

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

*"My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you – I whom you have delivered."  
Psalm 71:23*

13th November 2020

### **Head's Message**

It has been a wonderfully busy week in school and I am happy to report that already Christmas music is ringing out from the hall. In addition to our usual Love Music Trust and Forest School sessions, on Tuesday Class 3 and the Class 4 enjoyed brilliant science workshops delivered by Chemistry with Cabbage. Class 2 went bridge spotting on the Middlewood Way on Wednesday, and the whole school fell silent at 11am to mark Remembrance Day. Class 1 produced some amazing artwork to commemorate the occasion. We held our autumn Full Governor's Meeting by zoom on Wednesday evening. This week also saw the launch of the first episode of the Happy Valley Soap Opera, which was an amazing Class 2 start of topic project. The video link has been sent to parents and I do hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. Finally we marked Children in Need today by coming to school in sports clothes. I am delighted to report that we have raised a staggering £282 so far this year. Thank you to everyone who donated.

### **Anti-Bullying Week**

To raise awareness of anti-bullying week next week, all pupils and staff are invited to take part in 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday the 16th November. All you have to do is wear odd socks to school as an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality. No donation is required. Socks can be worn over tights. Added to this, all classes will do activities and/or an assembly around this important topic. The school council will meet and start re-writing our Anti-Bullying Policy, in line with and to reflect, our International Schools Award and global learning.

### **Author Visit**

We are thrilled that Simon Hunt will be joining us next Friday and holding reading and poetry workshops in each class. We know the pupils are going to love listening to the book, and there will be an opportunity for your child to have a copy, personally signed by Simon Hunt. The RRP of the book is £6.99, but it will be available to our pupils for just £6. Please complete the School Spider Survey if you would like to pre-order a book, and you can also personalise the message on the survey.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, payments for the books will be via BACS. These details will be sent out after orders have been made. **Please complete the survey by 16th November** for us to be able to get these personalised signings completed and ready for Simon to hand out on 20th November.

### **Coronavirus Advice**

Can we politely remind you that masks should be worn at all times on the school site, that you should remain 2 metres away from other families and leave the school site as quickly as possible. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

As a reminder, please do not send your child into school if they have **any** of the following symptoms:

- A new continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours and/or
- A high temperature – this means feeling hot to the touch on the chest or back (if a temperature cannot be taken) and/or
- A loss, or change, to their sense of smell or taste – this means they have noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms. You should only get a test if you have one or more of these symptoms. To book a test call the NHS on 119 or go online to <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

### **News from Reception**

This week, in Reception, we have focused on the Hindu festival of Diwali. We have learnt about the traditions of this festival and the story of Rama and Sita. We have written speech bubbles to show what we think each character might say, created Rangoli and mehndi patterns and made diva lamps using clay. In maths, we have looked at the composition of 3, and we have introduced next week's focus of addition sums.

### **News from Class 2**

This week, in Literacy, we went on a wonderful walk down the Middlewood Way to have a look at the stone arch bridge. We sketched the bridge and labelled it. When we got back to school, we used our experience to write a recount. We have learnt about four types of bridges and made a fact file about each one. In maths, we have looked at making equal groups, doubling and mental addition strategies. We had great fun recording our soap opera and hope you all enjoyed it. We took photographs in all of our wonderful costumes and have used these to do a piece of writing about our characters. In IPC, we have used our cross curricular maths links to make bar charts about different occupations.

### **News from Class 3**

This week, in maths, we have focused on subtraction problems. In Literacy, we have continued our book, 'The Matchbox Diary' by Paul Fleischman. Children have created a ships log showing the voyage from Sicily to New York. In IPC, we have started our new topic of 'Island Life'. We have started to research the different continents and oceans.

### **News from Class 4**

This week, in maths, we have been learning about equivalent fractions and how to convert between improper fractions and mixed numbers. In English, we have continued our work on 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. We have been writing narratives to go alongside the pictures in the book, focusing on setting descriptions and creating an atmosphere with our writing. In IPC, we have been learning about how light travels, how we see things and the different parts of the eye and their functions.

## Sports News

Class 1 – Today in PE, we have learnt a Diwali dance and performed it ready to upload to Tapestry for the Reception parents to watch.

Class 2 – In PE, we focused on controlled jumping and varied jumps in different directions. We also learnt the basics of dodgeball.

Class 3 – This week, in hockey, we were passing and receiving and also dribbling around cones and passing through gates. In circuit training, we were recording scores on speed bounce and skipping, attempting to beat previous scores.

Class 4 – We have been working on dribbling and passing skills in hockey and have been recording our times in circuit training

## Star Performers

Class 1: Orin Stevens

Class 2: Olivia Beardmore and Talia Potter

Class 3: Joshua Chapman and Lilly-Belle Watkins

Class 4: Scarlett Jones and Thomas Williams

## PTA News

**Congratulations** to the winner of the Facebook best joke competition - **James!!!**

James' winning joke was: **'What's worse than finding a worm in your apple? Finding half a worm!'**

We hope you and your family enjoy the movie night-in hamper complete with take away, snacks and more!

For ways to support the PTA please see the latest PTA newsletter complete with links to the 200Club sign up and AmazonSmile, Easyfundraising and The Giving Machine - they all donate a percentage of the money you spend online to St John's PTA!

The next 200Club draw is happening soon . Who'll be the 3 lucky winners? Will it be you? To sign up click here - <https://forms.gle/zRUNPb3AkuVuvB8g8>



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