

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' – Compassion

"Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore He will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him!"
Isaiah 30:18

1st December 2023

Head's Message

December has greeted us with its frosty, icy beauty. Preparations for our Christmas Nativity and junior play are well underway, and the school is abuzz with excitement and anticipation for the month ahead. Thank you to all who helped, organised, planned, volunteered or came to the Winter Fair last Saturday. It was a wonderful event and it was so lovely to see so many people there. We do hope that lots of funds were raised. This week the children were inspired by Sue Whyatt, a former England goalkeeper, who led an assembly in school. Sue started her career at Macclesfield Ladies, and spoke of the challenges she faced as a female footballer in the 1970s. Next week we have Christingle workshops on Tuesday, an infant trip to the cinema on Wednesday and our Christmassy Clothes Day combined with a Santa Dash on Friday. Finally, I am sending out the KNAPS Newsletter today. It is through this scheme that we sponsor a child, called Frank, in Uganda. Doreen McGraa, the KNAPS co-ordinator, will be leading an assembly in January to update the children on Frank and the school he attends.

Severe Weather Arrangements

If severe weather has taken place overnight and the school will be closed for the day, we aim to make a decision by 8am. Families will be notified by School Spider shortly after the decision is taken. We will provide remote education for the duration of the closure, in line with DfE guidance. In the event of serious problems during the school day, it may be necessary to close early. If this occurs, families will be notified by School Spider.

Diary Dates

1st December – Wreath Making PTA event at 7-9pm

4th December – Reception 2024 starters open evening at 4-4:30pm. Families of children starting school in 2024 welcome

5th December – Christingle workshops for all classes

6th December – Infant Cinemas Trip to see The Grinch (morning)

8th December – Christmassy Clothes Day

8th December – School Nursing Team administering flu nasal spray in school

11th December – Bikeability for Year 5 students

13th December – Infant Nativity Play (Reception Class and Class 2) at 10-11am and 2-3pm. All

Reception and Class 2 families invited

14th December – Bikeability for Year 4 students
15th December – Junior Cinemas Trip to see Wonka (morning)
19th December – Junior Christmas Play (Class 3 and Class 4) at 10-11:30am, 2-3:30pm and 6-7:30pm.
All Class 3 and 4 families invited
20th December – Christmas lunch (children only)
21st December – Class Christmas Parties
21st December – Last day of term
22nd December – Inset Day
8th January 2024 – First day of the spring term

News from Reception

This week in Reception, we received a letter from the Weather Fairy; she has asked us to monitor the weather for her over the next few weeks. Each day we have completed our weather diaries and we have checked the temperature, rainfall and forecast for the coming days. In maths, we have focused on staircase patterns and building our understanding of 'one more.'

News from Class 2

This week, we have enjoyed reading further into our English text, 'Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish'. This text has allowed us to consider sustainability, protection of the planet and our aspirations. We have also been writing similes in English with great success. In maths, we have begun deepening our understanding of subtraction. The highlight of the week was creating a map for our school to find a precious item belonging to one of our peers!

News from Class 3

This week, in maths, the children have continued to look at inverse operations. We have used word problems to help our decision making when choosing what operation to use. In English, the pupils have continued to enjoy our class book 'Escape from Pompeii'. We created the start of our newspaper report. In computing, we used our animation skill to create a story. In geography, the children researched the 'Ring of Fire' and created a fact file.

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, Year 5 have been mastering using common denominators to add and subtract fractions. Year 6 have been working on measure, converting between units of measure, including between miles and kilometres. In English, we been planning and have started writing our own 'warning' stories. A highlight of this week has been exploring our local area on Digimaps OS maps in our geography lesson. We have worked on using keys to explore the local area, including recreation facilities and transport links.

Celebration Awards

Good Work

Class 1 – Bertie for his enthusiasm and progress in reading.

Class 2 – Arthur for writing fantastic similes in English.

Class 3 – Jessica for consistently trying her best and creating an excellent fact file in geography.

Class 4 – Abigail for making a great start to her pop-up/moving parts books in design technology.

Good Citizen

Class 1 – Gus for having such a positive attitude when coming to school.

Class 2 – Arlo for showing excellent resilience in all areas of learning.

Class 3 – Orin for starting to take a mature attitude towards his learning.

Class 4 – Eleanor for excellent perseverance and attitude to learning.

Ethos Award – Class 1: Ivy for having such a caring and compassionate nature.

House Points – Lowerhouse are currently in the lead.

Sports News

Class 1 – This week, we used benches and platforms to balance and perform jumps with control.

Class 2 – We had an excellent circuit training session, focussed on developing our endurance.

Class 3 – In PE, we have played 2v2 and 3v3 small sided hockey games, and we worked on press-ups, sit-ups and burpees in circuit training.

Class 4 – This week we had a burpee, press-up & sit-up competition, focussing on technique. The class also took part in small sided hockey games, 2v2 and 3v3.

Star Sports Performers

Class 1 – Fred

Class 2 – Sophie and Heidi

Class 3 – Abbie and Johnny

Class 4 – Natalia and Skyler

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