

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

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6

28th January 2022

Head's Message

Good afternoon everyone. Well this pandemic is certainly not through with us quite yet! After keeping our numbers relatively low for the best part of 2 years, we were hit with a dramatic increase this week, reaching 14 positive cases among children at one stage. This meant 3 of our 4 classes were deemed to have reached outbreak status, which brought with it extra advice and mitigation factors for the children and staff alike. The LA very kindly agreed to my request for some LFTs, as a number of parents commented that they were hard to get. We received a one off delivery for parents of 50 boxes (each containing 20 tests) and by this morning they were all gone. Please note that the LA will not supply any further tests, but assured us they are readily available across Cheshire. I would like to personally thank Mrs Green, for wading through the mountains of documents and updates from the DfE, LA and PHE with me. We have tried very hard to keep you updated, but not bombarded, with the latest information as we receive it. If you have any concerns or queries then please don't hesitate to get in touch, and we thank you for your support as we navigate our way through the pandemic and constantly changing guidance.

In other news, you will have noticed the scaffolding is now up around school and 37 solar panels will be placed on our flat roof tomorrow. The scaffolding should be removed next week. On Wednesday Class 4 have their synagogue visit. Finally, some children from Class 3 attended a Year 4 Celebrate Sports Festival at Tytherington High School today. We had to get permission for their attendance and put mitigating factors in place. The children were amazing and they all had a wonderful time.

Why Attendance Matters

We are often asked what the law says about attendance at school. The law requires that all children between the ages of 5 and 16 are in full time education. As the parent/carer of a child of compulsory school age it is your duty under Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that your child attends school regularly. Please note:

- 5 minutes late each day means three whole days lost each year
- 17 days missed from school each year equates to a whole GCSE grade
- Attendance affects learning
- Attendance affects future outcomes
- Attendance affects wellbeing and a sense of belonging

Year 4 Multiplication Check

The Multiplication Check is a statutory test taken by the children in Year 4. Please click on the following link to access a leaflet containing [information for parents](#).

Swifts Over Macclesfield

The Swifts Over Macclesfield team have delivered some double swift boxes to school. The boxes will be installed in time for this year's breeding season. The team will visit again in the summer to talk to the children about the amazing life and migration of the Common Swift. Thank you to Mr Rogers for organising this.

Online Safety Advice for Parents

We have organised a parents Teams meeting with our PCSO Alex Camenzuli on March 23rd at 7.30pm. Alex's presentation is aimed to help parents navigate through the ever changing digital world, and help you keep your child safe online. We do hope many of you will attend this virtual meeting, which we are sure will be very informative.

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.

Children should isolate for 10 days if they test positive, however, you now have the option to reduce the isolation period after 5 full days, if your child tests negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 (and they do not have a temperature). For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to school immediately on day 6. Day 1 of isolation is counted as the day after symptoms began or the test was taken.

News from Reception

This week, in Reception, we have learnt all about the features of a bird; we have looked at the differences between birds of prey and garden birds to see how their diet changes their features. We removed last year's blue tit nest from our camera box and looked closely at how it's been made. In maths, we have focused on the rhyme, five little speckled frogs, and this has helped us work out all the different ways to make five. In forest school, we learnt about how trees communicate with each other and how to work out how old they are.

News from Class 2

This week, in English, we have learnt all about New York City! We visited Times Square on Google Earth and created a bank of vocabulary to help us with a piece of writing based on our class story, The Bear and the Piano. We have then sequenced the story and used time connectives to write sentences underneath each picture. In maths, Year 1 have been comparing numbers and using greater than and less than. We have continued to look at place value to 20. In Year 2, we have consolidated our knowledge of the two times table and added equal groups whilst using arrays. In IPC, we have looked at sources of light and created light source collages. We also drew and labelled light sources which we could see around the school.

News from Class 3

Class 3 have continued to enjoy our class book, 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin'. The children created persuasive adverts using rhetorical questions to attract a rat catcher. In maths, we have looked at

multiplying and dividing by 6, 7, 8 and 9. In IPC, the children have concluded our topic, 'Turn it Up!' and created a fact file showing our new knowledge.

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, we have been learning to convert between fractions, decimals and percentages. In English, we have been learning about adding to description of nouns, using relative clauses. In IPC, we have been revising and developing our knowledge of fossils, and we have looked at fossils from the Cambrian Period, thinking about what information they can provide us with. We have also been developing our ability to classify animals, using their characteristics.

Sports News

Class 1 – In PE, the children played car games that focused on spatial awareness, following instructions and coordination. This was linked to road safety and understanding traffic lights.

Class 2 – In PE, the pupils practised different types of jumps in gymnastics, including pike jumps and tuck jumps, and we played invasion games where we concentrated on our interception skills.

Class 3 – In PE this week, the pupils were practising various gymnastic jumps: pike, straddle, star and tuck. The children also participated in target practice: throwing different objects to hit various targets.

Class 4 – This week, we took part in a gymnastics lesson, and a lesson in which we developed our skills in hitting a target.

Star Performers

Class 1: Edith

Class 2: Scarlett and Freja

Class 3: Max and Lois

Class 4: Bethany and Raffy

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