

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 Monday 18th May 2026

Our Christian value this half term is 'Trust'

A huge well done to our Year 6 children who completed their SAT tests last week We were so proud of our Year 6 children who completed their SAT tests so calmly and confidently last week. Thank you to our parents who supported them and to Mrs Hall, Mrs Arkle and Mrs Brooks who prepared them in school. **Pictured below our Year 6 children wearing their new Leavers Hoodies.** They had great fun at their Friday afternoon post SAT bowling trip and are looking forward to their Summer Musical Production: 'Mystery at Magpie Manor'



Diary Dates for this term These have been emailed to parents and paper copies have been sent home in book bags. They include whole school events such as Sports Day. Also on our website are term dates for the academic year 2026-2027.

Year 5 Bikeability Cycling Proficiency Our Year 5 children completed this cycling course with instructors last week gaining a Level 1 or Level 2 cycling award. They also learnt important road safety messages.

New Outdoor Cabin We were fortunate to successfully apply for grant funding for our outdoor cabin which provides us with additional

group room space during the school day and can be used by our Before and After School Club also. **A huge thank you to Rowan and Noel Spencer's father who kindly and generously laid a wonderful path and patio outside our cabin.**

New staff member We are delighted to welcome Mrs Gail Wyatt to our team. Mrs Wyatt is a qualified and experienced teacher who will be working for us as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant in Class 4. All the children see her on duty at breaks and lunchtimes.

Our Christian value of Trust and Collective worship We have explored this value in our daily Collective Worship this half term. We have considered the appearances of the first disciples after the resurrection and reflected on their relationships and our own and what trusting others might mean. We considered the wonder of creation when we learnt about the journey of Artemis 3 around the moon and really enjoyed celebrating David Attenborough's 100th birthday. The Parish Open the Book Team join us each Monday morning and the children help to lead the worship and enjoy dressing up as characters in the Bible stories they tell.

Special Mentions Assembly each Friday The whole school loves to come together to celebrate the achievements of everyone. We enjoy hearing about all the wonderful things our children do out of school also. Well done!

Assessments and National Statutory Tests

Year 1 complete their Phonic screen check in the week of Monday 8th June.

Year 4 will complete the National Times Tables test called the **Multiplication Tables Check** in the weeks of 2nd and 8th June. Thank you for continuing to practice tables to x 12 with your child.

Help for parents of Y4 to practice Times Tables with your child ready for the National Times Tables Test. Mrs Wright has already shared lots of information about this. There are also links to practice the test in the same way as the children will complete it in June. The link below takes you to a **practice Multiplication Tables Check**.

<http://www.timestables.co.uk>

Swimming Year 1 and 2 children swim on Tuesday; Class 3 children swim on Wednesday and Class 4 children swim on Thursday. Children should wear PE kit on swim days; please tie up long hair and remove ear rings. Apart from SATs week we will continue to swim each week until the week of 29th June.

PE Kit days for Summer Term

Class 1: Tuesday and Friday

Class 2: Tuesday and Wednesday

Class 3: Tuesday and Wednesday

Class 4: Tuesday and Thursday

School Clubs will continue until half term when new choices will be available.

Half Term reminder We finish for half term on Friday 22nd May and return to school **on Tuesday 2nd June** (we have a staff training/inset day on Monday 1st June).

Fundraising with Friends of the School and the Wensleydale Wander All our children benefit hugely from the extra resources provided by this additional fundraising. A group of parents, governors and staff recently completed the Wensleydale Wander - a 23 mile walk in under 8 hours. They completed the challenge and have raised £616 from their £1,000 target. These donations fund resources for items such as school clubs, additional art and craft materials, outdoor play equipment. **Please support their Just Giving Page and help them reach their target**

https://www.justgiving.com/team/ww23?utm_medium=TE&utm_source=CL

Raising money for school and pictured at the end of their walk– thank you for supporting our school



Summer Term Learning All classes are enjoying their new summer term topics. **Class 1 and 2** are starting work on their Transport topic and learning about the first railway and the engineer George Stephenson. They have used our beautiful school grounds to look for signs of Summer and Science they are exploring plants. They are looking forward to their visit to the Darlington Railway Museum later in June.

Class 3 have been enjoying their cricket and are working hard on their Maths and Times Tables. In Music they are preparing for the Summer Music Concert later in term when you will see them perform on violin and cello. **Class 4** are enjoying their Ancient Greek topic and have produced some excellent pastel art work based on Greek pottery designs.

Both Class 3 and 4 will visit the Yorkshire Museum in York on Friday 22nd May to explore the history galleries and take part in the Time Odyssey Experience. Please see the letter sent home for further details.

Children should arrive at school for 8.20am-we hope to depart at 8.30am. Please wear school uniform, bring a packed lunch and water bottle in a small rucksack. Year 6 children may wear their Leavers Hoodies. We plan to be back in school for the end of the school day.

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 with this.

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

With my best wishes, Nicola Dobson