

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 6th January 2023

Our Christian value this half term is 'Honesty'

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term On behalf of the staff and myself, thank you for all the wonderful cards and gifts we received at Christmas. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. This week we have been thinking of the journey of the Three Wise Men and the season of Epiphany in the Church calendar. We have reflected on our new Christian value for the half term which is Honesty and have thought about how we can be honest with ourselves and how we can work to use our gifts and talents to help others. We celebrated a wonderful Christmas in school finishing with our visit from Father Christmas on his tractor, our parties, Christmas lunch and KS2 led Carol Service in St Mary's Church when our children sang, read and performed so confidently. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead.



Curriculum Letters and Topics for the term All the classes have new topics for the term. **Classes 1 and 2 are looking at the History of Toys** and later in term **Kenya**. **Class 3 is studying the country of India** and **Class 4 is exploring the ancient Maya civilisation of Central America**. Each class teacher has outlined other topic areas and days for Class PE in the curriculum letters sent home on Friday. Homework continues to go home on a Friday to be returned by Wednesday.

PE Kit Day reminders this term: Class 1 wear PE Kit on Tuesday and Thursday; Class 2 wear PE Kit on Tuesday and Friday; Class 3 and 4 wear PE kit on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Thank you to everyone and to Friends of School A huge thank you for supporting our Christmas fundraising activities. The raffle raised £543 and we are awaiting the final total raised from the personalised bags. This will be used to enhance activities for all our children in school. We are looking forward to a whole school theatre performance of The Hobbit later this term which will be funded by this. Our visit from Father Christmas on his wonderfully decorated tractor, driven by our farming helper elves; decorated by parents and kindly loaned by the Booths Farm was a Christmas highlight once again. A huge thank you to The Green Frog Garden Shop at Ellerton Lake for their kind donation of our beautiful Christmas tree.



Diary Dates for this term A full list of diary dates was sent home in book bags on Friday and is on the school website. This includes Class Assembly dates and Parent Teacher Consultation dates for the week after half term. More detailed information on other events will follow.

Clubs start next week Clubs are offered to children in Y1 to Y6 and change half termly. **Please book your child's place on Parent Pay.** There is no cost: staff give their time generously and Sports Premium funds our sports coaches.

Clubs this half term are:

Tues: KS1 Multiskills till 4.30pm

Wed: Choir Y1-Y6 till 4.15pm

Thurs: Eco Team KS2; Games Club Y1-Y4 till 4.15pm

Friday: Recorders KS2 8.15am-8.45am

Y6 SATs Club on Tuesday Starting on Tuesday 10th January, we hope that all our Y6 children will be able to stay till 4.30pm to help them to prepare for their Year 6 tests.

Y6 SATs week 2023 Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May

Year 6 SATs Parents Meeting Wednesday 18th January at 6pm in school This is for parents of Year 6 children –please put the date in your diary and make it a priority.

Working in partnership with Durham University We once again have students training to teach on placement in school. Currently they are in Class 1 and 2 and visit on a Thursday.

Instrumental Lessons Class 3 violin and cello lessons and individual/small group piano, violin, cello with Mrs Jameson resume in the week beginning 9th January. **A reminder from Mrs Jameson to bring your music and practice book.** We currently have a waiting list for lessons. Please contact the office to be added to the list. It may be possible to organise lessons in other instruments. Please speak to us.

Open Pantry in the Parish Food/toiletry items are freely available to anyone who might need them. Please visit St Mary's Church, Bolton-on-Swale or St Paul's Church, Brompton-on-Swale between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday where you may freely select your own items.

How can I support my child in making good progress in their learning?

Reading with your child For children of all ages - all research shows that hearing your child read, reading to them or discussing their reading with them is one the most important things you can do to ensure good progress in school. Do this everyday if possible and discuss tricky words with them.

Maths and learning times tables Learning times tables is an area in which you can really help your child make progress in Maths. The curriculum states that:

In Year 1 children should practice counting in 2's, 5's and 10's.

By the end of Year 2 children should know: x2, x5, x10 tables. eg. $2 \times 7 = 14$; $11 \times 10 = 110$.

By the end of Year 3 children should know x2, x3, x4, x5, x 8, x10 tables eg. $4 \times 8 = 32$; $8 \times 9 = 72$.

By the end of Year 4 your child needs to know all their tables to x12 mixed up, with a quick response eg. $9 \times 9 = 81$, $7 \times 8 = 56$, $9 \times 7 = 63$.

If your child is in Year 5 and 6 they need to be fluent and confident in their times tables knowledge to x12 including division facts eg. $49 \div 7 = 7$, $132 \div 11 = 12$.

Class 3 children received additional Times Tables information in their book bags on Friday including information on the Year 4 Multiplication Check in June

Copy and paste the link below for a practise website your Year 4 child can use at home to prepare for the Multiplication Check.

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

Discovery Education Espresso This is an online learning resource your child can access at home. It has a huge range of resources directly relevant to your child's learning in all areas. There is great weekly news; online safety information; games and exciting videos linked to all primary curriculum areas. www.discoveryeducation.co.uk

Username: student23945 Password: bolton

Please see the next page for highlights from in school.

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

With my best wishes,

Nicola Dobson

Congratulations to our Y5/6 Boys Football Team who were winners of the Richmond Area Tournament and finished in 2nd place in the Swaledale Area.



Koboca Home PE Step Up Challenge National Champions Koboca is a national virtual PE competition aiming to build skills of balance, strength and coordination. Class 4 children participated in this and finished in 1st place nationally. Congratulations!

Eco Team back at work in the New Year

A big thank you to Eleanor and Grace who spent their break times this week tidying our school grounds and ensuring they are litter free.



Collective Worship Team in action

Thank you to Isabelle and Lucy who set up our worship table for the season of Epiphany.



Singing Carols at Scorton Village Care Home Many thanks to all the children who gave up their time to sing carols for the afternoon to care home residents. We all valued being part of this experience.



Visitors to school to support our Collective Worship

We welcomed Padre Hector, an army chaplain and parent to lead our Collective Worship on St Andrew's Day. He also played his bagpipes for us! Pictured here with Class 2.



We also welcomed Padre Grant, an army chaplain and grandad of children in our school.

Parish Open the Book Team we continue to enjoy their Monday morning visits when children can dress up and share in dramatising Bible stories from the Old and New Testaments.

