

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

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'To love, live and learn together'

Newsletter Friday 26th January 2024

Our Christian value this half term is 'Love'

Letter of congratulation received as our Phonics results place our school in the top 1% of all primary schools in the country We were delighted to receive a letter from the Minister for Schools congratulating us on: 'your school's outstanding achievement in the 2023 Phonics Screening Check'. 'With 100% of pupils in Year 1 meeting the expected standard, **your school is in the top 1% of all primary schools in the country.**' 'Your particular success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.' **A huge thank you to our staff and to you as parents for working in partnership with us.**

Y6 SATS results 2023 Our Year 6 children in summer 2023 also achieved exceptionally well. Nationally, 60% of children achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined. In our school 83% of children achieved this. Nationally, 8% of children achieved at the higher standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined. In our school 42% of children achieved at this higher standard.

Year 1/2 Multiskills Festival Our children had great fun developing their PE skills at Richmond School this week. Well done for excellent team work and cooperation too!



Thank you to everyone and to

Friends of School Our Christmas activities raised **£1418.70**.

This includes: wreath making, raffle, refreshments and cards.

A huge thank you to everyone for your support. Thank you to Pete Longfellow who has served as Chair of FoS for the past 2 years. Cally Smith has kindly taken over as Chair. Thank you to Ruth Booth who has served as Treasurer for many years. Jo Snowball has kindly taken this role. Everything raised will be used to enhance learning for all our children in school. We are looking forward to a whole school theatre performance of 'The Secret Garden' later this term which will be funded by this.

Diary Dates for this term Key dates have been emailed, sent home in paper form and uploaded to our website. **Please note Parent Teacher Consultation dates: Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th February.** Please sign up in the office entrance area or ring/email school. **Class Assembly dates, to which parents are invited are also listed.**



Our Green Flag Eco School We will once again be taking part in the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch this weekend. All the children have a bird watch tally sheet as part of their homework. When this is returned to school the KS2 Eco team will collate the data to send to the RSPB. This way we are contributing to the monitoring and understanding of bird life in our environment, There is lots of information on the RSPB website.

Pictured below our KS1 Eco Team make bird feeders



After School Clubs These are all running well. **Please note that in the week of Parent Teacher Consultations (week of 5th Feb) we will not be able to run Choir, Dodgeball, Y6 SATs Club or Dance.** Eco Gardening and Recorder Club will run as normal.

Y6 SATs Week 2024 Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May

Year 6 SATs Parents Meeting Thank you to all those who joined us yesterday. The presentation from the meeting and resources to support your child when practising at home are on our website under Children/Class 4: <http://bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk/class-4/> Mr Ramsbottom will also be available at Parent Teacher Consultations to answer any questions.

Parent Governor Vacancy information about this was sent by email. The closing date for nominations is Monday 29th January at 9am.

Friends of School Meeting Tuesday 30th January 7pm in school Everyone is welcome to come along and support our fundraising activity planning.

Waterproof trousers for the field We like our children to be enjoying our outdoor space as much as possible. So that they can use the field in winter **please send named waterproof trousers to wear at break times.**

Online safety reminders to keep your child safe We are aware that some children may have received new electronic devices; ipads, tablets for Christmas. Our Y6 children may also be starting to get their own phones, ready for Secondary School. **Please ensure you can access everything on their device and check it regularly. Please set age appropriate parental controls.** Please see the attached online safety guides and ESafety page on our school website for further help and guidance. <http://bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk/children/e-safety/>

February Half Term Holiday Club Shelly and Cally will run a February half term holiday club from our school site on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th February. Please book your place directly with Shelly and see the flier attached to the newsletter email. shellyschildminding7@gmail.com

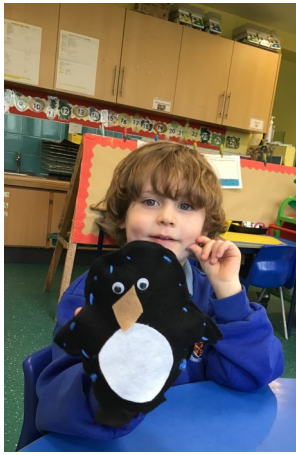
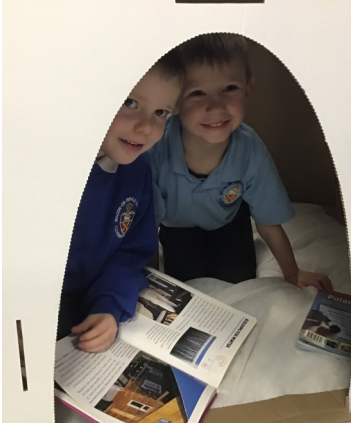
Please see the next page for highlights and photos from around our classes.

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

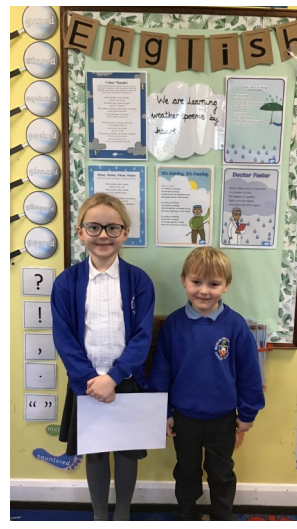
With my best wishes,

Nicola Dobson

Class 1 are enjoying their work on the Weather and Polar Regions. In Geography they have used atlases and labelled maps. In English they have been researching penguins and polar bears for their non-fiction writing. Year 1 children have completed their penguin hand puppets. In PE we have loved our Penguin themed Dance work. Y1 children had a great time at the Multiskills Festival.



Class 2 have enjoyed English and poetry work on a Weather theme including performing their poems. Everyone had a great time at the Multiskills Festival. They have started their RE work on Judaism and looked at the Synagogue as a place of worship. In Geography we have used Atlases and labelled maps. **Pictured below we enjoyed performing our poetry.**



Class 3 have been enthused by dragonology and the author Cressida Cowell. They have been making notes and collecting vocabulary for their Dragon Reports. In Maths everyone is working hard to learn their Times Tables facts. In Art and Design Technology they have been designing and researching Totem Poles and linking this to their birthdays and possible tribe animals. In RE they have explored the baptism of Jesus and made comparisons between infant and adult baptism. In Music they have listened to music by the African American Composer, Florence Price and created their own Juba Dance. In PE they continue to enjoy Hockey and Dance.



Class 4 In History we have placed the key events of the Victorian period in chronological order. In Maths we are mastering division word problems and long division. In English we have focussed on grammar, including modal verbs and active and passive voice. Our Dance work in PE is inspired by the sinking of the Titanic. In Art we have been exploring the artist and designer William Morris. Mr Ramsbottom continues to be very impressed with the high standard of homework in Class 4.

Pictured here are some Victoria Sponges made at home.

