



Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School Newsletter



Dear Families,

This has been an exciting, productive and tiring half-term for everyone involved I'm sure. Welcoming the children back in September was brilliant and being able to say that all classes have been able to attend for a full half-term is fantastic.

The feeling of being tired, over-tired or exhausted is a feeling that some of us have in our busy lives and we associate this sometimes in school with the end-of-term or end of half-term when, some of our learners are a little more emotional than normal. Some adults too are experiencing the feeling of being incredibly tired and I read an article that I thought I'd share from a wellbeing point of view—about how this may be related to the pandemic (you can read the article on the link below). We know that however we are feeling as parents and adults often filters through to children, even if we do not bring attention to it or say it. Anyway, hopefully the article gives some insight and is helpful in acknowledging that it is a shared feeling and not something anyone is going through in isolation.

<https://www.newstatesman.com/science-tech/science-of-us/2021/10/the-great-covid-social-burnout-why-are-we-so-exhausted>

I hope that all of our families feel that I have carried out the 'cautious, but optimistic' approach to our recovery as a school, which I promised. Though we have not had school events with families attending, we have celebrated a Harvest Festival at St Oswald's Church and you were all very generous. The children loved being together and singing together! The caution at the moment comes in the form of not yet mixing our bubbles unless absolutely necessary and in the form of air quality monitors and purifiers in every classroom (the promised Government devices haven't arrived as yet). We can see from the Local Authority data and the media that cases are picking up, but I am confident we are progressing in school as safely as we can, to keep the children consistently attending and learning, as we all want this and the pupils certainly need it.

I hope this half-term does offer you a chance to rest, reflect, recharge and be present with your children. I will certainly be trying to enjoy the simple things like songs, board games, conversations and plenty of fresh air with my family. Thank you once again for all your support this half term.

Mr Donbavand



Celebrating Harvest Festival at St Oswald's Church : Oct 2021



Year 2

Year 2 have really settled into the routines and their learning. I have been in awe at how resilient they are becoming! Each and everyone of them has impressed me in so many different ways. We have really enjoyed practicing our Maths through chalk-ing the numbers in the playground, playing Top Trumps and adding 3 numbers in our card games. We have had some great practical Science lessons and Mrs Harris has kindly given her time to help deliver the Science. So far we have made bread and lemon volcanoes! It has been great to see the children enjoying getting a little messy! **Mrs Smith**



"I have been in awe at how resilient they are becoming!"



Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed a busy and industrious start to this year, culminating this week in a 'Nature Day' and a 'Pyjamas and Teddy Day' as a Dojo points reward.

Nature Day was organised by three of the pupils and included many activities: a quiz on insect facts, 'Insect Olympics', creating our own insects and some complicated origami which involved making insect claws. We also went down into the Hollow to do a bug survey and construct bug houses. We had a fun and very busy day!

Miss Bennett

Here, Class 5 are ordering fact cards linked to insects.



Dear God,

We thank you for all the gifts of ripened fruit and vegetables you give to us at Harvest time.

For the bread and the cereals on our table every day and for all the other good things we have to eat.

Help those who are less fortunate and grant us all your peace this day and for evermore.

Amen.





Always focused on Wellbeing

We have kick-started the wellbeing year by reminding ourselves what wellbeing is and how we can look after it. The older children have put together a beautiful display to help our younger pupils understand that we all have mental health and the importance of looking after it. We have been focusing on the positives and supporting our peers, learning about the importance of showing kindness and thinking about the things which make us happy. Doing all these things has a positive impact on our wellbeing. In KS1 we have been enjoying learning all about different feelings.

On the 8th October we turned the school yellow when we took part in #HelloYellow day to mark World Mental Health Day. The children had great fun taking part in acts of kindness challenges!

We have 4 new year 5 Emotional Health Ambassadors who will join our year 6 ambassadors and over the coming months will be working together to recognise good and poor emotional health and how to support their peers. **Mrs Allen**



The children have taken part in acts of kindness challenges today and helped to raise awareness of mental health. Thanks to the generosity of our families we have raised £182 for the charity YoungMinds. Thank you very much! #HelloYellow
Thank you
PIC-COLLAGE



Can you help?

It has been reported that a car went through a red light at our crossing at a busy time this week and I thank the parent who brought it to my attention.

I am always eager to make the crossing as safe as possible and make/force improvements from the authority.

If you see any incident please ring the **Police on 101** and give them the time, date and location of the dangerous driving. If you can snap a picture of the number plate that would be even better. However, even without the number plate the Police will log it and I remember hearing from the Police that visually that drops a 'pin in the map' in terms of incidents logged. If we can get enough of these, whether about parking or driving, the school has much more evidence to request/force changes and improvements.

Saying goodbye to Mrs Hipwell

Mrs Carole Hipwell will be leaving the staff team at October Half-Term after 33 happy years at Bollington Cross.

She has always been based in Ks1 and has supported an incredible number of pupils through their formative phonics, number and other areas of learning. She has always been hardworking, professional and diligent and has had a great relationship with a great many pupils over her years here. She will be greatly missed at Bollington Cross and we know she will pop in from time to time—hopefully with some of her amazing baking!



Reception

It has been lovely getting to know all the Reception children over this half term. They have settled well into their new routines and we are really proud of them all. We have been learning how to play together, thinking about how we are all different and all special. The children have been working hard in Fred Time and Number time and really enjoy our Rhyme time and Dough Disco sessions. We were so pleased with how well the children performed in front of an audience during our Harvest Service - a great achievement considering they have only been in school for a few weeks! We are looking forward to building on this half term's successes and celebrating more achievements very soon! **Miss Asbury**

