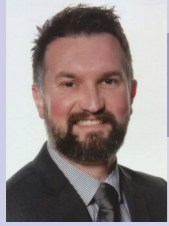




Autumn 1st Half-Term 2018

## Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School Newsletter



Our school is such a positive place and we have had many things to shout about since returning after the summer break. We have started a nurture group, started using our outdoor classroom, achieved the silver games award for our school, welcomed our new Reception class, had an amazing harvest festival, started a Valuing All Children Committee and begun thinking about some great projects to help our school become more environmentally-friendly.

Our pupils have had a great half-term and I can see that our staff pledges, Christian ethos and values are really lived-out by the whole school. We have such an exciting year ahead too and I look forward to working with you all to continue the schools journey of improvement in all we do.

Our PTA have been very busy organizing a number of exciting events for this year, so please look out for information in book bags and on the notice boards, outside school, to see how you can get involved. Have a lovely half-term.

*Mr Donbavand*

### St Oswald's turns 110!

On Monday 22nd of October we helped celebrate the 110th Birthday of St Oswald's Church. Every one of our pupils was invited to attend a special gathering, which included a quiz, some history and cakes! The children enjoyed singing Happy Birthday to the church and seeing all of their lovely artwork adorning the stone pillars.

We have reflected this week on the fact that our lower school building was donated by the Church of England once St Oswald's had been built. Without St Oswald's, our school may not even exist today! Our pupils were excited to be involved in the celebrations and we all hope that St Oswald's celebrates a great many more birthdays in the future.



Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School

### The Nurture Room at BCPS

Over the past year, as a school, we have become more aware of the importance of considering our emotional health and wellbeing and the part that plays in education. As part of a whole school approach our staff have been encouraged to consider their own wellbeing and pupils are practising mindfulness in their classrooms. With this in mind, we are delighted to let you know that we have recently established The Nurture Room at Bollington Cross.

We run two Nurture Groups (KS1 and KS2) of 4-6 children who meet twice a week for a 10 week period. The aim of the group is to help the children build friendships with their peers and establish relationships of trust, talk about and understand their feelings, increase their self-esteem and confidence, and have a sense of belonging to the school community. This in turn will have a positive impact on children's learning.

Our first cohort started their nurture journey on the 1st October and are loving getting to know each other and working together as a team to improve their wellbeing.

We are looking forward to becoming a truly emotionally healthy school! (Mrs Allen)







## As half-term is upon us ....

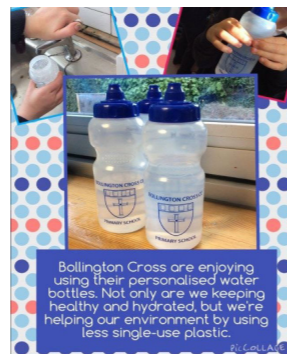
At BCPS there is no doubt that we value the outdoors. We have a widely used forest school provision, our play times are becoming more active, we encourage good physical health through a good diet and lots of activity, we track children's progress in PE in order to support their developing physical literacy and we encourage joining and representing sporting clubs. As half-term arrives, here is a short, powerful video to encourage us to get outside more. It might change your mind about whether to get out on a rainy day in the holidays!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Q2WnCbTWO>

We also value play, creativity and problem-solving very highly at BCPS, as suggested in this article about the emphasis we should put on play. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/09/skills-children-need-work-future-play-lego/> The article also mentions preparing young children for their chosen careers. We will soon be working with the Skills Builder Partnership in order that we are preparing our pupils with the right skills for future jobs. <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/>

## Looking after our planet

Lots of pupils at BCPS talk with great passion about looking after the environment. There are currently a group of Year 6 pupils collecting plastic to reuse as part of a project, Tom and Zak are planning to build an Eco brick bird hide in the hollow, members of Year 4 are concerned enough to start a petition about local housing developments and their impact on our wildlife and our Ocean Plastics Art Exhibition kick-started the idea of sustainable and re-fillable drinking bottles. The whole school can be proud of these efforts, but if you think we can do more and have ideas to share, please let us know!



## Forest School Improvements

Our outdoor classroom is now in use and the children are really enjoying this improvement to our Forest School at BCPS. Building and kitting out an outdoor classroom takes great effort and Mr Machin and Craig have worked tirelessly to ensure it looks inviting and provides good shelter from the elements. We have kept the cost of this project down by accepting donations of materials from local businesses. One such business is Stein IAS, who are a local business based in Clarence Mill. They were kind enough to donate the pin boards to board-out the inner-walls and provide a means to display children's work. They are always willing to help local causes and we thank them for their kind donation. We also used old furniture and work tops from classrooms in order to create the seating area and tables. Solar-powered lights provide the finishing touch. We are really pleased with the project as it is having a great impact on ensuring the children access outdoor learning in even the most inclement British weather. More importantly, the children love it!



## A note from the office

We now have new procedures in place for responding to unpaid school dinner fees at BCPS. They can be found on the link below.

[http://www.bollingtoncross.cheshire.sch.uk/serve\\_file/291309](http://www.bollingtoncross.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/291309)

## 'Perfect Parking' at BCPS

Thank you all for supporting our rules regarding the staff car park at BCPS. It is clear to see that it has greatly reduced the unauthorised use of the car park.

In recent weeks, we have needed emergency vehicle access into the school and the clear car park has enabled good access.

I will continue to put pressure on Cheshire East Highways in order to reduce the speed of vehicles and improve safety, as it is a real concern of ours.



## Boreatton Hall Residential

The annual Year 6 residential took place in the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> September and was as action-packed as ever. It was great to see pupils so ready to tackle challenges in the air (zipwire, giant swing and abseiling) and on the water (raft-building). It is a wonderful way to start the year as I learn so much about my 'new' pupils and they learn even more about each other. The children were an excellent group and were a credit to our school. Here's to 2019!



## Dates for your Diary

Our school website offers a calendar of main events. Please visit it here on the link below in order to stay up to date.

<http://www.bollingtoncross.cheshire.sch.uk/events>

