

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*

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

### Head's Message

It is as if the snow came to ensure we have the loveliest Christmas Fair possible. The PTA have worked so hard to make it a magical event, and so I do hope to see you all tomorrow between 12-2.30pm. We also extend our thanks to the PTA for once again purchasing Christmas crackers for the children to enjoy when they have their Christmas lunch. I had the joy this week of observing all staff teach Read Write Inc to the infant children. I was so impressed by how engaged the children were. Also this week, we have conducted maths lessons observations, as part of our maths monitoring cycle. This year we were accompanied on our observations by our two Ministers for Maths, from Year 6. What amazing Members of our School Parliament they were, not only taking their responsibility seriously, but also filling out feedback forms on the lessons they observed. The voice of the child is extremely important to us at St John's! We held our Full Governor's Meeting after school on Wednesday, and as a result many policies have been updated on our website. I am attaching the Privacy Notices and ratified term dates for 2026/2027 with this newsletter. Finally, next week we have our Reception Family Lunch to look forward to, as well as a Forensic Science transition event for Year 6 at Tytherington High School.

### Kitchen News

It is all systems go in the kitchen, working hard to prepare this delicious Christmas dinner for the children and staff. The meat will be provided by Barrows and the vegetables will be freshly delivered by Thompsons. The desserts will be made from scratch, using the finest ingredients, that morning.



### **Meet and Greet Reminder**

Please can we politely remind you that Meet and Greet starts at 8.45am and finishes at 9am, so that children can get to class in time for their first lesson. The children must be brought to Reception, where we will escort them to the staff room. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

### **Forest School Update by Marcella**

The older children enjoyed their own wagon wheel recipe providing much needed energy for more snow investigations. They heated stones to make warm forest spa stones. It was magnificent. The younger children investigated the woodland looking where animals might live in the wood.

### **Local Authority Update**

As previously mentioned, we now have our transition webpage up and running, which we hope will be useful to parents and carers. Please follow 'School transitions' on the Cheshire East website to access various guides and resources. The website has three main headings containing guidance and resources (and a fourth heading for professionals):

- Starting primary school
- Starting high school
- Post 16 education

### **Diary Dates**

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 at 12:30-2:30pm at Tytherington School

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

10<sup>th</sup> December – Infant Nativity Play at 2pm. Families invited

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

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

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 decided to do a mini project on hedgehogs. We linked this to learning about hibernation with the story, 'It Was a Cold Dark Night'. We created story maps to help us retell the sequence in our own words. We learnt lots of tricky new vocabulary, including that a baby hedgehog is called a hoglet! We created a hedgehog feeding station up in the woodland area, and we have set up a trail camera to check if there's any hedgehogs filling up before hibernation. The children created some amazing clay hedgehogs using foraged twigs as spikes.

### **News from Class 2**

This week, our highlight was our computing lesson. We used the iPads to access sketchpad and we used this software to edit our photos for our media story. In maths this week, Year 1 have been ordering numbers and objects, whilst Year 2 have been using base 10 to deepen their understanding of ordering numbers. In English, we have enjoyed using different phrases from our class story and applying them to our discussions and writing. In RE, we have sequenced the Christmas story and chosen our favourite parts. In science, we have been exploring the properties of different materials.

### **News from Class 3**

This week in maths, we have started how to do column subtraction across tens and hundreds and the children have worked really hard to master this skill. We continued our work in science on materials and states of matter by doing an investigation into melting using thermometers to record

our findings. In English, we finished reading our book, Shackleton's Journey, and next week we will start working towards writing our newspaper article. In art and design, we learned about different painting techniques and painted our object from last week using one of these techniques. In RE, we learned more about why many Christians believe Jesus is the light of the world and we are working hard on our nativity practice.

#### **News from Class 4**

This week, in maths, we have been working on the formal method for long multiplication. We have also been calculating fractions of numbers by dividing by the denominator and multiplying by the numerator. In English, we have started work on our new Literacy Tree text, 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. We have been making predictions after looking at the beginning of the book. A highlight this week has been exploring art installations and creating our own mini art installation. The children have shown wonderful creativity and have had great fun creating their designs.

#### **Celebration Awards**

##### **Good Work**

Class 1 – Eva for completing a fantastic story map.

Class 2 – James for using excellent directional language in geography.

Class 3 – Eleanor and Sophie for such fantastic learning in maths.

Class 4 – Aarushi for designing and making a wonderful mini art installation, focusing on respecting nature.

##### **Good Citizen**

Class 1 – Freddie for really trying hard to participate in lessons.

Class 2 – Orla for consistent enthusiasm and energy in all areas of learning.

Class 3 – Sophia for always behaving so impeccably and for singing so beautifully in our nativity practice.

Class 4 – Louie for showing empathy and kindness towards his classmates.

**Ethos Award (Joy)** – Class 2: Arlo for approaching his friendships with joy and care.

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

#### **Sports News**

Class 1 – This week, we looked at sending. We practised throwing a ball into the air and catching it using a basket. We then joined a friend to practise short throws and catches.

Class 2 – We focused on gross motor skills and creating a circuit, competing against a friend, using jumping and agility to time and score our performance.

Class 3 – In PE this week, we have focused on hockey shooting and practising striking 1v1. We also looked at and played bench ball using different passes such as bounce, chest and shoulder pass.

Class 4 – This week, we looked at shooting in hockey and focused on the technique of shooting, trying to hit the free space in the goal. We also played bench ball focusing on passing and communication with some games in silence so players would use different ways of communicating.

#### **Star Sports Performers**

Class 1 – Eva

Class 2 – Posy and Heidi

Class 3 – Gruff and Scarlett

Class 4 – Freya and Max

**Bollington St John's CE Primary School**

Grimshaw Lane, Bollington,

Macclesfield SK10 5LY

Tel: 01625 572025

e-mail: [admin@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk) head@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk twitter: @bollstjohns

[www.bollingtonstjohns.co.uk](http://www.bollingtonstjohns.co.uk)