

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 10th September 2021 Our Christian value this half term is 'Friendship'

Welcome back A very warm welcome back to a new term at school. We are welcoming 16 new children into our Reception Year. We are delighted with how well they have already settled. Next week our Year 6 will introduce themselves to our Reception children and begin their important 'buddy' role of 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!

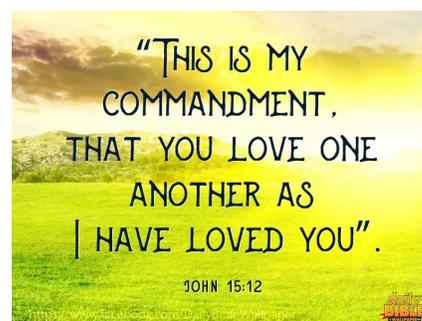
PE Kit day reminders: Class 1 and 2 children will come to school in their PE kit on Tuesday and Thursday. Class 3 and 4 children will come to school in their PE kit on Monday and Wednesday.

Reception children will start to wear their PE kit to school in Week 3 when they stay for full days. They will come to school in their PE kit on Tuesday and Thursday.

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 towards one another. This half term we are focussing on the Christian value of '**Friendship**'.

Staff in school In addition to our regular teachers, teaching assistants and Mrs Newton in the office, Class music lessons and string and piano teaching are delivered by Mrs Jameson who is also a fully qualified primary school teacher. Mr Waters from North Yorkshire Music Service teaches flute and woodwind. Mr Layfield and his team of primary specialist sports coaches also work with us. Our clubs are run voluntarily by our school staff and by qualified sports coaches. **You can see photographs of our staff on the school website.**



School lunches and our catering staff We have a wonderful school cook, Danielle and her assistant Amanda who are employed through North Yorkshire catering service. Our school lunches are delicious. **Our school menu is on our school website in the Parents section and was emailed to you this week.**

Collective Worship, Special Mentions Assembly and our Newsletter The whole school meets together in the hall each day for Collective Worship. We have Special Mentions Assembly at 3pm every Friday when we celebrate and reflect on our week in school and share in the success of others. Children may bring in certificates and awards achieved outside school to share with us. **Our parents and carers are not currently attending Special Mentions Assembly; we will continue to review this.**

The school newsletter is sent out every Friday by email and uploaded onto the school website.

Class letters, curriculum information and diary dates for the term in book bags All the children have class letters from their teachers telling you more about the topics they will be studying this term and about class routines. Diary dates for the term and holiday dates are also in book bags today. (Our Reception new starters will receive these next week). Homework, across school will go home on a Friday to be returned the following Wednesday. We are keen to work in partnership with parents—any queries please do ask.

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, £13.75 per week. The government continues to fund lunches for infant children (until end of Y2). If you want to change your lunch arrangements the kitchen/office needs a week's notice as fresh food is ordered in advance. Please speak to the office if you think your child may qualify for free school lunches. Parent pay accounts must stay in credit.

After School Clubs start next week These are offered voluntarily by our school staff and funded by our Sports Premium funding for children in Years 1-6. **Please book your child's place on a club in Parent pay by the end of this Sunday 12th September.** Clubs need to be rebooked each half term.

Clubs this half term:

Monday 3.30-4.30pm	Fitness Year 3/4
Tuesday 3.30-4.30pm	Multiskills Year 1/2
Wednesday 3.30-4.15pm	Football Year 5/6
Wednesday 3.30-4.15pm	Choir KS2
Thursday 3.30-4.15pm	Eco Club Year 1/2
	Eco Club KS2

Milk and Snacks Children in Classes 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 or dried fruit, cereal bars).

Peanut Allergies We do have children in school with peanut allergies. Please do not send your child to school with peanut butter in sandwiches or snacks.

Music Exam Congratulations to Theo and Isabelle Many congratulations to Theo who passed his Grade 1 piano exam and to Isabelle who passed her Grade 1 violin exam. Both great achievements in their ABRSM exams.

Well done to everyone who brought in awards from outside school which we enjoyed celebrating in Special Mentions today. A special well done if you took part in the Wild Warrior reading challenge at the library.

Instrumental lessons in school Instrumental lessons resume next week. If you are interested in your child having individual/small group lessons in either piano, violin, cello, flute or clarinet please contact the office. There may be a waiting list.

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

Please note– if you wish your child to continue to play the violin or cello beyond Year 4 you will need to pay for small group tuition in school with Mrs Jameson. Please contact the office.

Children in Class 4 continue to have class music lessons each week where they continue to learn important musical skills including note reading.

Class 4 Marrick Priory Outdoor Education

Residential visit A reminder to complete and return your paperwork for this. More details to follow including a date tbc for a parent's meeting.

Year 6 Open Evenings at St Francis Xavier and Richmond Secondary Schools Year 6 children have information in their bags today about this.

St Francis Xavier Open Evening 21st September
Richmond School Open Evening 23rd September

Keeping Children Safe in School The safety and well being of everyone in school is our highest priority. We follow all DfE and Public Health England guidelines and continue to ensure good ventilation, hygiene, cleaning, hand sanitising and hand washing. If your child is unwell and the symptoms may be COVID related please do not send your child to school; arrange a PCR test and notify school.

Thank you Thank you once again to Friends of the School and all our parents for their remarkable and supportive fundraising in the summer term. We raised £2,100 from our Sponsored Walk to the North Pole and a further £560 from our raffle. This money will be spent on enriching the education of our children. We will involve the children and share with you how we plan to spend this.

All the staff join me in thanking you for the very positive feedback and very kind gifts received at the end of the summer term. We are looking 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,

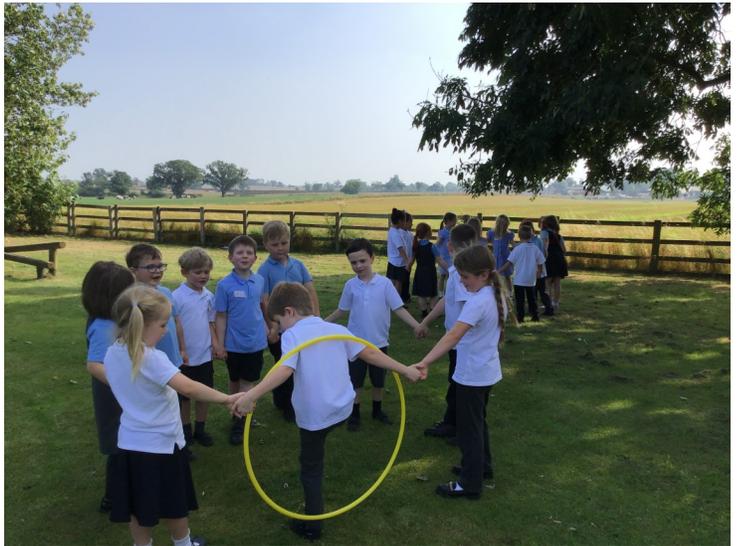
Nicola Dobson

Please see our first week back in photos on the next page.

Highlights from our first week back in school Meet Class 1



Meet Class 2



Meet Class 3



Meet Class 4



Celebrating our whole school community - 'life in all its fullness'

