

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

"When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Psalms 56:3

26th January 2024

Head's Message

With January almost over, some weeks it strikes me how quickly time goes by in our wonderful school. Before we know it we will be hurtling towards March, and British Science Week (which runs from March 8th – 17th). It is the 30th anniversary of the event this year, and the theme just happens to be 'Time'. If any of our lovely parents would like to come in and speak to the children, offer their expertise or have any ideas that we could use, please do see Mr Timmis. Mrs Smith and I attended the Inclusion Conference on Monday, where the local authority updated schools on the latest funding and SEND priorities. Needless to say there are certainly some challenges ahead due to their current financial situation. In more cheerful news, Year 5 had a really fun morning on Tuesday, representing St John's in a dodgeball tournament. Open the Book delighted the children on Wednesday with their second weekly assembly. This week's Bible story was 'Down through the Roof'. We were also thrilled on Wednesday to welcome family members from Year 2 to join us for lunch. Next week, we have our KNAPS assembly where Doreen will update the children on our sponsored child Frank, who lives in Uganda. We also have a presentation by the Fire Brigade and pupils are attending a Sports Leadership event in Wilmslow.

Football Volunteer

If any parent would like to volunteer to co-ordinate and organise football games for the junior children, we would be most grateful to hear from you. If you are interested please let the school office know.

Playground Den Building Materials

We are trying to encourage some of the children not to rough play at lunch time, and thought it would be a great idea to set up a den building/activity course area on the playground. If you have any crates or materials that you do not need but think would be useful to school, we would be most grateful for them. For more information please see Mrs Jobbins.

Makeup Plea

Teachers are noticing a growing number of girls are attending school with makeup on, from Year 3 upwards. Please can we remind you that we do not permit children to wear makeup in school. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Diary Dates

29th January – KNAPS assembly about Uganda (children only)

30th January – Presentation by the Fire Brigade to Class 4 on Fire Safety

30th January – Sports Leadership event at Wilmslow High (6 pupils from Class 4), 9:00-11:25am
6th February – Year 6 Maths Workshop at Tytherington School (4 pupils) at 9:30-2:30pm
6th February – Young Voices Concert in Manchester (Choir Club members)
7th February – Reception Class community litter pick at 10am
14th February – Year 3 Family Lunch at 12:00-12:30pm
16th February – Last day of half term
26th February – First day of term and Thinking Day (scout and guiding community wearing uniforms to school)

News from Reception

This week in Reception, we have been studying birds; we learnt about the features that all birds have plus how these features might look different depending on where the bird lives and what it eats. We have labelled the parts of bird and created collages of nests. We dissected an owl pellet to reveal what it had eaten, and then we identified and sorted each bone. In maths, we introduced balance scales. We focused on developing our understanding of balanced, heavier and lighter by weighing a range of different objects.

News from Class 2

This week something very exciting finally arrived in our classroom - our class pet! It is a stick insect and we can have called him Steven. We have been very busy with our writing tasks in English, writing our own paragraphs and learning how to use spider diagrams. In maths, Year 2 have been recapping money and using this topic to improve our arithmetic. Year 1 have been learning about place value and number lines. Our Forest School session this week was bundles of fun - we love exploring and learning in the outdoors! Thanks to all the parents who came to Year 2's parent lunch on Wednesday. It was so lovely to see you all there!

News from Class 3

This week, in maths, the children have continued their topic of multiplication and division. They have multiplied and looked at related division and multiplication facts, divided 2 digits by 1 digit and scaling. In English, the pupils have continued to enjoy our topic of myths. The children have designed their mythical heroes and creatures as well as planned the myth that they will create next week. In history, we have looked at different sources describing Boudicca, and then created a picture using that information. In design technology, the children have looked at chopping and peeling skills.

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, Year 5 have been learning to multiply unit, non-unit fractions and mixed numbers by integers. Year 6 have completed their work on ratio, and we have now started to look at forming algebraic expressions. In English, we have continued our work on the book, Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race, by Margot Lee Shetterly. We have been writing persuasive speeches in character as one of these amazing women, Mary Jackson. Another highlight this week has been exploring developing our drawing skills, creating our own space-inspired art.

Celebration Awards

Good Work

Class 1 – Finley for his excellent contributions during our bird study week.
Class 2 – Heidi for excellent investigating in this week's science lesson.
Class 3 – Tabby for a great improvement in her effort in maths.
Class 4 – Talia for writing a wonderful, persuasive speech in character.

Good Citizen

Class 1 – Arthur for his positive attitude to everything he does.

Class 2 – Orin for being kind and helpful to his friends.

Class 3 – Harry for always being engaged in his learning and trying his best.

Class 4 – Thomas for always participating well and working hard in all lessons.

Ethos Award – Class 2: Maggie for trusting her teacher’s instructions and taking them on board.

House Points – Oakbank are currently in the lead.

Sports News

Class 1 – This week, we continued our work on movement by carefully copying our partners.

Class 2 – We have done gymnastics and practised our pencil, tuck and star jumps. We used under and over arm throws in target practice.

Class 3 – In gymnastics, we included jumps from apparatus including pencil, tuck, star, straddle and pike. In dance, we have focussed on individual moves using music beat and eight count.

Class 4 – This week, we are focussing on landing technique for our various jumps, and, in dance, we are learning our routine.

Star Sports Performers

Class 1 – Viktoria

Class 2 – Dyiako and Rosie

Class 3 – Ella and Hugo P

Class 4 – Abigail and Natalia

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