



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

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'To love, live and learn together'

Newsletter Friday 11th September 2026

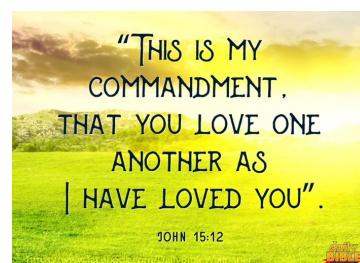
Our Christian value this half term is 'Respect'

Welcome back A very warm welcome back to a new term at school. A special welcome to our new Reception children. We are delighted with how well they have already settled. A special thank you to our Year 6 buddies who have done a great job welcoming and supporting them. We look forward to working with all our new families. You are all very welcome.

Smart Uniform and PE kit All the children look very smart– thank you! Please do label your child's clothes, including PE kit.

Our School Ethos and Values-'To love live and learn together'

As a Church of England Aided School our Christian values are very important to our school community and underpin how we behave to one another. This term we are focussing on the Christian value of **'Respect'**. We have been thinking about these words from the Bible, **'Love one another as I have loved you.'**



Class Curriculum letters and information about homework and PE were sent home in book bags today from your child's teacher.

After School Clubs will start next week for children in Y1 upwards. Most of our school clubs are free and are run voluntarily by school staff. Due to the withdrawal of Sports funding by the government we now need to charge for sports clubs delivered by outside coaches such as Matty who runs our Tuesday after school sports club. Please sign up for all clubs in Parent Pay. You will only pay for the Tuesday Sports Club. All clubs finish at 4.15pm. Next half term the Tuesday Sports Club will be for Year 1/2 children. **If a club fills and you are unable to sign up please email the office and you will be added to the waiting list for the next half term.**

Tuesday: Y3-Y6 Football; Y1-Y6 Choir; Thursday: Y1/2/3 Lego Club; Y3-Y6 Eco Club; Friday :8.15am Recorders.

Lunchtime Art Club this is run by our Y5 children for others in school to enjoy.



Pictured here are Class 1 and our Reception children who have really enjoyed meeting and playing with their Year 6 buddies.



Class 2 have enjoyed their first week back together exploring their new classroom.



Class 3 look very smart and are enjoying all being part of Key Stage 2.



Class 4 are now at the top of the school and are looking forward to the responsibilities this brings.



Parent Pay and School lunches If your child has moved into Year 3 you will now need to pay for their lunches online with Parent Pay, £4.05 per day. The government continues to fund lunches for infant children (until end of Y2). **Please speak to Mrs Veale in the office if you think your child may qualify for free school lunches.** This information is confidential and no one would be aware during lunch hours. **If your child would like school lunch on only 1 or 2 days this is possible.** Please email the office with your preferences. Fish and Chip Friday is very popular. There is a hot main course each day with sandwich or jacket potato options. **The menu is on our school website under Parents/School lunch.**

Milk and Snacks Children in Class 1 and 2 receive free fruit each day, funded nationally. Children under 5 receive free milk. Once children are 5 years old they may continue to have milk daily at a small cost through Cool Milk. Register online at www.coolmilk.com. All children should bring water bottles which can be refilled during the day. **Children may bring healthy snacks for break times; fresh fruit is best.** **Please do not bring any items containing nuts. We do have children in school with nut allergies.**

Instrumental Lessons in school with Mrs Jameson will start next week. You will receive a message indicating the day of your child's lesson.

Class 3 Music All children in Class 3 will learn to play either violin or cello as part of their class music. School provides these instruments on loan, free of charge. All classes have class music lessons.

Collective Worship, Special Mentions Assembly and our Newsletter

The whole school meets together in the hall each day for Collective Worship. The children often help to lead this. We have Special Mentions Assembly each Friday at 3pm when we celebrate and reflect on our week in school and share in the success of others. Children may bring in awards and certificates achieved outside school to share with us. The school newsletter is sent out on Friday by email and uploaded to the school website. The Parish Open the Book Team leads Collective Worship each Monday and children take it in turns to join in the dramatisation of Bible Stories.

PE Kit Day Reminders:

Class 1: Tuesday and Friday

Class 2: Tuesday and Wednesday

Class 3: Tuesday and Friday

Class 4: Tuesday and Wednesday

On PE days children should come to school in their PE kit; plain white tee shirt; navy/black zip hoodie; navy/black shorts or jogging trousers. Please remove any ear rings and leave these at home.

Reception Parents Phonics Meeting: Reception parents are invited into school for 2.45pm on **Wednesday 24th September** for a meeting with Mrs Reynolds to explain how we teach our children to read using the **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Programme**. We also send home Reception newsletters to explain all of this. **You can also get more information on our website under Children/Curriculum/Phonics.**

Reading books and reading record All children in Y1 upwards already have their reading record and a new book. Please hear your child read/read with them/discuss their book and sign their reading record. Please do this as often as possible; reading daily is ideal. Please help your child to have quiet time to enjoy their books. Reading well is the single greatest indicator of academic success. Please do all of this right up to the end of Year 6.

Cally Smith Wrap Around Care This is run by Cally Smith from our school site, for children in our school only. The children have access to our beautiful school grounds and enjoy breakfast and a home cooked tea. Children may still attend our school clubs and will join the wrap around group afterwards. For further details and/or to book places, please contact Cally directly on:

Email: wraparound@callysmithchildcare.com

Telephone: 07955952794

End of summer term thank you

All the staff join with me in thanking you for the very positive feedback and kind gifts received at the end of last term. A special thank you to last years Y6 Leavers who bought new planter boxes for the fence in the car park.

We look forward to another year working in partnership with you and your child.

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

With my best wishes,

Nicola Dobson