

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' – Creation

*"All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being." John 1:3*

9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### Head's Message

Welcome to the autumn term at St John's. It was so lovely to see all the children on Monday, and particularly lovely to meet all our new starters in Reception. All the children have settled in beautifully, and seem so excited to start their learning. We have very mixed emotions in school today. On one hand this has been such a wonderful first week, but then we were saddened by the news of the death of HM the Queen yesterday. Today, I led an assembly to talk about the Queen, the new era ahead and her life as a faithful servant. The children agreed that we should have optimism in the prospect of King Charles, as we all know he is passionate about climate change and protecting our planet. This week we also greeted two fantastic new members of staff, Mrs Raniwalla and Ms Goodall, Class 2 teacher and Class 1 TA respectively. They have both fitted into life at St John's perfectly. All our school council, Ethos group members and house captains have been chosen and so we are ready for the year ahead. Forest schools started this week and swimming will start for Class 4 on Tuesday. On Thursday next week the Mayor is leading an assembly on the Youth Council. Finally, please note that on Monday we are having gym equipment installed in the playground for the children's use.

### Attendance

Non-attendance is one of the single biggest blockers to achievement, with evidence suggesting that an attendance figure of below 96% will have a detrimental effect on the achievement of that individual student. By focusing on good attendance, we can make a significant impact to the outcomes of our pupils. While dealing with the challenges surrounding Covid-19, it felt appropriate to allow some flexibility with attendance authorisations (which remain at the discretion of the school). Although we intend to remain as supportive as possible, it is important to note that attendance will be a priority area this upcoming academic year. Please also note that it is important to inform school, before the start of the school day, if your child is going to be absent. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

### Uniform

Here is the school uniform for St John's. Your co-operation in ensuring your child is in the correct school uniform is much appreciated. If you have any difficulty in acquiring any of the items below, please contact the school office.

Girls: school branded jade polo shirt and either school branded cardigan or sweatshirt; grey skirt or trousers, grey/white socks or grey tights, black school shoes. Girls may also wear green and white checked gingham dresses in warmer weather.

Boys: school branded jade polo shirt and either school branded cardigan or sweatshirt; grey trousers/shorts, grey socks and black school shoes.

PE: school branded jade t-shirt or a plain white t-shirt with black shorts and pumps (indoors) and a dark tracksuit and trainers (outdoors).

Please note the following items are NOT school uniform and should not be worn in school: leggings, boots, football shoes and cardigans of alternative colours. There must also be no hooded tops and no logos on the non-school branded items. Thank you.

### **News from Reception**

A wonderful first week in Reception! We have spent our time settling in and getting to know each other. The children have enjoyed circle time where we have shared our experiences and discussed emotions linked to our story, 'The Colour Monster'. The children had their first forest school session where they explored the environment, hung a rope swing and hammock and made bird feeders. We spent time discussing how to stay safe in school and how to be a good friend. Well done to all the children this week!

### **News from Class 2**

This week in English, Class 2 have started our new class story 'Naughty Bus' and have written everything we know about buses to create a class book. In maths, we have started our work on place value by sorting and counting buttons, and creating a number line to 20. Our IPC topic is 'Brainwave', in which we learnt how our brain works and tested our knowledge, skills and understanding to complete an obstacle course challenge in the playground. We explored our feelings with 'The Colour Monster', and made our own Colour Monster using LEGO or plasticine. We have also been getting to know each other and practising our class routines.

### **News from Class 3**

This week, in maths, we have started our place value topic. The children have looked at partitioning numbers to 100 and 1000. In English, we started our new class book, 'Jim: A cautionary tale'. The children have identified rhyming couplets and written an apology letter. In RE, we started our concept of good news and made a booklet showing the story of 'The Healing of the Cenrurion's Servant'.

### **News from Class 4**

What a fantastic first week back! This week, in maths, we have started work on place value, focusing on Roman numerals and understanding the value of each digit in large numbers. In English, we have started our spelling groups, and, next week, we will be starting our first unit, which is based on the book, 'The Boy in the Tower', by Polly Ho-Yen. We have also completed E-Safety lessons on talking safely online and the importance of strong passwords. In IPC, we have explored the question- What makes a great historian? We also enjoyed our first PE lesson of the year.

### **Sports News**

Class 1 – In PE, the children started practising team games and were using fantastic listening and looking skills.

Class 2 – In PE, we were focusing on our ball skills. We also played some team games where we learnt that communication is key to an effective team.

Class 3 – In PE, the children played football and practised dribbling using both feet. In basketball, we were also dribbling and learning correct passing techniques.

Class 4 – This week, we worked on football skills, focusing on dribbling, and, in basketball, we played team games, concentrating on passing and dribbling.

**Star Performers**

Class 1: Evelyn

Class 2: Bobbie and Sophia

Class 3: Jessica and Natalia

Class 4: Max and Niamh

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