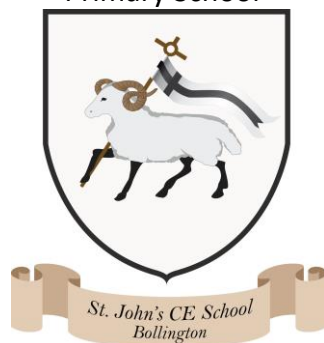


Bollington St. John's Church of England  
Primary School



*Where talent grows*

Head Teacher: Mrs M. Walker

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

## 'Christian Value' – Trust

*"Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord."  
Proverbs 16:20*

10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

### Head's Message

Happy New Year everyone! I am sure Christmas is now a distant memory for you, as it is for us, as we busily prepare for Spring term. There is a lot going on this term, including Young Voices, Parents' Evenings, a PGL residential and class assemblies, so please keep checking the newsletter and website for details. The PTA is meeting at 8pm tonight at the Bull's Head in Kerridge. I am delighted to report a staggering £2522.35 was raised at their Christmas Fair after match funding. I am sure the PTA would be delighted to welcome you to their meeting tonight to discuss ideas for future projects. Next week, at 4pm on Thursday, we have a PGL meeting for the parents of any children in Class 4 who are going on residential in March. Stay, Play and Pray takes place at 3pm on Friday.

### New Staff

We are delighted to announce two new members of staff have joined our team. Miss Kirsty Short, comes back to us after a five year absence, and is working as a teaching assistant in Class 4. Mrs Lauren Roberts joins our admin staff and will be working Wednesday to Friday in the school office alongside Mrs Farrar.

### Term Time Holidays/Attendance

Please ensure you have read our Attendance Policy and a guide entitled 'Taking Children on Holiday during Term Time', which is published by Cheshire East Council, and available on the website. In particular we would draw your attention to the section, in the Attendance Policy, entitled 'Authorised and unauthorised absence during term time' and point out that unauthorised attendance may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued by the Local Authority.

### Swimming Reminder

Last year we had a growing number of families ask if their child could opt out of swimming lessons. After taking advice on the matter here is a polite reminder of what we advised you in September. *Swimming is part of the National Curriculum, and as a maintained school we are legally required to follow this curriculum. We are aware some families already send their children to private swimming lessons, but those lessons do not cover what the children will learn, and need to learn, as part of their statutory National Curriculum.*

**In school next week:**

Monday – Mrs Walker and Mrs Stout on a LA reading conference.

Tuesday – Mrs Walker at a Head's breakfast meeting.

Thursday – Music audit taking place in school. PGL meeting for parents at 4pm.

Friday – Stay, Play and Pray at 3pm.

**Curriculum update:**

**Class 1** – This week we have started our topic of Frozen Planet. We have shared our own experiences of Winter and read the story of Jack Frost by Kazuno Kahara. We have written sentences about all the things Jack Frost got up to in the story and produced some beautiful wax resist artwork with lino prints on top. In maths we have looked in depth at the number 6, finding ways to represent it and also making sums that equal 6.

**Class 2** – This week in Literacy we have started our new class story 'Coming Home' we have thought about the word home and what it means to us. We used our senses to write a piece of descriptive writing about our homes. We have moved on now to describing the character of the robin using adjectives and similes. In maths we have looked at addition with a number line and odd and even numbers. In IPC we shared our fantastic homework projects and ordered our significant people in the order that they were born. Thank you for all your effort with the homework: the children have learnt some great facts from each other.

**Class 3** – We have had a great first week back. In maths, children have looked at multiplying and dividing by 10,100 and 1000 before examining negative numbers. In literacy, children have started a new book 'Escape from Pompeii' and have looked at setting descriptions. We have started our IPC topic of 'Active Planet' this week. Children have completed a fact file about volcanoes and looked at the vocabulary we will use this term.

**Class 4** – This week, in maths, we have been revising place value of numbers up to one million, and we have been calculating using negative numbers. In English, we have been reading 'The Lost Happy Endings' by Carol Ann Duffy, focusing on imagery and building an atmosphere by using action, description and dialogue. In our new IPC topic, 'The Great, The Bold and The Brave', we have been researching the geographical features of modern day Greece.

**Sports News** – This week all classes have had the first week of gymnastics. Classes 1 and 2 have learnt a variety of gymnastics shapes and their names, working to hold a shape for at least 3 seconds under control of all body parts. They have then begun to put shapes into a routine. Classes 3 and 4 have started gymnastics with an introduction to gymnastics movements, with a key focus on control throughout the lesson. Children have learnt characteristics of how to move like an Olympic gymnast, especially when performing their routine to the rest of the class.

**Mr Read's PE star performers:**

Class 1: Henrietta and Freja

Class 2: Thomas and Matilda

Class 3: Flynn and Mathilde

Class 4: Scarlett and Ines

**Well done to all star performers.**

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