

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 31st January 2025

Our Christian value this half term is 'Honesty'

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



RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch Well done to everyone who completed their homework last weekend and took part in the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch. Our Eco Team have done a great job compiling all the data. They also led an Eco Assembly and explained how the information we gather is being entered on the RSPB data base. This will contribute to a big scientific study. We discovered that our most commonly sited birds are crows, pigeons and gulls. We also saw a wide range of birds including: geese, pheasant, Greenfinch, Blue Tit and Robin. **Well done to everyone.**



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 26th and Thursday 27th 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 Pictured below our Eco Team make bird feeders.



They have been feeding the birds in the school grounds regularly during the winter.

We planted lots of bulbs in the autumn. Look out for them starting to come up!



The Eco Team work with the parish to recycle tin foil. We have raised nearly £2,000 for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

We work hard to keep our school grounds litter free.



Healthy Living Our school nurse visited this morning. She discussed with Reception and Year 6 how to stay healthy. Key messages were: **getting enough sleep; exercise; healthy eating –fruit and vegetables; drinking water and cleaning teeth.** She reminded us all to help younger children to clean their teeth properly.

Chinese New Year of the Snake We will celebrate this in school on Friday morning 14th February when we will hold our popular Chinese New Year Passport morning. The children will 'travel' around school trying out different creative activities linked to Chinese New Year.

Y6 SATs Week 2025 Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May

Year 6 SATs Parents Meeting and helping your child at home Thank you to all those who attended this meeting. Mr Ramsbottom has also sent home Spelling CGP books for extra practice. Each Y6 child has their own login to Maths.co.uk and Spag.co.uk.

Please support your child in regularly completing these activities. Mr Ramsbottom will be able to answer any questions at Parent Teacher Consultations. If you are concerned about anything before then, please do speak with us.

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 link for help.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

'Raise the Roof' with Friends of School

We are very grateful to our Friends of the School Committee who have agreed to help us to fund our contribution of £10,000 for a new roof for our school.

Our school is now 50 years old and its original roof needs replacing. We are expecting funding through the Diocese of £200,00 for this. We need make a contribution of £10,000. More details of how you can help to follow.

Friends of School Valentines Disco Thursday 13th

February Everyone is welcome. 6-7pm for Class 1 and 2 children and 7.15-8.15pm for Class 3 and 4 children. £3 payable on ParentPay to include a glow stick and ice pop. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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.

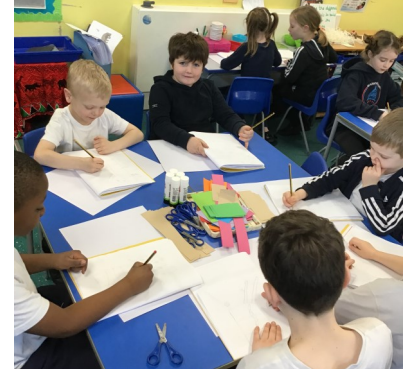
With my best wishes,

Nicola Dobson

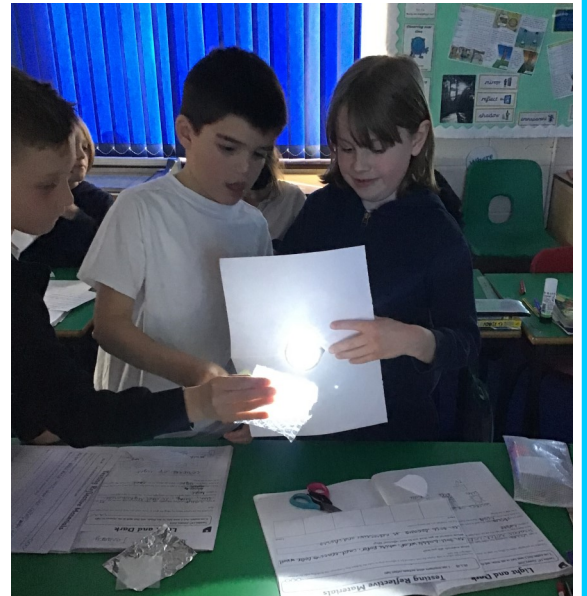
Class 1 are enjoying their work on traditional tales. They have explored different versions of Little Red Riding Hood and researched wolves. In Art they have enjoyed learning new techniques with paper sculpting. In PE they are developing jumping skills and Y1 children enjoyed the Multiskills Festival. In Music they have used instruments to create effects and to develop rhythm patterns.



Class 2 are also enjoying work on traditional tales. They have explored Jack and the Beanstalk and have created a Wanted poster for Jack. They have also developed paper sculpting skills. In computing they have been analysing data using pictograms. Their Geography work has focussed on the landscape of Kenya.



Class 3 are enjoying their India topic and Mrs Wright has been particularly impressed with the quality and creativity of their homework including Taj Mahal's made out of a range of materials; indian dance recordings and sweets to taste. In English they have begun drafting their holiday brochure for India. In PE they are developing hockey skills; dribbling and passing in team games. In Science they have been investigating reflective materials. Everyone is working hard to learn their Times Tables - for Year 4 to x 12.



Class 4 have been writing a report on Spectacled Bears linked to their Maya topic and the rainforests of Central America. In Maths they have been ordering and comparing fractions. In RE they have explored the big question, 'what would Jesus do?' by recapping the parable of the wise and foolish builder and discussing the importance of having solid foundations in life. In Science they have explored refraction of Light when it passes through water. They have played small-sided hockey games to apply attack and defence tactics.