



Autumn 2nd Half Term 2019

Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,
It has been a fantastic half-term with lots of improvements in learning taking place and a great amount of staff development too. As well as improvements to teaching and learning, we have also invested in our outdoor spaces. We are excited, as are the children, about these improvements, and glad they are finished! The pupils are now enjoying exploring their new space. Thank you for all of your feedback and support this half-term. I hope you have a restful and fun Christmas and New Year.

Mr Donbavand

Our Wonderful New Playground!

On the 4th December, we were able to proudly unveil our new playground with a grand opening ceremony! All of the pupils agreed that the wait had been worth it and they had coped so well with limited space during the ongoing improvements. Every pupil has had a chance to go on it now and they talk very excitedly about it. This change to our playground layout will enable more activity and enjoyment for all pupils. The Multi-Use-Games-Area at the end of the playground has also meant further opportunities for active play and invasion games (e.g. football, basketball etc). We have also purchased some excellent outdoor storage too, so that all of our play and PE equipment is now in the process of being sorted and stored in a way that is easily accessible. The storage doubles up as seating too! Everyone who has visited or toured the school has also spoken positively about this improvement to our provision. I will leave you with some pictures and one-word reviews from some of our pupils.



Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School

Rocking (discoing and singing) around the Christmas Tree

We have had a range of successful events during the run up to the Christmas period, whether they were Nativity performances, a school disco, meeting Santa (and hearing his accordion playing) or a good old sing song together. We have really appreciated everyone who attended, supported, helped-out by volunteering or donated items to make them a success. A heart-felt thank you to you all!



BCPS and the Capriccio: Supporting Transition Bollington

At BCPS, we love to be involved in fantastic local initiatives—especially if they involve doing something great for the planet! In September, we were invited by Annie Wood to take part in a vocal choir event at St Oswald's Church. The event was to raise money for Transition Bollington, who have the aim of planting 3,000 fruit and nut trees throughout Bollington. Their aim is to make Bollington as sustainable as possible and lessen its impact on the planet. The Choir event was excellent and our choir joined the adult choir to sing, 'For the Beauty of the Earth' and 'The Lord is my Shepherd'. The children were excellent and should be very proud of themselves for their amazing rehearsal and performance. The event was a great success and raised £1,160. Our school will benefit from some trees due to be planted on the school grounds in the Spring. Well done to all pupils involved. You are making a positive difference.



"I think it's fair to say that the children sounded beautiful and there wasn't a dry eye in the house afterwards. From the comments, the (sell-out) audience and the adult choir were absolutely delighted at their performance and also their exemplary behaviour. They were a total credit to your school throughout the afternoon rehearsal and the evening performance."

Annie Wood - Transition Bollington/Choir Member



Fees and Payments

Please support school in enabling trips, after school clubs and before and after school care by making sure all payments to school are on time.

A recent look into our school finances, highlighted the fact that many sets of parents are yet to pay any fees for swimming lessons. We cannot sustain opportunities such as swimming unless we have significant improvement in this area. Chasing monies owed also takes valuable time away from our office staff which could be spent on more productive areas for school.

Thank you in advance for prioritising the timely paying of any fees owed.

Good attendance at BCPS

School attendance currently sits at **97.2%**, with 95% being the national average. I am pleased that we have managed to maintain a high average despite lots of instances of sickness and fever later on in the term. Please remember to follow the guidance on our website with regards keeping children off school, if needed;

http://www.bollingtoncross.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/217041

We have seen a rise in the number of parents requesting an authorised absence in the register, when the circumstances do not meet the criteria for the request. We have updated the school's attendance policy during the last 12 months and, with January in mind, it is worth reading again in order to refresh your knowledge of our agreed procedures.

It can be found here;

http://www.bollingtoncross.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/317205

We take attendance and punctuality seriously and want every child to be given the chance to succeed and make good progress. We remind parents and carers of what constitutes good attendance during two parent's evenings and also as part of our annual, individual school report. This is also when we highlight where attendance could improve.

Reception: 97.9%	Year 1: 97.67%	Year 2: 98.18%	
Year 3: 96.93%	Year 4: 95.19%	Year 5: 96.77%	Year 6: 96.93%

Thank you for continuing to support good attendance across the school.

Sorry you are leaving us....

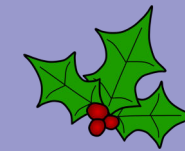
On Wednesday 18th December, Bollington Cross says goodbye to Mrs Walker, who has served the school as class teacher and as SEND Lead Teacher during the last 15 years. We wish her well for a long and happy retirement and hope she pops back to see us from time-to-time, when she isn't busy touring in the motorhome! We will miss her and thank her on behalf of all pupils and their families.

From all of the staff at BCPS, have an amazing Christmas holiday and we will see you all on Tuesday January 7th!

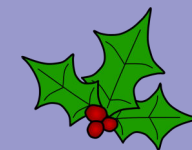


Following the Star at St Oswald's

Our pupils treated us to 4 amazing performances of their Nativity production. They sang and spoke beautifully to a packed church and we are thankful that you could all attend and enjoy their talents. St Oswald's really is a special place to us and it was a pleasure to have the children fill it with energy and joy. We hope that you too enjoyed their performances and were able to capture these special memories.



KS2 Nativity performance



Christmas Prayer

Lord God,
Thank You for this wonderful Christmas morning. Thank You for the presents, breakfast, and this time with my family. Please guide me on what to do today to make it memorable and special, and according to Your will. Please also help me make today peaceful and in celebration of your birth.
Amen.

