

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

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'To love, live and learn together'

Newsletter Monday 19th February 2024

Our Christian value this half term is 'Forgiveness'



Safer Internet Day 2024 Before half term we took part in Safer Internet Day 2024. We regularly discuss internet safety with the children. We are fully filtered in school and the children are monitored very closely at all times. This link takes you directly to advice on how to set filters on your devices at home to keep your child safe: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers> It contains lots of tips, advice, guides and resources to keep your child safe online.

Class 2 children are pictured here playing a game and discussing internet safety scenarios together



Thank you to our librarians who are doing a great job recommending books to others and selecting a 'book of the week' for each class which they share in our Weekly Special Mentions Assembly each Friday.

Recommended reads for each class include: **Class 1** Kipper Stories by Mike Inkpen; **Class 2** Funnybones and books by Janet and Allan Ahlberg; **Class 3** Horrible Histories series The Horribly Hilarious Joke Book; **Class 4** Artemis Fowl series of books by Eoin Colfer.

Parent Governor Appointment I am pleased to announce that Mrs Vanessa Rafelt has been reappointed to serve a second term of office as Parent Governor on our governing body.



Children's Mental Health Week 2024

Before half term we focussed on Children's Mental Health Week and shared the importance of expressing ourselves and being listened to. We thought about ways in which we can make a positive difference in our homes, school and communities.

School Clubs start back this week Thank you for signing up in Parent Pay; Clubs are free to everyone. All Clubs finish at 4.15pm apart from Y6 SATs Club which finishes at 4.30pm.

Tuesday: Choir; KS2 Tennis

Wednesday: Y6 SATs Club; KS1 Dance Club

Thursday: KS1 Eco Club; KS2 Eco Club

Friday: Recorders

Lunchtime Clubs Our children run a lunchtime Art Club; Military Kids Club Heroes and are starting a Reading Club this week for younger children. The children are supported by school staff and display really good leadership skills. Well done!

Date reminders this half term:

Class 4 Parental Assembly 9.30am Thurs 22nd Feb

Class 1 Parental Assembly 9.30am Thurs 29th Feb

Class 3 Parental Assembly 9.30am Thurs 7th March

Class 2 Parental Assembly 9.30am Thurs 14th March

Victorian Workshop Class 4 Friday 23rd February

Please see the details sent home in the letter before half term. **Please come dressed as a Victorian school child for the day and make a voluntary contribution to the cost of the workshop on Parent Pay.** The children will travel back in time to meet the wife of Dr Thomas Barnardo, who founded the first 'Ragged School' in London. During the workshop the children will:

- Experience Victorian schooling
- Through improvisation and role play, explore life and work by the Thames river including 'Mudlarking'
- Visit a workhouse run by the intimidating 'Mr Bumble'
- Look at Crime and Punishment, in particular relating to children during Victorian Times
- Learn a song from the popular Music Hall
- Discover how Victorian England was transformed through innovation and The Industrial Revolution and take part in 'The Great Exhibition of 1851' with special guest Queen Victoria herself!

Mini First Aid training for Y5/6 All our children take part in a course of First Aid before they leave our school. Class 4 children will do this on the morning of Monday 26th February in school.

Book Fair is back in school from Wed 28th Feb to Monday 4th March, open before and after school. Our autumn term book fair raised £300 in commission for new books in our school library.

World Book Day 2024 Friday 8th March We will be celebrating our love of reading by dressing as a character from a book for the day. **Plan ahead for your costume.** It doesn't need to be complicated; lots of books have characters with very ordinary clothes.

Easter Activities in school

Decorated egg and Easter bonnet competition

Decorate these at home and bring them to school on the morning of Wednesday 20th March, They will be judged and everyone will be able to view the eggs and bonnets. FoS organise an Easter egg tombola for the children.

Egg rolling 2pm in the playground Parents and carers are welcome to join us in the playground to watch. FoS will be serving refreshments. Donations of cake welcome.

Easter Service in St Mary's Church at 2pm on Friday 22nd March. All the children lead and take part in this service. Everyone is welcome to join us,

Friends of School Fundraising with Bags2School Fliers for this have gone home this week. **Please bring your bags on Friday 1 March by 9am.**

FoS planning ahead It has become a tradition that a local business or two sponsors our Bouncy Slide at the Summer Fair in July each year. This is free activity for all the children to enjoy at the Fair. **Please contact Mrs Dobson if you may be interested in helping us.**

Parish Confirmation Group Children who are in Year 5 or Year 6 currently and might be interested in being confirmed are invited to join a new group Rev Mary is running. Sessions will run from 4.30-5.30pm starting on Wed 6th March for 5 weeks at St Paul's Church, Brompton-on-Swale. Please contact Rev Mary on 07306 092569 to discuss.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

With my best wishes,

Nicola Dobson