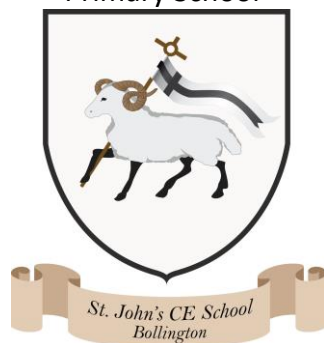


Bollington St. John's Church of England
Primary School



Where talent grows

Head Teacher: Mrs M. Walker

Head of Teaching, Learning and Assessment: Mrs E. Watson

'Christian Value' – Thankfulness

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."
Colossians 3:17*

29th January 2021

Dear families,

We have now completed four weeks of this lockdown and four weeks of remote learning. The news this week that this current situation will continue until at least 8th March will, no doubt, have been a disappointment to many of you. I am sure that parents across the country are experiencing a whole raft of emotions, from having had enough now, to exasperation, to wanting to get life back to normal. I am sure that all of your remote learning experiences are different; while some children are thoroughly engaged, others will not be, and will be finding it all very challenging. It is perfectly okay to be feeling frustrated and fed up, and it is perfectly okay for the children to be feeling like this too. Just remember that we are here for you and please do not be too hard on yourselves.

Thank you to the families who completed our Remote Learning Survey this week. We are trying to address as many of the comments raised as we can. Next week I will send out a similar survey for the children to complete. It is paramount to us that the children know how important their voice is, and that even if we can't fix everything, we can listen to them. That being said, the survey should only be completed if they want to and we would not expect many of the younger children to do so. It is a chance for them to have their say, but it should not give them an added stress or burden.

Here are the results of the survey:

	Is your child engaging with remote learning?	Do you feel a full curriculum is being provided for your child?	Are you satisfied with the live lessons?	Is your child getting enough feedback from their teacher?	Overall are you pleased with the remote learning being provided?
Yes	81%	79%	85%	81%	79%
No	11%	8%	2%	4%	6%
Unsure	8%	13%	13%	15%	15%

*Many of the parents whose children are currently in school replied 'Unsure'.

One comment that was made on the survey was that science had not been taught this term and therefore a full curriculum was not being provided. I thought this would be a good opportunity to remind you that as we follow the International Primary Curriculum, we teach the children through IPC topics and themes. As such not every subject is taught in every topic. Also subjects are taught in blocks, so the children may do a week of art activities and then a week of history. We have successfully delivered the IPC curriculum in this way at St John's for more than 10 years. Please look at our Curriculum Document on the website to see exactly what subjects are taught in each topic.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week, which is so incredibly important right now. Classes will be doing assemblies next week to discuss and explore themes/activities linked to this. This week a very important [report](#) was released by the Education Policy Institute and The Prince's Trust. It focussed on the mental health and wellbeing of Generation Z. Please take a moment to read it if you can. The report concludes that the number of young people with a probable mental illness has risen to one in six, up from one in nine in 2017.

Visyon are continuing to run support sessions for families during lockdown on a variety of themes. Parent Webinars are available which offer information and ideas to help you in supporting your child with understanding and managing their emotions and wellbeing. These are open to parents/carers or other interested family members. The webinars are delivered as a presentation on Zoom. If you would like any further details please do email admin@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk

Finally, we hope our new website will be ready in the next few weeks. It has been slightly redesigned to make it a little more colourful and fresh. We also wanted to ensure the website captured our passion for global learning. We will let you know when it goes live.

Please take care of yourselves this coming week. Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. As always, thank you for your continued support.

With the warmest of wishes,

Mrs Walker.

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