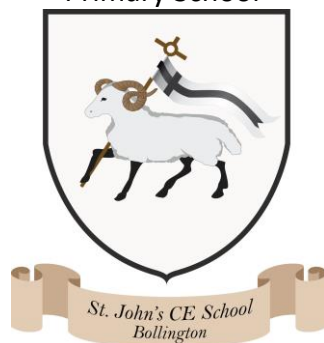


Bollington St. John's Church of England  
Primary School



*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*

6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Head's Message

The Christmas rehearsals are going at full speed now, and we can't wait for you to come and watch our infant and junior shows. It is all getting very Christmassy at school! We started the week with all the children taking part in a Christingle workshop, where they built a Christingle while learning about the origin and meaning behind the tradition. Swimming ended this week and starts for Class 3 in the New Year. Today, our infants all walked to the library, posting their letters to Santa on the way. This week, I added more Parent Guides to the Curriculum page on our website. I also uploaded 'A Parent's Guide to Online Safety', which I am sending out with this newsletter for your perusal. (It can also be found on our E-Safety webpage.) Also this week, we started a series of neurodiversity assemblies to help the children understand and embrace our neurodiverse world. I must say, next week is looking very seasonal. On Monday, Rev Jenny will be leading Advent Spiral workshops with all the children. On Tuesday, the infants are performing their Nativity at 2pm. Thank you in advance for your donations at this event, which will go to our sponsored child in Uganda and the Children's Society. Then on Thursday and Friday the juniors, followed by the infants will be attending Buxton Theatre and the Rex Cinema for their Christmas shows.

### Kitchen News

This week we thought we would share with you some more quotes about school dinners written by some of our Year 6 children.

*'I like the school dinners because you get to try something new every day. My favourite food is the curry and the tomato pasta.'* Phoebe L.

*'I love school dinners as they taste really good and it's always nice and warm when it's cold outside!'* Talia.

*'School dinners are really yummy! My favourite is pizza because it's freshly made and nice and cheesy.'* Thomas.

### Forest School Update by Marcella

We engaged with the wonderous wet this week... mud pies, catching water in containers, pulleying tubs of water and building splash sea saws. Keeping our bodies moving keeps us warm and cosy... apples and juice help too!

Our ks2 young people have been weaving friendship bracelets, making armpit fudge for the first time EVER! Sharing memories and singing around the fire circle... more practice for their end of term performance.

## **Diary Dates**

9<sup>th</sup> December – Advent Spirals with Rev Jenny

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 have used the book 'Once Upon a Raindrop' to inspire our discussions about the water cycle and what water looks and sounds like. We have created artwork using a splatter technique to match the raindrops. In maths, we have focused on our daily routine and what activities happen each day for us. We have written a group letter to Santa to ask him for love and kindness this Christmas.

## **News from Class 2**

This week, our highlight was our science lesson where we investigated which materials are waterproof. We made our predictions and then conducted an experiment which gave us the results. Christmas play practice has been wonderful this week and we are so excited for Tuesday afternoon. Today, our trip to the library was wonderful and a big thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to come with us! We enjoyed writing letters to Father Christmas this week and we posted them on the way to the library. In maths this week, Year 1 have been using part whole models to find the missing numbers in calculations, and Year 2 have been using hundred squares to help them calculate. In RE, we considered the role of the three kings in the Christmas story and why they gave Jesus the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

## **News from Class 3**

This week in maths, the children have been working really hard completing their termly tests and in English and spelling, punctuation and grammar. I have been really impressed by how hard the children have worked and how much they have learned. We continued our work in science on materials and states of matter by learning more about the water cycle. In English, we have been working on a timeline to help us plan our newspaper article about the Endurance adventure.

## **News from Class 4**

This week, in maths, we have been learning about the order of operations within calculations, using BODMAS. In English, we have continued writing our recounts based on our Literacy Tree book, 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. In science, we have been learning about friction on rough and smooth surfaces, and, in art, we have been exploring the art work of Yayoi Kusama, in preparation for creating some artwork inspired by her style next week.

## **Celebration Awards**

### **Good Work**

Class 1 – Kit for his excellent effort in writing.

Class 2 – Orin for fantastic work in RE.

Class 3 – Jack for wonderful concentration in this week's assessments.

Class 4 – Sigrid for a wonderful narrative recount, based on our current English book, 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan.

### **Good Citizen**

Class 1 – Eva for being such a good role model to others.

Class 2 – James for being kind and helpful to his peers.

Class 3 – Hugo for putting in so much effort this week in the classroom.

Class 4 – Hugo for always participating in lessons to a high standard.

**Ethos Award (Joy)** – Class 4: Arthur for being a joyful member of our school.

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

### **Sports News**

Class 1 – This week, we looked at numbers and counting during PE. We identified different numbers using balls and cones, adding and taking away equipment during the games.

Class 2 – We have used our gross motor skills, using ladders for speed and agility moving in different directions. We played dodgeball games, practising throwing and dodging.

Class 3 – We have played small sided hockey matches, learning rules and attacking and defending play. We played netball matches focusing on spreading out and attacking quickly.

Class 4 – This week, we did a bench ball tournament due to the weather, where four teams competed in a round robin and then a knockout competition to see who could win in the final, using teamwork and technical ability.

### **Star Sports Performers**

Class 1 – Liam

Class 2 – Jonas and Gus L

Class 3 – Bobbie and Ena

Class 4 – Megan and Aarushi

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