



Bolton on Swale St Mary's Church of England Aided Primary School

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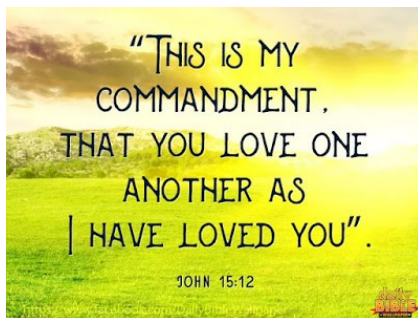
Headteacher Mrs Nicola Dobson

'To love, live and learn together'

Newsletter Friday 7th January 2022

Our Christian value this half term is 'Love'

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term Another big thank you to all the children and parents for your very generous and kind Christmas gifts and greetings. We celebrated a wonderful Christmas in school finishing with our visit from Father Christmas, our parties, Christmas lunch and KS2 led Carol Service in St Mary's Church when our children sang, read and performed so confidently. You can find a video on our website in the Gallery/videos. We are looking forward to a positive and exciting year ahead. The children have made New Year's resolutions and we are all working hard to be our best selves. We have explored our new Christian value for the half term which is Love and have been thinking about how we live this out in our daily lives.



Curriculum Letters and Topics for the term All the classes have new topics for the term. Classes 1 and 2 are starting their Weather and Great Fire of London topics. Class 3 is studying the continent of North America and Class 4 is exploring Victorian times. Each class teacher has outlined other topic areas to be covered and days for class PE, in the curriculum letters sent home today. Homework continues to go home on a Friday to be returned by Wednesday. Please do not hesitate to ask your class teacher if you are unsure about anything.

Thank you to everyone and to Friends of School A huge thank you for supporting our Christmas fundraising activities. The raffle raised £706 and the tea towels raised £672. This will be used to enhance activities for all our children in school. We are looking forward to a whole school theatre performance of Oliver Twist later this term which will be funded by this. Our visit from Father Christmas on his wonderful tractor, driven by our farming helper elves; decorated by parents and kindly loaned by Brian Robinson Machinery of East Cowton was a Christmas highlight! Have a look on our school website/Gallery/videos and celebrations to see our excited faces!



Diary Dates for this term A full list of diary dates has been sent home today. This includes Class Assembly dates and Parent Teacher Consultation dates for the week before half term. More detailed information on other events will follow.

Clubs start next week Clubs are offered to children in Y1 to Y6 and change termly. **Please book your child's place on Parent Pay from the end of school today.** There is no cost; staff give their time generously and Sports Premium funds our sports coaches.

Clubs this half term are:

Tues: Sit down volley ball Y3,4,5

Wed: Choir Y1-Y6

Thurs: Eco Team Y3,4,5,6; Computing Y1-Y6

Fri: Gymnastics Y1,2

Y6 SATs Club on Tuesday Starting on Tuesday 11th January, we hope that all of our Y6 children will be able to stay till 4.30pm to help them to prepare for their Year 6 tests.

Year 6 SATs week 2022 Monday 9th to Thursday 12th May

Year 6 SATs Parents Meeting Tuesday 18th January at 6pm in school This is for parents of Year 6 children – please put the date in your diary and make it a priority.

Working in partnership with Durham University We once again have students training to teach on placement in school. Currently they are in Class 1 and 2 and visit every 2 weeks on a Thursday.

Instrumental Lessons Class 3 violin and cello and music lessons with Mrs Jameson resume next week. We currently have spaces available for small group tuition in violin or cello with Mrs Jameson. There is a waiting list for piano lessons. Other instrumental lessons are offered through North Yorkshire Music Service. Information forms are in the office. Please speak to Mrs Dobson or Mrs Newton for more information.

How can I support my child in making good progress in their learning?

Reading with your child For children of all ages - all research shows that hearing your child read, reading to them or discussing their reading with them is one of the most important things you can do to ensure good progress in school. Do this everyday if possible and discuss tricky words with them.

Maths and learning times tables Learning times tables is an area in which you can really help your child make progress in Maths. The curriculum states that:

By the end of Year 2 children should know: x2, x5, x10 tables. eg. $2 \times 7 = 14$; $10 \div 2 = 5$

By the end of Year 3 children should also know x3, x4, x8 tables eg. $4 \times 8 = 32$; $64 \div 8 = 8$

By the end of Year 4 your child needs to know all their tables to x12 mixed up, with a quick response eg. $8 \times 9 =$ $7 \times 8 =$ $9 \times 7 =$. The equivalent division bond is also important: $72 \div 8 =$ $56 \div 7 =$ $63 \div 9 =$

If your child is in Year 5 and 6 they need to be fluent and confident in their times tables knowledge to x12 including division facts.

Times Tables Rock Stars - all our children from Year 1 upwards have a login to this - ask your class teacher if you are unsure.

Discovery Education Espresso This is an online learning resource your child can access at home. It has a huge range of resources directly relevant to your child's learning in all areas. There is great weekly news; online safety information; games and exciting videos linked to all primary curriculum areas.

www.discoveryeducation.co.uk

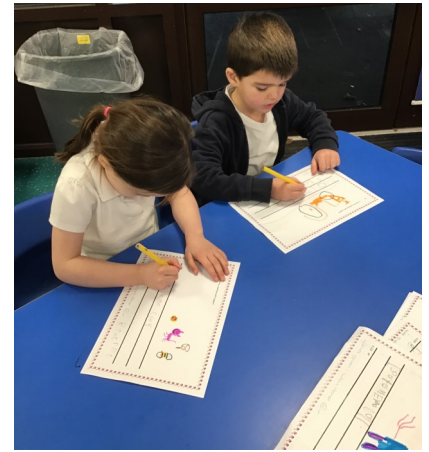
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Please see the next page for highlights from our first week of 2022!

Yours sincerely, Nicola Dobson

Highlights from this week in school:

Class 1 have had a great start to the new term and have impressed Mrs Reynolds with their Reading, Phonics and excellent PE skills. They have made New Year Resolutions, shared their holiday news and set their role play area up as the cottage of Goldilocks and the Three Bears.



Class 2 are all delighted to be back in school. They have started work on the story of the Gingerbread Man. In Computing they have been learning how to stay safe online. They are excited about their new Great Fire of London topic and have been learning to sing London's Burning as a round. They have been thinking about seasonal changes and looking for signs of Winter.



Class 3 returned to school with excellent homework research on Neil Armstrong to support their Science work on Earth and Space. Mrs Wright was very impressed with your creativity. They have also started their new Class Reader: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K. Rowling.



Class 4 also returned with holiday homework which was well presented, creative and historically accurate. They produced job advertisements for Victorian times; chimney sweeps, factory workers, miners. They have made an excellent start to their topic on the Victorians with their new Class Reader: Street Child by Berlie Doherty. They enjoyed Science investigations on gravity, air and water resistance.

