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' – Thankfulness

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

5th February 2021

Dear families,

On this fifth Friday following a remote timetable, I hope that you have had a pleasant week and that the end of the lockdown seems within reach now. I want to thank all the children who filled in the survey this week. The teachers and I have read all their comments and suggestions. The overwhelming message from most of them was that they miss their friends. Hopefully these last few weeks will pass quickly, and they will all be together soon. Please see below for the survey results:

Do you prefer the work that was set in Lockdown 1 or the current Lockdown?	
Lockdown 1	12%
Current Lockdown	88%

Is the work that is being set challenging enough for you?	
Yes	84%
No	4%
Unsure	12%

Do you prefer live lessons or set work?	
Live lessons	56%
Set work	20%
Unsure	24%

Do you think you are getting a full learning day as you would if you were in school?	
Yes	71%
No	17%
Unsure	12%

Do you think that you are getting enough feedback?	
Yes	82%
No	9%
Unsure	9%

This week is Children's Mental Health Week, an annual week-long campaign run by children's mental health charity <u>Place2Be</u>. The week runs until 7th February. This year's theme is 'Express Yourself' with the focus on children finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas through creativity. Mentally Healthy School have created a <u>toolkit of resources</u> for children, staff and parents to use. Please just follow the link. You can also get involved in the campaign by visiting www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org

In line with concerns about children's mental health, some schools are currently doing a 'no screen day' in a bid to limit the time children are looking at a computer screen. Many of our children have expressed that they like the current remote learning structure which mirrors a school day and that they enjoy the live lessons, so I have not implemented this at St John's. I feel that children and parents should be able to make their own decision on whether a child has had too much screen time. Each child will be different. If you do feel like your child has spent too long in front of a screen and would benefit from a screen free day, please email your child's class teacher and say that you have elected to do this. Hopefully in taking this approach, children who want a break as well as those who don't will be catered for.

Sadly this week we have been contacted by the Youth Speaks organisers to say that this year's competition has been cancelled. We had very much hoped to take part in a zoom event this year, but we were the only school who showed and interest and so the event has been cancelled.

Despite external events being cancelled, we are still very busy in school. This week the Reception class has been learning all about the importance or recycling. They made a fantastic poster to remind everyone not to litter and to recycle as much waste as they can.



In other good news, we heard this week that Scarlett in Class 4 has been named as the runner up in a national colouring competition, run by Eva Long Productions. This is a wonderful achievement as they had over two thousand entries. Well done!

Finally, I am attaching two government guidance documents that have been updated this week. Both documents: 'Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools' and 'What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges', are also on the Cornonavirus Updates section of the website.

Please remember we are all here for you, and we are all holding you in our thoughts and prayers. As always, thank you for your continued support.

With the warmest of wishes,

Mrs Walker.

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