

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

"For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" Romans 14:17

4th November 2022

Head's Message

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. Our Christian Value is Joy, which last year's Ethos Group picked as a fitting topic for our weeks leading to Christmas. I have been in all classes this week observing the maths lessons with Mrs Watson, our maths lead. Hopefully you will be able to look at the super learning taking place when you view the children's books before parents' evening next week. Hopefully you have all managed to book an appointment slot with your child's teacher. We have two special non-uniform days coming up. For the first, on November 11th, we are asking for donations to the PTA for the Christmas Fair. The second, on 18th November is for Children in Need. We are delighted 'Open the Book' will be returning to St John's in January to lead a series of interactive assemblies. This will be the first time we have welcomed them back since the start of Covid-19. Finally, the Fluenz nasal spray was administered to children in school this week. If your child missed this in school, and you still wish for them to receive it, please contact the School Aged Immunisations Team on: wcnt.immunisation@nhs.net

Phonics Workshop

Reception and Class 2 families are invited to a Monster Phonics workshop, being run by Mrs Jobbins on the 24th November at 4.30pm in school. This will give you an insight into how we teach phonics/early reading at St John's, and provide strategies to help your child read at home. We cannot overstate the importance of reading, as success in reading directly correlates to success across the curriculum, both in primary and secondary school.

News from Reception

Since the Hindu festival of lights fell during our half term, we decided that we would spend this week celebrating all things Diwali. The children have learnt about the key elements of the festival, including making rangoli patterns and mehndi designs. In literacy, we read the story, 'Lighting the Lamp', which taught us about the traditions of Diwali, such as buying new outfits, lighting Diya lamps and making special food. In art, we used clay to make our own Diya lamps, using tools to add patterns and texture. We learnt about the story of Rama and Sita through using puppets and masks to act out each scene; this extended into our construction area and small world where we created scenes for our role play. In maths, we have focused on positional language and how we can describe patterns of 4 in different ways. This has helped us understand how 4 can be broken down in different ways and that we can subitise to work out the total without counting.

News from Class 2

This week, Class 2 have gathered information to write an information leaflet about Tower Bridge. We learnt how the bridge opens and the materials used for the construction. In maths, Year 1 have used a part whole model to write number sentences and fact families up to 10. Year 2 have compared and ordered numbers up to 100.

For our IPC topic, we have designed and built a model vehicle, creating an axle and wheels from cardboard and straws. We tested and evaluated our vehicles against the plan we made, thinking about how we could improve our model.

News from Class 3

This week, in maths, we have started our new topic of addition and subtraction. The children have used their knowledge of place value to add, 1, 10, 100 and 1000. In English, we have started our class book 'Shackleton's Journey'. We have created an application letter, created their own questions and conducted a job interview. Later in the week, the children created sentences to justify their opinions. We have started our new topic of 'Island Life'. We conducted a knowledge harvest and a flashback to their learning in Class 2. In RE, children have researched Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva.

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, in Year 5, we have continued working on addition and subtraction, focusing on the use of inverse operations and considering which strategies are the most effective when completing different calculations. In Year 6, we have been revising short division, including giving remainders as fractions, and we have started working on long division. In English, we have started working on a new book, 'Firebird' by Saviour Pirotta. We have been writing great description, using expanded noun phrases and have been writing short letters of advice, including modal verbs. In IPC, we have explored the writing, number and calendar systems in Ancient Maya, and we have explored the factors that caused the decline of the Mayan civilisation.

Sports News

Class 1 – In class 1, we will be looking at healthy eating as our topic and during this we will be using teamwork to decide which foods and drinks are healthy and unhealthy and sorting foods into different areas, good or bad.

Class 2 – The children were looking at gross motor skills and team games. In gross motor skills, we practised our jumping and landing with 2 feet and added balancing games in our competition. For team games, we worked in teams using our sending skills to hit cones and collect them, which might have been rolling a ball or kicking.

Class 3 and 4 – In class 3 and 4, we focussed on hockey and gymnastics. In hockey, we practised our dribbling skills and using the correct hand technique on the hockey stick. In gymnastics, we practised our rolls. They included egg roll, pencil roll, log roll and teddy bear roll.

Star Performers

Class 1: Sasha

Class 2: Lola-Rose and Asher

Class 3: Arthur and Sigrid

Class 4: Jessica D and Halla