

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' – Thankfulness

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Colossians 3:16

17th January 2025

Head's Message

Welcome to the spring term, where our new Christian Value is Thankfulness. After last week's very challenging weather conditions, what a relief to have a little more normality this week (although the snow was extra fun). Can I extend my thanks to you for your patience and understanding last week. Your support meant the world. While I also want to thank the whole St John's team, a special thanks goes to Mr Morrall who did such a steadfast job that we only had to close one day. That is a feat that I do not think was equalled by any other local school! Teacher led clubs started back this week, as did swimming and Forest Schools. The nurse, who was due to visit Reception to conduct sight and hearing checks, has been rescheduled. As well as the snow, last week I had two very memorable highlights. First, I had the absolute delight of watching a play performed by Freja, Jessica and Ellie. Then, I was presented with a Happy New Year card, which was simply adorable, by Sigrid and Shiri. This week, some of our Year 6 children attended a maths workshop at Tytherington High School. They represented St John's magnificently. Lowerhouse also received their winners reward for collecting the most house points last half term. Next week, we have our Year 3 Family Lunch and the return of Open the Book to look forward to. Finally, as per the requests from my meeting with Class Reps, we now have timetabled parent information evenings for both phonics and maths (dates below). Should you have any questions that you would like answered in these workshops please do email the office and let us know. Mrs Jobbins will be updating parents on our new Read Write Inc scheme, and Mrs Watson will be explaining how we teach maths at St John's.

Kitchen News

We are delighted to announce that our lunch numbers are rising, as more families are opting for a fresh, hot school dinner. In the kitchen Nicola is busily preparing to welcome the Year 3 parents on Wednesday, for another tasty school lunch.

Diary Dates

22nd January – Year 3 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm. Year 3 families invited

28th January – School nurses visiting Reception children for hearing and sight tests

6th February – Young Voices 2025 at the Coop Live Arena (Young Voices Choir Club members)

7th February – Class 3 Cake Sale at 3:30pm

10th February – Infant Talent Show at 1:30pm. Infant families invited

11th February – Junior Talent Show at 1:30pm. Junior families invited

12th February – Whole School Maths Workshop for parents at 4:30-5:30pm
14th February – Class 3 Horrible Histories Trip to the Palace Theatre, Manchester at 8:45-13:15pm
14th February – Last day of term
24th February – INSET Day. Staff Phonics Training. School closed to children.
25th February – First day of term for students
25th February – Parent/Carer Evening Meetings at 15:40-18:40pm for all classes
26th February – Parent/Carer Evening Meetings at 15:40-18:40pm for classes 2, 3 and 4
5th March – Art Transition Workshop for Year 6 students who opted to do this workshop
6th March – World Book Day
10th March – Infants Phonics Workshop for parents at 4.30-5:30pm
19th March – Year 4 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm. Year 4 families invited
21st March – Non Uniform Day for Red Nose Day
21st March – Road Safety Talk by the Fire Service for Class 4 children at 10am
27th March – Bikeability Level 2 for Year 5 children
28th March – Bikeability Level 1 for Year 4 children
28th March – Class 4 Crucial Crew Trip at 9:00-12:00 noon
3rd April – Class 2 Cake Sale at 3:30pm
4th April – Easter Celebration Assembly at 9:30-10:30am. All families invited. Last day of term

News from Reception

This week in Reception, we have learned about different habitats around the world; we have described what they look like and compared them to where we live. We have researched and recorded which animals live in each habitat and how they survive there. We learnt some new words including habitats, camouflage, land and ocean. In maths, we have focused on subitising patterns of 5. We have played matching games and sorted animals into groups according to quantity. We have created a new animal hospital role play area which is providing lots of opportunities to talk and act out a range of roles.

News from Class 2

This week our highlight was our science lesson where we started our new topic of habitats. We identified different habitats and discussed the importance of habitats to different animals. In maths this week, Year 1 have been adding to the next ten whilst Year 2 have been finding multiples of ten. In English, we have described Elmer and written pieces of advice to help him in the story. In computing, we have enjoyed collecting data about different zoo animals, and we have used sketchpad to create a pictogram to represent this data. In RE, we have been learning about Jesus and why he was special in the Bible. In PSHE, we have discussed coping strategies, as well as our thoughts and feelings during different experiences.

News from Class 3

This week, in maths we completed our first unit on multiplication and division, focusing on times tables. The children did well in their end of assessment test. In English, we started describing a variety of atmospheric settings based on a set of pictures in our new book. In science, we enjoyed a lively lesson learning all about sound by observing and listening to vibrations. The children particularly enjoyed the oscilloscope app on the iPads. We practised more greetings in French and learned that French phonics are very different to English phonics. In RE, we learned about how Jesus changed the life of Levi the tax collector, and the children have been singing our RE song, 'My Lighthouse' with great enthusiasm!

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, we have been exploring decimals, ensuring we have a good understanding of tenths, hundredths and thousandths. In English, we have been learning all about prepositions, and

we have started work on our new Literacy Tree text, 'Unspoken' by Henry Cole. We have been writing recounts to go alongside this wonderful picture book. In history, we have been learning all about the Greek gods, and why they were so important to the ancient Greeks. In science, we have been using classification keys and learning about cold-blooded vertebrates.

Celebration Awards

Good Work

Class 1 – Freddie for such a fantastic improvement with his independent writing.

Class 2 – Joseph for excellent writing in English.

Class 3 – Bobbie for fantastic and thoughtful setting descriptions in English.

Class 4 – Ella for a fantastic start to her recount linked to our English book, 'Unspoken'.

Good Citizen

Class 1 – Jacob for settling in so beautifully to his new class.

Class 2 – Harper for a wonderful first week at St John's.

Class 3 – Freddie for settling in so well during his first full week at St John's.

Class 4 – Isaac for having a great attitude to his learning and for always doing his best.

Ethos Award (Thankfulness) – Class 2: Rory for always staying thankful and having beautiful manners.

House Points – Lowerhouse were last term's winners.

Sports News

Class 1 – We looked at what lies under the sea, looking at different sea creatures and the way they move. We have been playing games to escape the shark using awareness and balance.

Class 2 – This week, in gymnastics, we did various rolls, looking at pencil, log, egg and teddy bear rolls. We played partner games using communication and teamwork to stick with your partner and navigate around obstacles.

Class 3 – In PE this week, we have looked at different rolls including log, egg, pencil, teddy bear and forward roll and how to link them with a balance in gymnastics.

Class 4 – This week, in gymnastics we tried different rolls, log, egg, pencil, teddy bear and forward roll to use full space of mats, using solo and partner balances to create a bank of ideas. In dance, we chose a dance to learn without instructions by the end of the term.

Star Sports Performers

Class 1 – Freddie

Class 2 – Fabian and Rosie

Class 3 – Henry V and Jack

Class 4 – Daniel and Phoebe L

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