



# Bollington Cross C.E. Primary School Newsletter



### Dear Families,

When I looked at the calendar for this half-term in school, I knew it would feel the way it has (relentless but fun)! With many weeks having high profile events in the year of a primary school head. We have had our KS2 SATs, our Year 6 Residential and some of our KS2 pupils are taking part in Young Voices in Manchester this week. As I type this, our Year 6 pupils are on their bikes in the playground beginning their Level 2 Bike-ability Qualifications! I don't know where they get their energy! It needs acknowledging that our Year 6 pupils, thanks to all the support they've had in their years here and the many hours learning at home during their last two years, approached the SATs with great composure, focus and resilience. Our Chair of Governors attended to support with invigilation on one of the days and I know he was very impressed with the calm atmosphere provided by the whole school and also the fantastic attitude of all of our Year 6s. Confidence and happiness are often cited as the two things parents value very highly as wishes for their child by the time they get to year 6. I hope parents agree that our Year 6 pupils certainly strike us as confident and happy young learners, as they prepare for their next phase of education. A big thank you to Miss Bold for all of her efforts with the class too. She has had a very busy half-term and continues to do an incredible job in supporting the class.

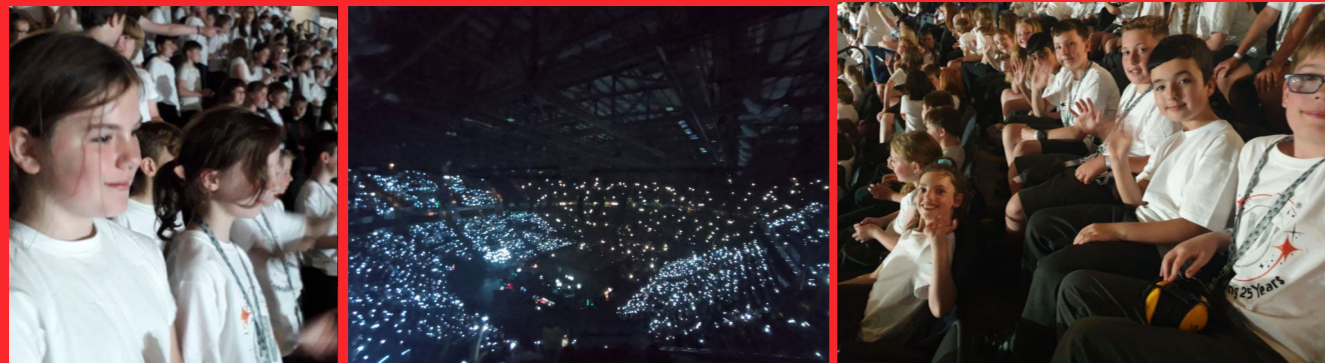
During the course of any half-term there are times when staff have to be flexible and resilient and this half-term has been no exception. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their togetherness, hard work and support, especially as this half term came straight off the back of both myself and Miss Bennett being off school. They really are an incredible team and support our pupils so well every day. Also, thank you to all our non-teaching support staff too and all the parents who are beginning to give their time to support things like early phonics/reading, swimming and forest school. You really all do make a big difference to our pupils by doing this.

This half-term is also full of anticipation too, as the next step after ensuring children can take part in visits and events is welcoming our families into school as well. I have no doubt that whether through invites from class teachers or the wonderful PTA, we will ensure that the end of this school year provides us with opportunities to further strengthen our school community and sense of togetherness. To think that our Year 2, Year 1 and Reception Parents have not really been able to join us in person for any events since starting with us is incredible and must have been a challenge, so thank you for your patience! We look forward to welcoming all of our families into school for a variety of events in the coming weeks.

Have a restful and happy half-term and thank you for your support.

Mr Donbavand

## Bollington Cross Young Voices 2022!



## Learning in Year 1

The Year 1 topic this term has been 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers'. We've been investigating habitats and how animals are adapted to living in different environments. The children have been using numerous art skills to draw, label and design animal pictures and then have written some amazing instructions on how to look after a pet. The children are so knowledgeable about many different animals. Most recently, we explored how we can distinguish between a crow and a raven. For instance, a crow has a shorter wingspan than a raven and they make different calling sounds. Perhaps see if you can ask a Year 1 child in school for any more facts that they know about them! We really love stories and poetry in Year 1 and we have been reading The Lost Words by Jackie Morris and Robert Macfarlane. The book has such beautiful watercolour paintings and we've explored more of Jackie Morris' art. We've also been reading The Mystery of the Golden Wonderflower by Benjamin Flouw, which tells a story of a fox who is a botanist and finds the Golden Wonderflower but decides to not pick it as it's so rare. In Music, we've been learning songs about different animals/nature, including 'Elephants have wrinkles' and the round 'I like the flowers'. We've also been responding to different musical stimuli and sounds by moving like different animals. I'm sure the children can share a performance of both songs!



## Learning in Reception

We have had a lovely half term together in Reception. We enjoyed celebrating International Dance Day and particularly enjoyed making our own dance sequences as well as learn about different styles of dance. "Singing in the Rain" was a big hit for everyone!

We have also enjoyed learning about animals and we were very excited when we had a visit from a Bog Baby! He left us a book to share as well as challenges to complete each day. We made our own Bog Babies too so we could have our own special adventures!

We continue to work hard in our learning and are continuing to show perseverance and determination especially with our weekly challenges! Well done team!





## Learning in Year 5

Pupils in Year Five were fortunate to take part in some Personal Training sessions with Coach Peacock this half term. Here were some of the things that they said:

“It was good fun and a good workout, too.”

“It keeps you flexible.”

“It really pushed me!”

“I learnt how to use the school sports equipment in different ways so that playtimes and lunchtimes are more interesting,”

“We found out what exercises you can do to keep fit and how these exercises help you to get better at certain sports.”



## Y6 Fun at Boreatton Hall

It says a lot about this term that a tremendous 3 day trip to Boreatton Hall for Year 6 gets a limited space like this in the newsletter! The week after they had worked so hard to complete their SATs with amazing focus and determination, our Year 6 pupils laughed their way through a fantastic set of activities in sunny Shrewsbury. A big thank you to Mr Hodkinson, Mrs Potts and Miss Bold who supported the trip and prepared everything needed. The staff at the centre said that our Year 6s had been a pleasure to work with. What a credit to the school they are! Well done everyone in Year 6! Some great memories have been made.



## A moment of Prayer

*God I thank you for the gift of knowledge! I praise you that you provide us with brains to think and question the world around us. I pray you would help my child learn well and flourish. May they discover their unique talents and gifts. Give them a passion for the world around them. Amen*



## Young Voices 2022!

We are all a little bleary-eyed, as last night pupils from Year 5 and 6 took part in Young Voices at the AO Arena in Manchester. It was an amazing spectacle and had extra significance as it was the first time we had been able to attend for over two years. Staff had prepared the pupils well including practice in classes and during Music lessons with Miss Bracegirdle.

I am really grateful to the staff who made it happen for the pupils and I was incredibly proud of how the pupils represented the school. They were full of fun, energy, patience and they were in full voice! Amazing ambassadors for the school and our high expectations of behavior. Well done to all of the pupils who took part and to all the parents who were in attendance and gave us a pig wave in the opposite corner of the arena. It was a really special event and the singers and dancers on stage were brilliant too!

