

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' – Creation

*"By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible."*

*Hebrews 11:3*

20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### Head's Message

We are thoroughly enjoying this lovely September weather at St John's. Reception have already been gathering the apples from our orchard, which is always a sign that autumn is upon us. As Mrs Jobbins has completed the Baseline assessment for these children, their learning can now properly begin. We have enrolled in a football league this year, which is being organised by Mr Hanson. There are some big schools in our group, but after our successes last year I feel confident that St John's is ready for the challenge. All classes are busily preparing for the Harvest Service, which takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> October. The running order is attached to this newsletter. As usual, we are collecting once again for the Silklife food bank, and we are most grateful for all of your donations. I have placed on the website (under the Curriculum tab) some Parent Guides that give further information about each of the foundation subjects your child is taught, following the Kapow scheme. I do hope you find them useful. Next week, we have our first Family Lunch of the term, starting with Year 1. We do hope you will join us for an all-day breakfast. Finally, on Wednesday the PTA held their AGM and we said goodbye to our fantastic outgoing committee, and hello to our enthusiastic new committee. We are all so excited to get to work making this year amazing for all the children at school.

### St Oswald Diary Dates

Here are some diary dates from St Oswald's which may be of interest to you.

- A whole school assembly on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October
- A Year 7 reunion event for all the children of Bollington on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October at St Oswald's
- A Christingle Service at St Oswald's on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 4.30 pm. You are invited to go along and make the Christingles from 3.30pm
- An initiative called Sacred Spaces. This will run at St Oswald's on Wednesdays from 3.30-4.30pm. There will be Contemplative Crafts to try, quiet music, a kettle and a brew and time to rest a while, or light a candle for someone you love. At 4pm, in one part of the church, there will be a chance to taste an ancient prayer practice - just for 10 minutes, suitable for all faiths or none, and each week there will be a different practice.

### Open Days

We are holding two Open Days, on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September. If you know anyone who has a child due to start primary school in September 2025, please do encourage them to come along. No appointment is necessary.

## **Diary Dates**

25<sup>th</sup> September – Year 1 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm  
27<sup>th</sup> September – Open Morning for children starting school in September 2025 at 9:30-11:30am  
28<sup>th</sup> September – Open Morning for children starting school in September 2025 at 9:30-11:30am  
1<sup>st</sup> October – Harvest Assembly at 2pm. Families invited  
3<sup>rd</sup> October – Fluenz vaccine in school  
3<sup>rd</sup> October – Tytherington School Open Evening (for Year 5 and 6 pupils)  
7<sup>th</sup> October – Saltmine Theatre Company in school delivering performance to all classes and a workshop for junior children  
9<sup>th</sup> October – Creative Writing Workshop at Tytherington High School (3 x Year 6 pupils)  
21<sup>st</sup> October – Playground Portraits in school for individual child photographs  
21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>rd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Parent/Carer Evening Meetings at 3:30-6pm  
23<sup>rd</sup> October – Playground Portraits in school (reserve date)  
24<sup>th</sup> October – Last Day of autumn term 1  
25<sup>th</sup> October – INSET Day – Read, Write Inc training for staff  
4<sup>th</sup> November – First Day of autumn term 2  
6<sup>th</sup> November – Year 2 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm  
27<sup>th</sup> November – Reception Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm  
29<sup>th</sup> November – Last day of After School Clubs (teacher and volunteer led)  
29<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 Forensic Science Workshop (whole year group) at 12:30-2:30pm at Tytherington High School  
10<sup>th</sup> December – Infant Nativity Play at 2pm. Families invited  
17<sup>th</sup> December – Junior Christmas Production at 2pm and 6pm. Families invited  
18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmassy Clothes Day and Christmas Lunch for the children  
20<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term

## **News from Reception**

This week in Reception, we used the book *The Dot* to inspire our watercolour dot artwork which we then added patterns to. We also looked at the life and work of Frida Kahlo before painting our own self-portraits. In phonics, we have focused on hearing initial sounds and rhyming words.

## **News from Class 2**

This week our highlight was our art lesson where we enjoyed exploring different sketching techniques. In maths, Year 1 have been learning about one more and one less, whilst Year 2 have been using number lines to complete calculations. In English, we have written our own start to a story and made a storyboard to tell the rest of the story. In RE this week, we enjoyed discussing and writing about why the Bible is a special book. In history, we have been comparing photos of holidays, and in science we have enjoyed learning about the human senses.

## **News from Class 3**

This week in maths, we have been learning the rules for calculating how to work out intervals on a number line and estimating where numbers go on an empty number line. In science, we carried out another investigation exploring the effect of different materials on the force of friction using toy cars and ramps. In DT, we started to design our pavilion structure. We have been using all the rich vocabulary we have learnt so far in English to re-write part of our book, *Leon and the Place Between*. In RE, we learnt why God chose David to be a leader and which qualities are important in each one of us.

## **News from Class 4**

This week, in maths, we have completed our work on place value, working on rounding numbers to various degrees of accuracy. We have also been exploring numbers below zero. In English, we have

continued our work on Firebird by Saviour Pirotta. We have been planning our own quest stories based on its structure. Other highlights this week have been exploring the life cycle of mammals in our science lesson and tinkering with the musical elements of Scratch coding.

### **Celebration Awards**

#### **Good Work**

Class 1 – Deborah for carefully painting her own self portrait.

Class 2 – Arlo for excellent sketching techniques.

Class 3 – Henry Langridge for producing some beautiful writing in English.

Class 4 – Natalia for making fantastic progress in maths and becoming more independent.

#### **Good Citizen**

Class 1 – Liam for being thoughtful towards other children in class.

Class 2 – Josephine for trying her best in all areas of learning.

Class 3 – Hugo for always following classroom rules and trying hard in every lesson.

Class 4 – Olivia for doing her absolute best in every single lesson and for making fantastic contributions in class.

**Ethos Award (Creation)** – Class 1: Isabel for creating a kind and gentle atmosphere.

**House Points** – Clarence are currently in the lead.

### **Sports News**

Class 1 – We have looked at throwing and catching underarm and aiming for targets.

Class 2 – This week, we focused on target practice using different throwing techniques to land bean bags into hoops.

Class 3 – We have focused on passing in football, and we had a passing tournament, aiming for a ball to knock off a cone. In basketball, we looked at attacking and defending and how to create space.

Class 4 – In PE this week, we have looked at passing by playing a passing tournament over different distances, hitting targets using the correct technique. In basketball, we looked at how to create overloads in attack v defence.

### **Star Sports Performers**

Class 1 – Isla

Class 2 – Finley & Orla

Class 3 – Asher & Aaruhi

Class 4 – Johnny & Thomas

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