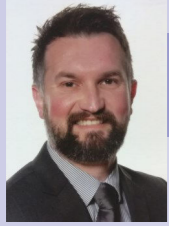




# Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School Newsletter



It has been a really positive and productive first half of the Spring Term with a great many trips, events and school developments taking place. There have also been some fantastic, engaging lessons going on around school and showcased using School Dojo. Although it does seem late to be saying it, I do hope you all had a restful and relaxing Christmas and New Year spent with loved ones.

We will soon be revamping the entrance hall, as I have mentioned, and this work will be carried out during Half-Term in time for the children returning on Tuesday 27th February. Alongside this work, new entry pads will be fitted to nearly all of our external doors in order to improve security. We are also having new LCD touchscreens fitted in Rec, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5 to improve our provision for our pupils (the other classes already have them). Our website will soon have a refresh and I will aim to make it fresh, easy to navigate and vibrant enough to reflect the warmth and friendliness of school life at BCPS. Enjoy the Half-Term break.

*Mr Donbavand*

## Welcoming our school's Chickens

As the children will know, I have 5 chickens at home and enjoy keeping them as pets. When I first met the PTA, staff and pupils they all seemed excited about the prospect of us caring for chickens at BCPS. First of all, the PTA kindly agreed to fund the coop/chickens and supplies needed.

Then Mr Tyres (Y1 Parent) came in to help Craig and I, in atrocious weather, to build the coop. Once the coop was in place, Miss Latham kindly made the trip over to Ashbourne, in her own time, to collect them and help settle them in at school.

The children have shown how caring they are by being a little quieter around the coop and making sure (whilst we arrange a new fence) that balls and other resources don't strike the coop. We have actually found that once the chickens hear the children's voices, they are inquisitive and want to come and nosey at what is going on.

Many pupils entered our competition to name the chickens, and we drew some lovely names out for them. Next time you see the chickens, say hello to: Jenny, Lottie, Cheryl and Shine!



## Bearly Loved: making a difference in our global community

At the end of January, we welcomed Andrea (from Barely Loved) to come and lead an assembly at BCPS. Our whole school showed their generosity: a Christian value that is apparent throughout the BCPS community. Each child had the opportunity to donate a cuddly toy in order to make a less-fortunate child, elsewhere in the world, feel loved. The event was a great success and the school raised £214 for the charity. I will keep you all posted if we receive any updates on them reaching their destination. Thanks again for supporting this worthwhile charity.



## A visit from the Bollington Town Councillors

It was a pleasure to welcome a group of Town Councillors, led by Deputy Mayor Jon Weston, to BCPS on the 29th January. Their visit takes place annually and is aimed at helping councillors to get an understanding of our local primary schools and an idea of how they can support schools with any challenges they face.

It was good to be able to discuss the ongoing traffic and road safety concerns we had with them. I was also able to feedback to them after walking the 'Available Route' to THS with Mr Botwe and a representative from Cheshire East Highways just before Christmas. Narrow paths and badly-lit crossing points were two of the issues I raised with them. I also mentioned the traffic barrier outside, which is still in need of repair. Fingers crossed, it will be replaced soon.

Members of our Year 6 class were on hand to lead the tour of the school and to tell our visitors all about what makes life at BCPS so special. Councillors remarked on how mature and articulate the pupils were and thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

*"I'm pleased to hear that the visit was a success; one of the Councillors has already been in to say that he had thoroughly enjoyed himself and that the children were a credit to the school."*

*Mayor's Secretary  
Emma Bambrook*

## Learning about the British Values: Democracy

Following hot on the heels of our Deputy Mayor's visit, Cllr Ken Edwards visited BCPS to help KS2 understand the concept and importance of democracy. He firstly spoke about the democracy from a world-wide perspective and how some countries have different political systems to ours. He then zoomed in on Great Britain and how our government and leaders on a national-level get chosen. He finished off by talking about Bollington Town Council and its importance for the local community as a mechanism to bring about positive changes. He was an engaging speaker and our KS2 children took a lot from the experience.

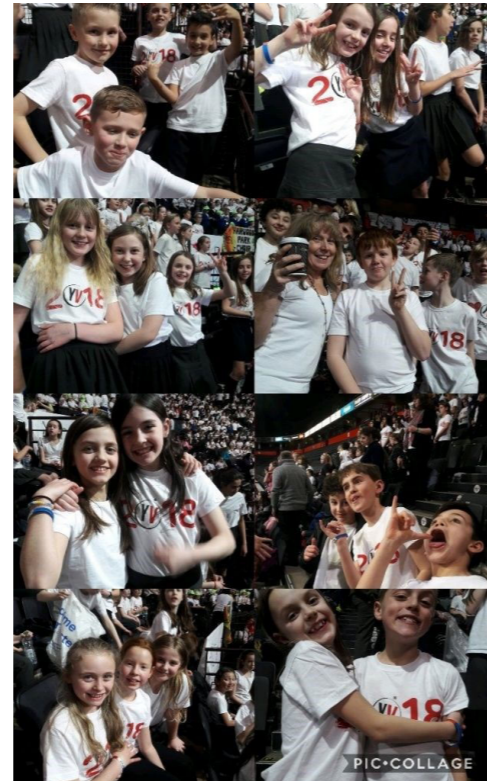




## Young Voices 2018

Year 5 and Year 6 once again turned in an amazing performance of singing and togetherness at this Year's Young Voices Concert. Judging by the feedback from parents, staff and children, it was a great experience for all involved.

Mrs Vaughan had prepared the children really well and the children really enjoyed the song choices for this year. This meant that they were brimming with enthusiasm for this event. I believe that the children behaved fabulously and many parents commented on how proud they were that their child had sang so well. Many thanks to the staff team who accompanied the children in order to make the trip possible.



**Before / After school club** are seeking to streamline their booking system in order to make it easier for parents and to ensure they have the correct pupil to staff ratio each day. Please support them by filling in a monthly booking form. They are available from the office or the school website. Thank you.

## Staying active and healthy

A renewed focus on Physical Education will be evident over the coming months at BCPS. We already offer Games and Swimming in abundance, but we feel that Gymnastics and Dance need also to be given a higher profile around school and throughout the curriculum. We have already had a PE assessment day with Amaven and we are looking forward to introducing our pupils to their 'Physical Literacy' tracking system for each pupil during the Summer Term. The following clip, which we have used recently in a staff meeting, brings home the importance of plenty of physical activity from a young age.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmOlzRQTabA>

## PTA News!

The school disco took a whopping £559 on Friday! It makes it all worth-while when the funds we raise are so substantial and the children have so much fun. Thank you to all parents/carers and staff who volunteered to help on the evening. We really appreciate all the help we get!

Extra special thanks to Mr Ireland from Bollington Balloons for providing the amazing balloon photo heart to enhance the decorations at the Valentine's disco. Thanks also to Bev Nixon from St. Oswalds for lending us her disco lights! We can't have a disco without lights!

The next event will be the much anticipated Quiz Night, on the 2nd of March!

Further March events;

\*Reception & Year 3 - cake sale on Monday 19th.

\*Non uniform day - Friday 23rd - for a donation of chocolate towards the chocobola at the Easter 'Egg' extravaganza!

\*Family Easter 'Egg' extravaganza! - Saturday 24th March. 10am - 1pm.

Keep your eyes peeled for our posters going up around school with further details of these events on.

Also if you haven't done so already, please join the PTA Facebook group, "Bollington Cross PTA" for up to date information on all future events!

Thank you for your continued support! Jenni Brewin. (PTA Chair)



## Term time absences and School Dojo

As you will be aware, Cheshire East Local Authority issue clear guidance on attendance. As a Headteacher, there is little flexibility in terms of granting requests for authorized term-time absences. Please could you ensure that any future requests come through the school office on the official paperwork—rather than private messages on School Dojo. I do want you all to feel able to contact me through Dojo, but in this case, the official paperwork is required to formalise the process. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter. Many thanks to those of you using Dojo to send feedback on improvements.

## Our Parent-led Science Club

We have had a great start to the Year with our Parent run Science Club. The children and parents have enjoyed it thoroughly and I have been picking up new ideas. So far, thanks to Clare Foat (Gwilym and Iolo's mum), Helen Porter (Isa's mum) and Karen Jones (Alice's mum) have all given us action packed sessions. If you are interested in running a Science Club, session let Mrs Smith know.



## Dates for your Diary

Friday 16th February School closes for Spring Half-Term Holiday

Monday 26th February INSET DAY

Tuesday 27th February School re-opens for Spring 2nd Half-Term

Thursday 1st March - World Book Day

Friday 2nd March - PTA Quiz night

Tuesday 6th March - Swimming Gala

Monday 19th March - Parent's Evening 1

Wednesday 21st March - Parent's Evening 2

Friday 23rd March - Non-Uniform for Choc Tombola

Thursday 29th March - School closes for Easter

Monday 16th April - School re-opens for Summer Term

Monday 7th May - May Bank Holiday (School Closed)

From all of the team at Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School, have a great half-term holiday.

