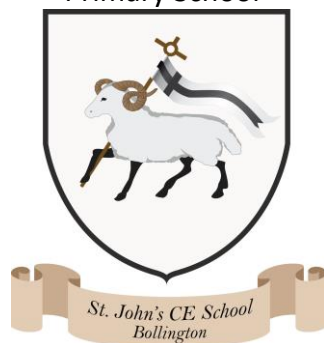


Bollington St. John's Church of England
Primary School



Where talent grows

Head Teacher: Mrs M. Walker

Head of Teaching, Learning and Assessment: Mrs E. Watson

'Christian Value' – Joy

"So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

John 16:22

8th November 2024

Head's Message

Welcome to the second half term of autumn. Most staff attended Read Write Inc training on INSET day and learned how to teach speed sounds. On 24th February staff will complete the second day of training on storybooks. We are extremely excited to be starting this new phonics scheme, and love the new books that we have purchased. Please do bear with us though, as setting up this new scheme has been a lot of work, especially for Mrs Jobbins. Just before the half term break I met with the Class Reps and confirmed to them that we would run a parents' workshop for Read Write Inc after Christmas. It was wonderful to have this discussion time with parents, and I also confirmed that Mrs Watson will lead a maths (methods we teach) workshop in the spring term. This week, we welcomed Year 2 family members into school to join us for lunch. Rev Jenny led worship on Wednesday and asked the children, while holding a pebble, to reflect on Psalm 23. Today, we have had a non-school uniform day on behalf of the PTA. Thank you for all your kind donations towards the Christmas Fair, which will soon be upon us. Finally, I had the great pleasure of watching the Year 6 children audition for the Christmas show this afternoon. Not a Bah or a Humbug in sight!

Monday Afternoon in the Office

Please note Mrs Green will be leaving the office at 2pm every Monday. Should you wish to reach the school please call us on 01625 572025 or email bursar@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk

Kitchen News

As a school we are tremendously proud of our school lunches, and in the work that has gone into moving from Cheshire East to an in-house service. Apart from anything else this move meant that we could keep the prices below £3 a day. We are aware, however, that perhaps our families are not aware of how excellent the lunches are, and so will include a regular Kitchen News section of the newsletter to hopefully keep you better informed. This week we are starting off with a message from Nicola, our School Cook.

Hello,

This week has been a busy week in the kitchen starting back after half-term.

My highlight was our Year 2 Family Lunch! It is always wonderful to see so many of our families in school to eat with their children. The menu was an all-day breakfast, and just so you know I always ensure our sausages come from Barrow's Butchers in Bollington, as does all our fresh meat. I always buy local produce wherever possible and all our fruit, vegetables and milk are supplied by Tomson's in Buxton.

I'm always available if you have any questions around school meal's or your child's particular dietary requirements. Please just let the office know.

Nicola

School Cook

Grow in the Woods Instagram

As we have mentioned previously, we are starting a new Grow in the Woods Instagram page, dedicated to our wonderful Forest School sessions. We will assume that everyone who has given us permission to use their child on X or the school website (in the knowledge that we never name children) will also give their permission for the Instagram page. Please inform us if this is not the case.

Keep Safe and Cope Well

This year we are a pilot school for the Keep Safe and Cope Well planning initiative as part of Live Well Cheshire East. The plans are designed to support the children with their wellbeing. It encourages children and parents/carers to find their own solutions to problems they are facing, and try new coping skills and interests. Class 4 will be completing Keep Safe and Cope Well plans as part of the pilot scheme. The plans are mini booklets, which the children will design. The children will be able to use these strategies at home and at school. It would be fantastic if you could explore the children's booklets with them, and discuss, and support the children with the strategies they find useful. [Live Well Cheshire East](#)

Family Hub Message

Please see an email we have received from the Family Hub service:

Good morning,

Please can you inform all parents who wish to make a referral to school health with any health worries to contact the hub in the first instance to discuss their concerns on 0300 123 4058. They must then request a referral form from the hub.

Kind Regards,

Amy Barrow

0-19 Public Health School Nurse

Diary Dates

15th November – Non Uniform Day for Children in Need

18th November – School tour for families with children starting Reception in September at 4pm

23rd November – PTA Christmas Fair at 12-12:30pm

27th November – Reception Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm

29th November – Last day of After School Clubs (teacher and volunteer led)

29th November – Year 6 Forensic Science Workshop at 12:30-2:30pm at Tytherington School

29th November – PTA Wreath Making evening at 7pm. Please note booking is essential via PTA

10th December – Infant Nativity Play at 2pm. Families invited

12th December – Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime (juniors) at Buxton at 12-4:30 (approximate)

13th December – Arthur Christmas at The Rex Cinema (infants) at 9-12noon

17th December – Junior Christmas Production at 2pm and 6pm. Families invited

18th December – Christmassy Clothes Day and Christmas Lunch for the children

20th December – Last day of term

News from Reception

This week in Reception, we have started using our new phonics scheme, Read Write Inc. We have focused on letter recognition and settling into our new routine, and so far, we are loving it! In maths, we have explored the 2D shapes, circles and triangles. We have linked this to the artist Kandinsky

and we have recreated our own artwork through printing and collage. We learnt all about how to stay safe around fireworks and about the history of Bonfire Night. We compared this celebration to the recent festival of Diwali.

News from Class 2

This week our highlight was our geography lesson where Class 2 enjoyed learning about where we live and the different countries in the UK. In maths, Year 1 have been using 10s and 1s to make numbers up to 50, and Year 2 have been using 10s and 1s to make numbers up to 100. Both year groups have enjoyed using place value charts to help them complete calculations. Earlier in the week, Class 2 enjoyed writing creatively with the help of our mighty writer. In science, we have started our new topic of 'materials' and we are excited for the rest of this unit. In computing, we have created our own story, ready to be photographed and edited as part of our digital imagery topic.

News from Class 3

This week in maths, we started learning how to do column addition and subtraction. In science, we started investigating the properties of solids in our unit on materials and states of matter. In English, we started reading our new class book, Shackleton's Journey. In art and design, we learned some new vocabulary including gradients and tints as we completed our first piece of work on shading. In RE we started our Christmas unit and the children made some lovely reflections on light and dark, linking to Jesus being the light of the world.

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, we have started work on fractions. We have been exploring equivalent fractions and have been learning to convert from mixed numbers to improper fractions and vice versa. In English, we have finished reading 'Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen, and have started work on our new Literacy Tree book, 'Otto- The Autobiography of a Teddy Bear' by Tomi Ungerer. We have been writing questions, using question tags and have been writing expanded noun phrases to describe Otto. A highlight this week was our geography lesson, where we have been exploring the increase over time in the global population and the possible reasons for this as a class.

Celebration Awards

Good Work

Class 1 – Liam for trying very hard to write as much as he can during each phonics lesson.

Class 2 – Evelyn for trying her best in geography.

Class 3 – Ena for wonderful reflective work in RE about light and dark.

Class 4 – Joey for great work in geography, exploring reasons for the increase in the global population.

Good Citizen

Class 1 – Theo for always being on hand to help his friends.

Class 2 – Heidi for being extremely brave.

Class 3 – Tabby for being so helpful, tidying up after art and often helping after lunch in the hall.

Class 4 – Henrietta for amazing class participation and a great attitude to learning.

Ethos Award (Creation) – Class 4: Ella for spreading joy around the school.

House Points – Clarence were last terms winners.

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Sports News

Class 1 – This we looked at different seasons through the year. Summer - flipping bean bags/burgers from a tennis racket into a hoop. Winter - skiing in and out of cones. Autumn - collecting leaves/bean bags and balancing them on our body. Spring - using stepping stones to jump with two feet.

Class 2 – This week, we focused on gross motor skills and completed a circuit including jumping and balance.

Class 3 – We have focused on hockey dribbling skills and understanding the basics of the sport. We also looked at different passes in netball.

Class 4 – This week, we looked at different passes in netball: bounce, chest and shoulder, identifying when to use them. We also focused on dribbling in hockey and understanding how to control the ball whilst turning.

Star Sports Performers

Class 1 – Isabel

Class 2 – Ivy and Samuel

Class 3 – Oliver and Sophie

Class 4 – Arthur and Phoebe L