

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

"The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion."

Psalm 116:5

3rd December 2021

Head's Message

With two weeks left before we break up for Christmas, the children are getting very excited! I have done my usual class visits this morning and I must say the elves appear to be extra mischievous this year. We have had a lovely week in school and all of the children have done some wonderful logos or card designs, for competitions organised by the PTA. Class 4 had a 'Chemistry with Cabbage' workshop on Monday, which they all thoroughly enjoyed. On Wednesday we had our annual Health and Safety Audit, which went extremely well thanks to Mr Morrall. We also administered the Fluenz nasal vaccination and Year 6 went to Tytherington High School for a Forensic Science transition workshop. On Monday Beverley from St Oswald's will be coming to school to lead Christingle workshops/assemblies in all the classes. Please see the attachment I am sending with this newsletter that details all of the services at St Oswald's this Christmas. On Tuesday our Christmas shows begin, with our KS1 nativity. I must apologise in advance that due to the fact there will be seven socially distanced performances this year, and they are all in school hours, I may not be able to attend them all. My head may be on a Teams virtual call but my heart will be with the children. Finally, I do hope you have all seen the PTA Christmas raffle tickets that have been sent home. Please let the school office know if you would like some more.

Christmas Jumper Day

Next Friday will be Christmas Jumper Day where the children are invited to come to school in any item or items of Christmas clothing. We will be raising money for the East Cheshire Hospice and so please send your donations into school on the day.

Christmas Dinner

We will be having a Christmas Dinner in school on Wednesday 15th December. We will be keeping to our current lunch time arrangements, but will ensure all the children have a magical and festive lunch time.

Punctuality

Please remember that the children should be in the yard at 8.50am in the morning. Lessons start at 9am. At present we have a growing number of children who are late, and some children are regularly late. We cannot stress how important it is for the children to be in class on time, to ensure

they don't miss vital instructions at the start of their lesson. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.

Christmas Play Update

We have received guidelines from the LA regarding Christmas plays this year. For the events to go ahead the LA are recommending the following measures, all of which we will have in place. Please note we would politely request you take a LFT before coming to the performance, and please do not attend if you have any of the Covid-19 symptoms. We will be asking parents to enter school via the hall fire doors and wear a face mask while inside the premises. Thank you so much for your co-operation. Should rising case numbers force us to cancel our events we will notify you immediately.

Limiting mixing

- Hold separate performances for Key Stages/classes if possible
- Using ticketing or a booking system to manage numbers
- Holding an event multiple times if possible, to reduce the total number of people present at any one time
- Consider and eliminate pinch points where crowding may occur, including the use of one-way systems where appropriate

Reducing the risk of transmission

- Holding events in large, well-ventilated spaces
- Encouraging social distancing
- Encouraging wearing of face coverings
- Encouraging frequent use of hand sanitiser and handwashing
- Ensure adequate cleaning before and after the event

Reducing the number of positive cases attending

- Asking attendees to take an LFT before they attend (this cannot be enforced/checked on arrival, and is unlikely to be applicable to primary-age pupils)
- Asking attendees not to come if they have any COVID-19 symptoms or feel generally unwell. Asking attendees not to come if someone in their household is a confirmed COVID-19 case in the past 10 days (before the date of the event).

Covid-19 Advice

If your child has any of the main Covid-19 symptoms (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste), they should not attend school and should stay at home. You should arrange for them to get a PCR test and tell us the test results. Your child should not attend school while you are waiting for test results, even if they are feeling better. If the test is negative, they should go to school as normal. If they test positive, they should continue to isolate and follow public health advice. As per LA guidelines, children should also isolate for at least 5 days if a household member tests positive.

News from Reception

This week, in Reception, we have read the beautiful book 'Jack Frost' by Kazuno Kohara; we researched ice patterns and then we recreated some of the artwork from the story using brusho and printing. In English, we have written sentences about the character Jack Frost and used images to act out the story in our small world area. In maths, we have looked at part and whole, firstly looking at physical objects that can be separated before moving on to numbers. We have been very busy with our play rehearsals, and we're all very excited for next week!

News from Class 2

This week, in maths, Year 2 have concentrated on multiplication and used the phrase "groups of" to tackle 2/5/10's multiplication problems. We have also started column addition. In Year 1, we have been comparing number statements and also worked on counting in 2's. In English, we have started

our new “wordless” class story called Journey by Aaron Becker, which links beautifully to our geography topic. We have used some of the illustrations to write about the setting and labelled everything we can see on the front cover. We have also made predictions about what the story will be about. In IPC, we have looked at the history of transport and made our own class timeline. We learned all about the Titanic and added this to our timeline. We then made our own mini timelines to go in our books. We have made class posters about the human and physical features of the United Kingdom, and then used Google Earth to visit some of them!

News from Class 3

Class 3 have continued to enjoy our class book, ‘Varmints’. This week, children used personification in a setting description. Children have spent time practising for their Christmas nativity. In maths, we have continued to look at subtraction. As part of ‘myHappyMind’, children have celebrated different parts of their personalities.

News from Class 4

This week, we have been completing our end of autumn term assessments in reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar, and maths. We took part in a fantastic science workshop on Monday with ‘Chemistry with Cabbage.’ We found out all about acids, alkalis and neutrals, and we carried many interesting investigations. In RE, in our Judaism topic, we have been finding out all about Passover, focusing on the significance of the seder plate.

Sports News

Class 1 – This week, the children focused on stretches and coordination during a yoga session before doing colour matching games using cones. The children had to consider their spatial awareness and follow instructions carefully.

Class 2 – In PE we suffered adverse weather, so we did dance and went up to Forest school.

Class 3 – In PE this week, the children played hockey matches and displayed a range of skills. In curling, the children were doing target practice.

Class 4 – This week, we played games in hockey, and, in curling and bowling, we did target practice.

Star Performers

Class 1: Henry and Sophie

Class 2: Seth and Ella

Class 3: Nathaniel and Niamh

Class 4: Arley and Poppy

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December Kindness 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	 6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	 7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others	2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about
12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	13 See how many different people you can smile at today	14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one	8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank
19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated	20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need	21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you	15 Contact an older neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you	18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving
26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat	28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy	22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!
			29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2022	

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

