

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

"In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

13th January 2023

Head's Message

Happy New Year to you all. I do hope you have had a chance to read our Ofsted report, which was sent to families this week. If not, the report can be found on our website under 'Our Reports and Special Things'. Children in Class 3 and 4 completed their Bikeability training last week, and have been handed their certificates in our Celebration Assembly today. The Bollington Youth Council have held their first meeting, inviting children from all four Bollington primary schools to attend. The meeting was chaired by Lucy from Class 4, and all of the pupils represented our school magnificently. The Mayor, Mr Stewart, emailed to say, "All the young people were engaged and polite. They all contributed and appeared to enjoy the experience." Mr Stewart also commented on what a super Chair Lucy had been. Forest Schools, Ministry4Sport PE, swimming and reading buddies have all started, and after school clubs will commence on Monday. Mrs Jobbins will begin our Secret Reader programme for Reception soon, so please expect an email from her which will give you more details and inform you how to sign up. After 15 years at St John's, we are very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Dooley, who has decided to concentrate on her private tuition business. Mrs Dooley has contacted the families of the children she teaches. We will certainly miss her. Finally, we are very proud of two of our pupils in Class 4 who are currently performing in the Bollington Pantomime. There are three shows left, so be sure to catch this wonderful production if you can!

Diary Dates

15th January – Deadline for applications for primary school September 2023 starters

16th January – Afterschool clubs begin

25th January – Family Lunch for Reception class

1st February – Young Voices concert

6th February – Children's Mental Health Week

3rd February – Vision and hearing check for Reception children

14th February – Class 4 Mosque Visit

17th February – Thinking Day (all children can wear rainbow/brownie/beaver/cub uniform) and last day of term

Community Litter Pick

There is a community litter pick taking place on Sunday 29th January (10am – noon) which has been organised by Bollington Town Council. Any child wishing to attend will need to be accompanied by an adult. Equipment can be collected from the Town Hall.

Macclesfield Museums Lantern Workshop/Parade

Macclesfield Town Council are organising a lantern parade to bring some fun to the dark evenings. It is going to set off from the Silk Museum at 5:30pm on Saturday 18th February and everyone is invited to join in. Drop in workshops are being run on Saturday 11th February and 18th February to make the lanterns.

News from Reception

This week in Reception, we have done a project on the Cheshire artist, Andy Goldsworthy. The children have explored the natural sculptures that Andy creates, focussing on shape, pattern and texture. The children all planned their own sculptures before selecting materials and creating their piece. We have extended our learning by looking at the large trees we have on the school site, focussing on labelling the parts of the trees and recognising each one from the leaves. Our forest school sessions will build on this by looking at the size and age of each tree. In maths, we have revisited subitising patterns of dots up to 6; we have linked this to matching numerals and locating it on a number track.

News from Class 2

This week in Literacy, Class 2 have been reading 'The Grotlyn.' We made a prediction about what the Grotlyn might be, and wrote a description of the setting using adjectives. In Maths, Year 1 have explored numbers 11 to 19 to understand the composition and sequence of each number. Year 2 have continued with addition and subtraction, using concrete resources to subtract a 1-digit number from a 2-digit number. We finished our 'Treasure Islands' IPC topic by learning about famous pirates, writing a wanted poster and designing a pirate island map using symbols.

News from Class 3

This week, the children have started a new maths topic of 'multiplication and division'. We have looked at multiplication of even groups and how to use arrays. In English, the pupils have continued to enjoy our class book, 'The Matchbox Diary.' They have written their own diary entry about Ellis Island. The children completed their topic of 'Island Life', with a fact file they created using ICT. We have now started our new topic of 'Bienvenue en France'. The pupils have created a knowledge harvest and begun to map the country.

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, we have been learning how to add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers by using a common denominator. In Year 6, we have been learning to multiply and divide fractions by integers and find fractions of numbers. In English, we have started to explore the book 'Unspoken' by Henry Cole, and we have been learning how to identify prepositions in sentences. In IPC, we have been designing and making masks inspired by our work on Ancient Maya and Benin.

Sports News

Class 1 – In gymnastics, the children have been working on learning new jumps off apparatus including star, tuck and pencil jumps.

Class 2 – This week, the children have been practising balancing skills and jumping using the gymnastic apparatus.

Class 3 – The children have been doing circuits working on core strength, endurance, stamina, flexibility and power. In netball, the children have been working on their chest/bounce manoeuvres.

Class 4 – A week of playing team games outside, focusing on throwing and catching skills and teamwork. Indoors the children played small team netball games.

Star Performers

Class 1: Ruby; Class 2: Sophie and Austin; Class 3: Joey and Shiri; Class 4: Skyler and Raffy