

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' – Peace

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you .I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

John 14:27

19th September 2025

Head's Message

It was a pleasure to welcome both Jen McIlveen from the diocese, and Rev Jenny from St Oswald's to school this week. Rev Jenny had such a lovely morning watching a junior worship that she came back at 3pm to watch an infant one. Together we have planned some wonderful activities for the children, including Advent Spirals and celebrating Epiphany. We are also planning to link school and church events, starting with our newly formed Eco Council decorating an eco-friendly window in St Oswald's for Harvest. The Eco Council and School Parliament are now up and running, and the first Parliament meeting took place today. It was also lovely to meet with members of the PTA on Wednesday, followed by the annual AGM. So many good ideas put forward by parents and staff in a combined effort to make this year as filled with opportunity as possible for the children. Our staff led afterschool clubs start next week, and on Monday we host our first new starter information evening for children who are due to start primary school in September 2026. Finally, a huge thank you to all the parents and volunteers who accompanied Class 2 on their very exciting scientific walk to White Nancy this afternoon.

Attachments

This week, we have a number of attachments we are sending home along with the newsletter. The government has released all the Parents' Information Leaflets for all of this year's tests and assessments. Therefore, we are sending them all home today, and placing them all on the website under the tab 'Assessments'. We have already sent out information about the Baseline Assessment that Reception children are currently taking. Attached are leaflets regarding:

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check 2026

Optional Year 2 National Curriculum Tests 2026

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check 2026

Year 6 National Curriculum Tests 2026

Year 6 Assessment Results 2026

We are also sending home our Harvest Assembly leaflet.

Diary Dates

22nd September – After School Clubs begin

22nd September – New Starter 2026 information evening at 4-4:30pm

30th September – Tytherington School Morning Tour. Year 5 and 6 families invited

1st October – Playground Portraits in school to take children's individual photographs

1st October – Tytherington School Morning Tour. Year 5 and 6 families invited
 2nd October – Tytherington School Open Evening at 6-8pm. Year 5 and 6 families invited
 3rd October – New Starter 2026 open afternoon at 2-3pm
 6th October – Class 4 First Aid training
 6th October – New Starter 2026 information evening at 4-4:30pm
 8th October – Harvest Service at 2pm at St John's. All families welcome
 11th October – New Starter 2026 open morning at 10-12pm
 15th October – Year 4 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm
 17th October – PTA School Disco at 6-7:30pm
 20th October – Playground Portraits back up date
 20th October – Parents' Afternoon/Evening Meetings
 21st October – Parents' Afternoon/Evening Meetings
 22nd October – Diwali special themed school lunch
 23rd October – Last day of term
 24th October – INSET day for teachers
 3rd November – First day of term
 3rd November – New Starter 2026 information evening at 4-4:30pm
 5th November – Bonfire night special themed school lunch
 12th November – Year 3 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm
 17th November – New Starter 2026 information evening at 4-4:30pm
 24th November – Flu Vaccine delivered in school
 26th November – Year 2 Family Lunch at 12-12:30pm
 29th November – PTA Christmas Fair, time tbc
 1st December – New Starter 2026 information evening at 4-4:30pm
 5th December – PTA wreath making event, time tbc
 9th December – Infant (Reception and Class 2) Christmas Production at 2-3:00pm
 10th December – Advent Spirals for all classes led by Rev Jenny
 16th December – Junior (Classes 3 and 4) Christmas Production at 2pm – 3:30pm and 6-7:30pm
 17th December – Christmas Dinner and non-uniform day
 19th December – Last day of term

News from Reception

It has been a fun filled week in Reception this week! We have read the story of Vashti in the Dot, and it has inspired some beautiful artwork using circles and lots of different media; this linked to our exploration of other 2D shapes and line patterns in maths. We learnt all about the life and work of Frida Kahlo before following her technique of studying our faces using a mirror and then creating a self-portrait. In RE, we have focused on what we are good at and reflecting on how this makes us special. We have started our baseline assessments, and we are so proud of how amazing our new Reception children are turning out to be.

News from Class 2

This week, in English, we've been focusing on using capital letters, full stops, and exciting adjectives to improve our writing. We even had fun stomping on full stops—just like Cave Baby! In maths, we explored number lines and practised estimating by finding what number lies halfway along the line. It was a great way to sharpen our number sense! In history, we shared and discussed some of our favourite memories, helping us understand the importance of personal history. We ended the week with a fantastic trip to White Nancy, which linked to our science lessons. While enjoying the local landscape, we took a closer look at the plants that grow in our area and learned more about our natural environment.

News from Class 3

What a week it has been for Class 3. We have been working very hard at planning our English story we are going to write. The Stone Age has been a fantastic topic of discussion over the week. In maths, we have been using Base 10 to solve some tricky problems. Science has been all about shadows and lights. The children are getting really good at identifying objects that are transparent, translucent and opaque. We made our very own French puppets which we will be using to practise our greetings and responses. A very successful week of learning!

News from Class 4

This week, in maths, we have continued working on place value, focusing on numbers to 10,000,000 and multiplication and division by 10, 100 and 1,000. In English, we have continued reading 'The Man Who Walked Between The Towers' by Mordicai Gerstein. We have been writing expanded noun phrases to describe how Philippe would feel stepping out onto the rope between the towers, and we have started writing diary entries in character as Philippe. A particular highlight of this week has been listening to 'Walk Like An Egyptian' by The Bangles and using pictorial notation to explore its musical composition.

Celebration Awards

Good Work

Class 1 – Nora for an excellent self-portrait.

Class 2 – Jonas for his fantastic sentence using adjectives.

Class 3 – Maisie for her outstanding effort across all her subjects.

Class 4 – Jack for fantastic work in maths, including multiplication and division by 10, 100 and 1,000.

Good Citizen

Class 1 – Willow for settling so well this week.

Class 2 – Isla for thinking about and supporting other children in the class.

Class 3 – Samuel for his servant heart. He is always helping quietly and making sure everyone is looked after.

Class 4 – Aaruhi for always being so incredibly kind, hardworking and helpful in the classroom.

Ethos Award (Peace) – Class 3: Emme for the peace and calm she brings into class every day.

House Points – Clarence have snatched the lead.

Sports News

Class 1 – The children focused on our listening skills with two stop/start games. We moved in different ways and developed our coordination by changing direction and being aware of our surroundings.

Class 2 – This week, Class 2 were playing target practice games, taking turns to roll their ball through a gate (two cones) to reach their partner. We then put a hoop in the middle of pairs and practised rolling with different weights to land the ball in the middle of the hoop.

Class 3 – In PE this week, Class 3 competed in different races and activities to use agility, balance and control. The children then split into groups and used seven different size balls all with different weights and practised rolling games and to complete and record scores.

Class 4 – Class 4 had swimming, and when we arrived back to school, we played a line ball tournament. This focused on teamwork, communication and attitude.

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Star Sports Performers

Class 1 – Albie

Class 2 – Callum and Florence

Class 3 – Evelyn and Eleanor

Class 4 – Arthur and Olivia H