

## 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 18th July 2025

Our Christian value this half term is 'Community'

### Highlights from a wonderful end to our Summer Term and thank you

We hope you are all enjoying a great start to the summer holidays. A huge thank you from everyone in school for all your kind and generous end of term gifts. I am sharing below some end of term memories.

**A great Sports Day** Thank you for joining us on a wonderfully sunny afternoon to share in our Sports Day. Well done to all our children for showcasing great athletics skills: running, jumping, throwing. Everyone loved the mixed age team events and the track races. Thank you to all our helpers and Friends of School for ice pops!



# Story Garden

Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors

**COMING TO LIBRARIES  
SUMMER 2025...**



Summer Reading Challenge

### Summer Reading Challenge at Catterick, Richmond and Colburn Libraries - keep busy over the summer for free!

We had a visit from the library service before the end of term. Register for the Summer Reading Challenge at any time by visiting your local library. It is free and children can borrow lots of books for free. They can also win free awards, stickers, a medal and a certificate if they read 6 library books over the summer. The challenge runs until 13th September and you can register at any time. Check online for free activities for 4-11 year olds at your local library too.

Our children took home books of their choice from school to read over the summer. Have fun and keep reading!

## **'Raise the Roof' 2025 Challenge end of term thank you treat for the whole school**

The whole school enjoyed a visit from a bird of prey centre as a thank you for their hard work fund raising for our new school roof. A variety of owls and a Harris Hawk spent the day visiting us, class by class. Each child had the opportunity to handle the birds and we learnt lots about them. Pictured below with Class 2.



## **'Raise the Roof' 2025 Challenge £10,000 target**

Thanks to the amazing support of all our parents, children, friends and the wider community we have almost reached our target. You have all been so wonderful and it is hard to list and thank you for the many creative and determined ways in which you have fundraised for us and have encouraged others to do the same.

In a typical year Friends of School, you, raise about £4,000 for school. We need this as much as ever (in addition to our roof) it enriches the learning and experiences enjoyed by all our children.

**Work on our school roof is progressing well** You will see that this is well underway. We will keep you updated as we reach the start of term in September.

We have received many donations directly to school. The Just Giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/page/raisetherooft25> is still available.

## **Friends of the School 'Raise the Roof' Fundraising Ball Saturday 20th September**

This is a charity ball in the beautiful setting of Pepper Arden Hall to raise money for our new school roof. It promises to be a wonderful evening. There is a drinks reception, 3 course sit down meal, casino and dancing. There are only a few tickets left! Corporate sponsorship opportunities are still available to enable local businesses to show their support. Please contact: foscally@outlook.com for further information, to buy tickets or for sponsorship details.

**New Outdoor Classroom is now complete** You will see this at the front of school. This has been funded by a DfE Wrap Around Care grant and resources given voluntarily by very generous parents and former parents. It will provide much needed additional space for Shelly's Wrap Around Care and for groups to use during the school day.

## **School lunches in September**

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive their lunches for free; funded by the government through Universal Infant Free School Meals. From Year 3 upwards parents need to pay for lunches at a cost of £4 per day. This is done on ParentPay. The menu for September was sent home in paper form before the end of term. You can also find it on our school website under Parents/School Meals. Children receive a hot cooked meal and choice of desserts. There are also sandwich and jacket potato with different filling options every day. **Children can choose to have school lunches on particular days of the week only.** It helps us if this follows a regular pattern. Please email Mrs Veale in the office to request your days.

**Entitled to Free School Meals** If you think this is something you may be entitled to, you can check on: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals> Please speak to Mrs Veale or me if you need any help.

**Instrumental Lessons** All children in Class 3 (Y3 and Y4) play violin and cello as part of their class music. In addition we can offer paid for lessons in school with Mrs Jameson on violin, cello or piano. Other instruments are also available through North Yorkshire Music Service. Please contact the school office for more information.

**Musical Congratulations** The end of term showcased lots of wonderful musical talent and participation in school. Many congratulations to everyone who took part in our KS2 Musical 'Cinderella Rockerfella' and in the Summer Music Concert.

**Instrumental Exam success** Congratulations to Katie-Belle, Eleanor and Florence for passing their ABRSM Grade 1 Piano with Merit and to Francesca for passing her ABRSM Grade 1 Violin with Merit. These were entered through school by Mrs Jameson.

**Ripon Cathedral Chorister** Congratulations to Simon who has been offered a Cathedral Chorister place in the Boys Choir at Ripon Cathedral. Simon took part in voice trials with 700 boys and girls in the region; he reached the final 40 and following further auditions is one of 6 boys and girls selected to join either the Boys or Girls Choirs.

**Wishing our Year 6 Leavers the very best as they move on**

Pictured here on the steps of Ripon Cathedral where they attended the Year 6 Leavers Service with children from other Church Schools in the Diocese.



In our Year 6 Leavers Assembly in school on the final day of term, we celebrated as a whole community and with our Y6 parents, the wonderful breadth of their achievements in so many areas of school life. In particular, all the ways in which they 'love, live and learn' well together.

**Thank you to our Y6 Leavers for the gift of 2 wonderful benches for the school grounds.**

**Outstanding Y6 SATs results**

We are very proud of the progress made by all our Year 6 pupils. Our Y6 SAT results place us once again amongst the top performing schools. Well done to all the children, staff and parents for their sustained hard work.

**In Reading we achieved 93% expected or above** (national average is 75%) **60% of our children achieved at the higher standard in reading** (national average is 28%)

**In Writing we achieved 100% expected or above** (national average is 72%)

**In Maths we achieved 93% expected or above** (national average is 74%)

**In Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling we achieved 100% expected or above** (national average is 73%).

We hope you continue to enjoy the summer holidays. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on **Tuesday 2nd September**. Everyone should wear their school uniform on this day; further details on PE kit days will follow. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

With my best wishes, Nicola Dobson

**We had fun on Pirate Day!**





BOLTON-ON-SWALE FRIENDS OF SCHOOL  
PRESENT

# RAISE *the* ROOF BALL

JOIN US IN FUNDRAISING FOR THE NEW  
SCHOOL ROOF

3 COURSE MEAL - CASINO - DJ & DANCING

SATURDAY | 20 | SEPTEMBER

PEPPER ARDEN HALL

DINNER + DANCING TICKETS (FROM 6.00PM) - £85

AFTER DINNER TICKETS (FROM 8.30PM) - £30

TO PURCHASE TICKETS CONTACT:  
[FOSCALLY@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:foscally@outlook.com)

