have raised £111 for this worthy cause. Then Steve Hart from Down Syndrome Cheshire led an assembly. The 21<sup>st</sup> March is World Down Syndrome Awareness Day, when we will be selling our gingerbread biscuits and encouraging the children to come to school in odd socks. Mr Duffy visited Class 4 this afternoon to talk about 'Time and Space' as we wrapped up British Science Week. The questions the children asked were simply jaw-dropping. A wonderful Easter day of activities has been arranged for Class 3. They will join Year 3 from Bollington Cross at St Oswald's. Rev Jenny came to school today to organise the Easter assembly. Please note the assembly will end with quiet reflection and the children will exit the hall in silence. Thank you to all the parents who came to our SATs and PGL information evening. We do hope you found them useful. Next week we have a full schedule of activities to look forward to including, Parents' Evenings, a Year 4 Family Lunch and a PTA school disco. This is on top of Down Syndrome Day and our Easter Service. Finally, as part of the work surrounding mental health and wellbeing that we have recently been doing, Mrs Watson and I have arranged some initiatives to support the children. These will begin after Easter and include a Meet and Greet each morning at 8.45am for invited pupils, Circle of Friends workshops, which will support our pupils with their friendships, and structured lunchtime activities in the playground which will be separated into designated zones. We are also trying to secure an aquarium to house our new school pets, and a trained professional to lead wellbeing coaching sessions with individual children. If you think your child would benefit from any of these strategies please do let me know.

### **Diary Dates**

18<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> March – Parent/Carer Evening Meetings  
20<sup>th</sup> March – Year 4 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm  
21<sup>st</sup> March – Down Syndrome Day (Odd Sock Day)  
22<sup>nd</sup> March – Easter Assembly led by Rev Jenny (all families invited) at 9:10-9:40am  
22<sup>nd</sup> March – PTA School Disco at 6:00-7:15pm  
25<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> March – Class 4 PGL Residential at Boreatton Park  
27<sup>th</sup> March – Class 3 Easter Experience Day at St Oswald's Church (9am drop off at St Oswald's)  
28<sup>th</sup> March – Last day of term  
15<sup>th</sup> April – Summer term begins

### **News from Reception**

This week in Reception, we have used the story Astrogirl to inspire our learning. We have discussed the roles that an astronaut might have in space and then decided if we'd like to have a go! We then learnt all about the life of the astronaut, Mae Jemison, and considered which important items she might have taken on her journey into space. In maths, we have focused on doubling to ten and using manipulatives to show matching quantities.

### **News from Class 2**

This week, our highlight has been our science lesson where we were identifying animals, grouping them and comparing them. We have enjoyed learning about mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians. In English, everyone has been working so hard on writing in the past tense. In maths, Year 2 have made excellent progress with inverse operations and Year 1 have been learning how to measure with rulers. To celebrate Science Week, Class 2 made paper boats and sailed them on our Class 2 ocean. We used a stopwatch to see how long they could float for - it was great fun! Also, in D&T, we enjoyed mixing fruits to make a smoothie!

### **News from Class 3**

This week, in maths, we have continued to look at fractions. The children in Year 3 have looked at fractions on a number line. Year 4 have looked at converting mixed numbers into improper fractions. In English, the children have continued to enjoy our class book 'Black Dog'. This week, we have built the skills we will use to create our own version of this story. We have looked at exciting verbs, fronted adverbials and the rules around inverted commas. In art, we worked on our sketching skills, and we have looked at shading techniques. In music, we have looked at how to sing like a Viking. Class 3 have really enjoyed British Science Week. We have thought about the contributions of a diverse range of scientists, created posters to enter into competition and conducted an experiment to see what may change the time it takes for jelly to set.

### **News from Class 4**

This week, in maths, Year 5 have been working on reading and interpreting tables and charts. Year 6 have been learning how to calculate to areas of parallelograms. In English, we have started to explore a new book, 'The Lost Happy Endings' by Carol Ann Duffy. We have also started to complete our end of Spring Term assessment. Highlights this week have been learning about the physical features of the desert biome in our geography lesson and making doodlers in our design and technology lesson. Today, we enjoyed a talk from Mr Duffy about time and space.

### **Celebration Awards**

#### **Good Work**

Class 1 – Gus for contributing well and trying hard to write down his ideas independently.

Class 2 – Maisie for her excellent past tense writing in English and comparisons of animals in science.

Class 3 – Lillian for excellent science work this week.

Class 4 – Luke for excellent contributions to our lesson about Alan Turing.

#### **Good Citizen**

Class 1 – Arthur for always being a calming influence on those around him.

Class 2 – Bobbie for showing resilience and endurance in all areas of learning.

Class 3 – Mark for always trying his best in lessons.

Class 4 – Mia for excellent participation in class and a great attitude to learning.

**Ethos Award (Endurance)** – Class 1: Lilia for keeping trying even when things are really hard and never giving up.

**House Points** – Lowerhouse are currently in the lead.

### **Sports News**

Class 1 – This week, we practised rolling a ball around our bodies whilst keeping it under control. We then held and balanced our ball using different parts of our body. We researched different sports that use balls and what the aim of the games is.

Class 2 – We have been playing dodgeball this week, practising throwing and catching. We have been moving to dodge the ball. We have also done circuits of movements including ladder, hurdles, jumps and hopping.

Class 3 and Class 4 – We have been playing netball, practising our shooting technique with games and points. We have also been playing tag rugby, focusing on attacking shape and attacking plays to create chances.

### **Star Sports Performers**

Class 1 – Bertie

Class 2 – Joseph and Oliver

Class 3 – Seth and Ellie

Class 4 – Heidi and Eleanor

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