



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 19th September 2025

Our Christian value this half term is 'Friendship'

Well done to everyone on an excellent start to our term A special well done to our Reception children who have settled well into full days and school lunches. A huge thank you to their Year 6 buddies who are working so hard to support them also.

Diary dates and key events for the term are attached to the email sent home with this newsletter. Paper copies have gone with the children in book bags. They are also uploaded to the Parent section of our school website. These include events to which you are invited; Class Parental Assembly, Harvest Festival, Christmas Nativity and Carol Service.

After School Clubs have started for children in Y1 upwards and are proving very popular. There is no charge for these. There will be new choices available after half term.

Keeping our children safe by not sharing our newsletter photos on wider social media We recognise how special it is for parents and carers to see photos of the activities their child is taking part in during the school day. These are shared with you on our school newsletter and this is uploaded to our school website. We trust you to keep these for your own private use. Please do not share these photos on other social media. Many thanks for supporting us in keeping all our children safe.

Special Mentions Assembly Each Friday afternoon we celebrate the achievements of our children across school in our Special Mentions Whole School Assembly. Children may bring in achievements from outside school to share with us also.

Music in school This is a very important part of our school life. We sing everyday in Collective Worship and in our weekly class music lessons. Children in Class 3 play either the violin or cello as part of the their class music and we have a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments for everyone to use. Children may also have small group and individual instrumental lessons. These are paid for on a half termly basis. Mrs Jameson teaches violin, cello and piano and other instruments are available through North Yorkshire Music Service. **We currently have vacancies for any younger children, Y1 upwards, wishing to start violin lessons in a small group with Mrs Jameson. Please contact Mrs Veale in the office for more details.** It may be that your family has a musical instrument at home they are not using. We would be most grateful for any donations of 1/2 and 3/4 size violins or cellos in particular. These will give other children the opportunity to learn.

Parish Open the Book Team Each Monday morning a team from the parish dramatises Bible stories as part of our Collective Worship. Children throughout the school take it in turns to act with the team. Pictured below is our first week of Open the Book.

PE and Sport School Games Platinum Award

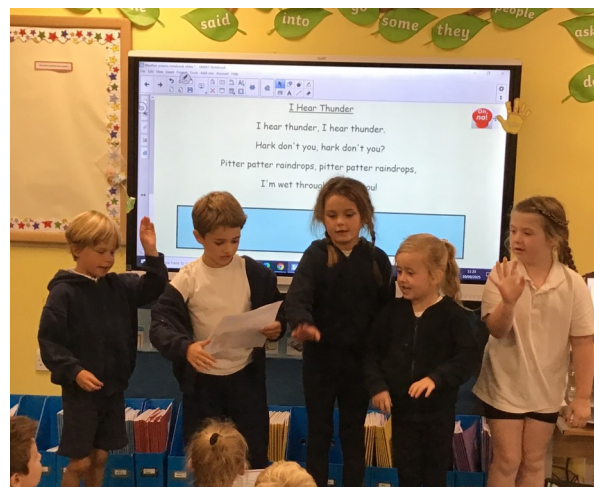
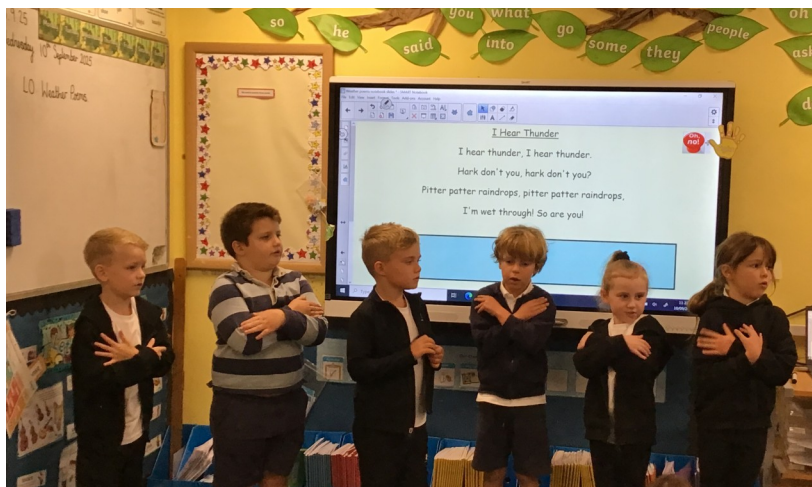
We are delighted to have received the highest Platinum Award in recognition of the high quality PE and sporting opportunities we provide for our children. You will see photos of each class enjoying their first PE lesson with our sports coach, Matty, on Tuesdays.



In Class 1: Mrs Reynolds says, 'We have had a really good start to term. We have enjoyed our PE lessons with Matty our sports coach and with Mrs Reynolds, when we have explored our outdoor areas and field. We have started to observe signs of Autumn in our Science and Art work. We have looked at the changing weather and seasons. Year 1 children have worked hard in phonics and spelling and we have all enjoyed counting and number work. We are learning a variety of rhymes and songs.' **Pictured below are some highlights from Class 1.**



In Class 2: Mrs Smith and Mrs Dutton say, ' In Maths we have been focusing on number bonds and addition. In English we have explored weather rhymes, preparing to write our own weather poetry. In Geography we have been discussing different weather types and seasons and looking at symbols to represent weather. In RE we have looked at the parable of The Prodigal Son. We enjoyed our PE lessons with our Sports Coach, Matty. In Computing we have been introduced to ScratchJr, simple programming.' **Pictured below are some highlights from Class 2.**



In Class 3: Mrs Wright says, 'In Maths we have continued to develop our understanding of place value - representing numbers up to 10,000 and flexible partitioning. In English we have enjoyed reading the first chapter of our Class Reader - Romans on the Rampage. We have made some excellent contributions to our discussions about what makes a good friend in PSHCE. In Science we are exploring Forces and pushes and pulls. In PE we have been developing our ball control skills in football and our sprint running technique. We loved playing our violins or cellos in Music and developing the plucking technique.



In Class 4: Mr Ramsbottom says, 'We have been planning writing based on the Drummer Boy of Richmond. We have made a good start with our class reader, The Railway Children. In Geography we have identified counties. In PE our focus is Football and Fitness. Our PSHCE has continued to explore Families and including everyone. In RE we looked at the illustration, 'The Impossible Village' and considered inclusion and respect for all. In Art we have studied the contemporary Chinese artist, Guo-Qiang and his explosion drawing technique.



Parent Teacher Consultations These are an opportunity to meet 1:1 with your child's class teacher, see their books and find out more about your child's learning, progress and achievements. Dates and times are on our diary dates and listed below in date reminders. You can book a time now by signing the list in the office entrance area or by emailing/phoning the office. Please note, Year 1 parents in Class 1 can see Mrs Reynolds on Tuesday 21st October only.

Friends of the School will be advertising their first meeting towards the end of September. Everyone is welcome to join, especially if you are new to school. We plan events to support the work of the school both financially and socially. In the last academic year we have focussed on fundraising £10,000 for our new school roof. **We are incredibly grateful for all the amazing support from school and from the wider community with our 'Raise the Roof' campaign. We are nearing our £10,000 target.** In a typical year FoS raises about £4,000 to support our school in other ways. In this next academic we will still need your support; to subsidise the cost of school visits for all; to fund new school equipment and resources for school clubs; to continue to upgrade our IT equipment for children. **Please do support us with events as they come up.**

Parish News We are part of the Parish of Bolton, Brompton, Easby and Skeeby. **The Open2All Family Service is held in St Mary's Church at 10.30am on the first Sunday of the month.** All welcome. On Sunday 5th October at 10.30am the parish will celebrate their Harvest Festival in St Mary's Church. (as a school we celebrate our own Harvest on Friday 24th October in St Mary's Church).

Open Pantry - Parish Food Bank Items are freely available to anyone who needs them in St Mary's Church, Bolton-on-Swale, St Paul's Church, Brompton-on-Swale and Easby Church. **Donations to Open Pantry can be left in the entrance area of school or in church.**

We are One -Parish Young People's Group Children in Y5 upwards are welcome to attend on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in St Paul's Church, Brompton-on-Swale with Rev Simon, Rev Mary and volunteers. We meet from 4-5.30pm and have lots of fun. This group may also link to confirmation preparation. Please contact Rev Simon by email on: simon.dowson@leeds.anglican.org for any parish information.

Road Safety outside school Please continue to be alert to children, parents and carers near the road outside school at the beginning and end of the day. Please be patient and considerate as drivers. **This means not doing 3 point turns outside school**– you can turn in the cemetery car park. **Please reduce your speed to keep everyone safe.**

Important date reminders (please see full diary dates also)

- **Monday 22nd September Reception Parents in Class 1:** Phonics and Reading meeting with Mrs Reynolds at 2.30pm in the school hall. Please enter through the office entrance
- **Monday 29th September Class 4:** visit to Richmond Castle and Georgian Theatre. See letter sent home.
- **Thursday 9th October Class 1:** Parental Assembly 9.30am in the school hall. Parents/carers of children in Class 1 are invited. Please enter through the playground hall door
- **Tuesday 14th October Class 3:** Danelaw Viking Village Visit. See letter sent home today
- **Thursday 16th October Reception Parent Teacher Consultations:** Reception parents to meet individually with Mrs Reynolds. 1.30pm-6.30pm. Please sign up in the office entrance or email/ring to book an appointment.
- **Tuesday 21st October Parent Teacher Consultations:** Class 3 2.30pm-6.30pm; Class 1 Y1 only 3.40pm-6.30pm; Class 2 and Class 4 3.40pm-6.30pm
- **Wednesday 22nd October Parent Teacher Consultations:** Class 3 3.40pm-6.30pm; Class 2 and Class 4 3.40pm-6.30pm
- **Friday 24th October: Harvest Festival in St Mary's Church, Bolton-on-Swale at 2pm.** All the children will be taking part in this and parents, carers and friends are welcome to join us in Church. **Friends of School will serving refreshments in the school hall afterwards. Children finish school at 3.30pm.**
- **Return to school after half term on TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER.**

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

With my best wishes, Nicola Dobson

HARVEST FESTIVAL



**Sunday 5th October
at**

St Mary's church Bolton-on-Swale 10.30am

**Please join us for our Harvest Festival Service
which is suitable for all ages.**

**It is a great celebration, as we give thanks for
the crops which have been safely harvested.**

**We thank God for the food,
and everything that helps the food grow.**

All donations will be given to The Open Pantry.





We are currently looking for any donations of food or other essentials. We are looking for the following items:

- Tins - soup, chopped tomatoes, vegetables, meat, fish, meals in a can (e.g. chilli con carne, curry, stew, meatballs), beans, spaghetti, fruit, rice pudding
- Jars of sauces, jam, marmalade, honey etc
- Bottles of squash and long-life milk
- Cereals, porridge (individual pots)
- Sanitary towels, tampons, baby wipes, nappies
- Bars of soap, shampoo, roll on deodorants, baby shampoo and body wash
- Washing detergent and softener
- Toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouth wash (non-alcoholic)
- Sweet treats - individually wrapped chocolate bars and biscuits
- Pet food - cans of meat, boxes of dried foods

Please note we can't accept the following donations for safety purposes.

- Aerosol deodorant etc
- Any medication
- Alcohol

Please drop any donations off at your school which will be past on to the Church.

