

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' – Respect

*"Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves."*

*Romans 12:10*

17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Head's Message

This week we had the pleasure of meeting Rev Nancy, the new vicar at St Oswald's. She visited all the classrooms and met all the children. We are delighted she will be leading worship for the juniors in school next Thursday. I am attaching a number of information leaflets with this newsletter. One contains information about an Open Day at Tytherington; one has the new school menu; one has information relating to myHappyMind and two further documents contain advice for parents about bronchiolitis. This week we had our first fire drill of the year and the children were all amazing, especially our new starters. Teachers have been busily setting up the Ethos Group and School Council, and all the children in Class 4 have their roles and responsibilities. Next week teacher led school clubs will start. Apologies if you have not yet received a letter about this (we have experienced a lot of internet/IT issues since our return). Letters should be going out on Monday. Finally, as a global school we will be addressing two important dates next week. Tuesday is the International Day of Peace and Sunday is the European Day of Languages.

### myHappyMind

We are delighted to announce that we have adopted myHappyMind to run alongside our PSHE curriculum. This is a whole school approach, which engages children, staff and parents and underlines our commitment to the mental health and well-being of our pupils. We will be uploading an information PowerPoint to the 'Well-being' section of the website next week.

### Love Music Trust

This year, Love Music Trust commissioned Jay Stannard to compose a piece of music to celebrate overcoming the challenges of Covid-19. This was then taught to Class 4 at St John's who took part, along with other children in Cheshire East, in a project to produce a music video with LMT ensembles performing. The enterprise was created, rehearsed and recorded during the pandemic and is testament to the positive 'can do' attitude of the pupils. We were thrilled to be a part of this programme and hope you enjoy 'Back to Life', featuring the children of St John's. The video can be accessed via the following link: <https://youtu.be/aoKLiZR0Vc>

### Pupils Starting Secondary School – September 2022

The application process to apply for a secondary school place for September 2022 opened on 1<sup>st</sup> September. To apply, please visit the 'Admissions and attendance' section on the Cheshire East

website ([www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/schools.aspx](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/schools.aspx)). Please remember to submit your application by the closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

### **Mental Health Course for Parents**

A free online Mental Health Awareness course for parents/carers (funded by 'Just Drop In') is taking place at 10am - 1pm on Saturday 18th September. The course provides knowledge and understanding on mental health and prepares families for any challenges they may face. To book a place, please email: [parenting@justdropin.co.uk](mailto:parenting@justdropin.co.uk)

### **Parents' Evenings and Harvest**

Parents' Evening meetings will take place the 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October. Details of how to book a Teams appointment will be sent out in due course. In school we will be celebrating Harvest on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Sadly, we are still not in a position to invite families into school, but we will upload photographs of the assembly onto the website. Any Harvest food donations would be greatly appreciated and forwarded to Hampers of Hope.

### **LA Covid-19 Update**

The Local Authority is seeing a steady rise in the number of Covid-19 cases being reported. They state a significant number of schools now have cases. The 'outbreak' threshold has now been met in over 20 schools, and some schools are experiencing multiple outbreaks on their premises. The LA is continuing to ask schools to be cautious and vigilant.

### **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.

### **News from Reception**

We started our week in Reception by reading one of our favourite books, 'The Colour Monster'; linking our emotions to different colours. The class then moved on to read 'The Dot', where we focused on colour mixing with red, blue and yellow. We explored colours using pipettes and coloured water, and we have linked all of this learning to hot and cold colours. The children had a wonderful morning in forest schools, where they lit a fire and created a rainbow mobile. We have rounded off our week with singing the rainbow song (with coloured scarves), as part of our music and movement session.

### **News from Class 2**

This week, in English, we have started our new class story which is called 'The Journey Home'. This story focuses on the effects of global warming and its impact on the world's animals. The first animal we are researching is the polar bear. We have written down some facts about polar bears and have used adjectives to describe them. In maths, we have used tens frames to make one and two-digit numbers. We have made posters about numbers up to 20 and had a go at sorting objects in different ways. In IPC, we have started our new topic called 'Live and Let Live'. This is all about living things and what they need to survive. We completed our Knowledge Harvest and looked at a sunflower from our school garden. We put it under the visualiser and investigated the micro-habitat within it. We then sketched a living and a dead sunflower and compared the two. We painted these using watercolours.

### **News from Class 3**

It has been a great second week. We have continued our topic of 'Scavengers and Settlers'. Children have spent this week researching Mary Anning and creating their own cave paintings. In English, we have looked at comparing ourselves with the main character in our class book, 'The First Drawing'. In maths, we have continued to look at place value.

### **News from Class 4**

This week, in maths, we have continued to recap our prior learning and extend our knowledge of place value. Year 5 have been exploring numbers to one million, and Year 6 the numbers to ten million. In English, we have started a unit based on the book, 'The Man Who Walked Between the Towers' by Mordicai Gerstein. We have answered comprehension questions about the Twin Towers, and we have written letters to either persuade or dissuade Philippe Petite from performing his stunt. In IPC, in our topic, 'What Price Progress?', we have been exploring technology that we use in our daily lives, and considering whether certain types of everyday technologies have more advantages or disadvantages. In RE, we have started to explore the question, 'How do different Christians see God?'

### **Sports News**

Class 1 – This week, the children started off with listening games and following instructions carefully.

They then moved on to colour matching games, starting individually before being part of a team.

Class 2 – We practised rolling a ball on the ground through two cones to our partners. The class practised throwing the ball to one another with one bounce. We then completed a carousel of activities which focused on balance.

Class 3 – This week, in basketball we have focussed on dribbling using different hands, turning and passing. In football, the children were dribbling with both feet, and exploring different turns.

Class 4 – This week, we practised dribbling skills in both basketball and football.

### **Star Performers**

Class 1: Cora

Class 2: Scarlett and Ella

Class 3: Heidi and Niamh

Class 4: Jessica and Holly

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