

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' – Endurance

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had."

Romans 15:5

13th March 2020

Head's Message

What a fantastic three days we had at PGL. The children were amazing. Many of them challenged themselves, and were delighted at what they were able to achieve. My thanks to Mrs Watson, Mr Read and Mrs O'Reilly, as without their participation the residential could not have gone ahead. While Class 4 were away, the rest of the school celebrated World Book Day, and all classes had a session with author Jo Welch. Then a whole school book swop concluded a marvellous day. This week four more Emotionally Healthy Ambassadors represented our school at Tytherington; Year 5 took part in a science festival at the high school and Ansa delivered a recycling assembly on Thursday. Finally, my thanks to all the parents who attended the parent workshop on Key Stage 1 assessments on Monday night.

Coronavirus

Yesterday, the prime minister confirmed the government is entering the second phase of its response to COVID-19 – moving from contain to delay. The public is being urged to self isolate if they have a new persistent cough and/or a high temperature. We advise all our families to follow the government's advice over the coronavirus outbreak.

The coronavirus action plan was launched last week. This document sets out what has been done to tackle coronavirus (COVID-19), and what the government plans to do next. The action plan can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan>

Advice from Public Health England continues to be for education and children's social care settings to remain open, unless advised otherwise. Parents are being reminded of the importance of their children washing their hands. Further information can be found on the DfE website, and we will update you if the situation changes.

Polling Station

As per the email sent from Spider this week, please be advised the school has been 'commanded' for use as a polling station on Thursday 7th May. Therefore, the school will be closed to pupils on this date.

Multiplication Tables Check

In June this year, Year 4 will complete a multiplication tables check. We trialled the check last year, but this year it is statutory for all children in that cohort. The test lasts around 5 minutes and consists of the children answering tables questions, on a laptop, in a timed situation. Please read the attached leaflet, and if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Mr Timmis or Mrs Walker.

PTA Games Night

Bookings have now closed for this evening's event. For those of you that have booked your ticket (and your pie choice) we hope you have a great evening's entertainment!

British Science Week

Next week, teachers have STEM activities and investigations planned, to mark British Science Week. This will start with workshops in all classes led by 'Hands on Science'.

Electricity Workshop

On Friday 20th March, the Year 5 and Year 6 pupils will be taking part in an Electricity Workshop held by 'Chemistry with Cabbage'. The pupils will undertake experiments with household products.

Stay, Play and Pray

Our next session of Stay, Play and Pray is next Friday at 3pm. We hope you can join us.

In school next week:

Sunday – St Oswald's Family Communion at 10.30am.

Monday – STEM activities and workshop to mark British Science Week. Mrs Walker at safeguarding training in the afternoon.

Wednesday – Mrs Walker and Mrs Stout at reading conference. Orienteering staff meeting. FGB at 6.30pm.

Friday – Electricity workshop in Class 4. Stay, Play and Pray in Reception at 3pm.

Sunday – St Oswald's Mothering Sunday Service.

Curriculum update:

Class 1 – This week, in Reception, we have learnt how to make our own paper by recycling the scrap paper in school. In English, we have written instructions for how to make paper, and, in maths, we have focused on the recognition and formation of the number 11. We have looked at the features of materials around our classroom and used this to help us recognise what materials our rubbish is made from. We have learnt new words to describe the main properties.

Class 2 – This week, in English, we have written our own 'fractured fairy tales'. We took the structure of the story of Goldilocks and the three bears and changed the characters, setting and items that Goldilocks breaks. In maths, we have been continuing to work on multiplication and have introduced division. We are ending the week by looking at fractions. In IPC, we have done some wonderful art based around daffodils. We have labelled the parts of a flower and an ivy leaf. We have also begun investigating the life cycle of a frog as we have some tadpoles in our classroom. We have been enjoying our wonderful new role play area, 'Mrs Stout's Potting Shed'. We have also looked at the artist and sculptor Andy Goldsworthy. We have been recreating some of his art in the playground, photographs of which are on our school website in the gallery.

Bollington St John's CE Primary School

Grimshaw Lane, Bollington,

Macclesfield SK10 5LY

Tel: 01625 572025

e-mail: admin@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk head: head@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk twitter: @bollstjohns

www.bollingtonstjohns.co.uk

Class 3 – In maths, this week, we have looked at accurately telling the time. Children have worked hard solving reasoning problems. In English, children have started to examine persuasive writing. We have continued our IPC topic of 'Active Planet' and this week children have created a map and a timeline to show key events within the Roman Empire.

Class 4 – This week, in maths, we have been working on multiplication and division of fractions. We have also revised short and long division strategies, including word problems. In English, we have been reading 'The Princess' Blankets' by Carol Ann Duffy, and we have been writing descriptions based on the story and exploring the story structure. In IPC, we have been learning about the structure of the Earth, lines of longitude and latitude and tectonic plate boundaries.

Sports News – Classes 1 and 2 have continued to work on accurate rolling and under arm throwing. They have been aiming at a variety of targets, throwing for distance and continuing working on basic catching principles. Classes 3 and 4 have recapped on tagging techniques and have begun working on sideways passing in rugby, aiming towards, moving forwards and passing backwards. In netball, both classes have worked well in small and medium sized teams, with a focus on pivoting and movement off the ball.

Mr Read's PE star performers:

Class 1: Issac and Olivia

Class 2: Kit and Nathaniel

Class 3: George and Scarlett J

Class 4: Hannah and Luke

Well done to all star performers.

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