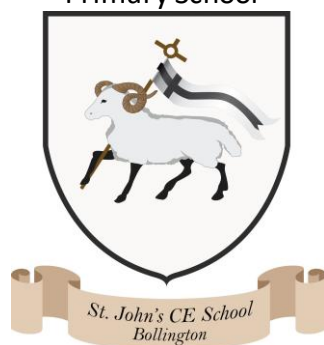


Bollington St. John's Church of England
Primary School



Where talent grows

Head Teacher: Mrs M. Walker

Head of Teaching, Learning and Assessment: Mrs E. Watson

'Christian Value' – Creation

"Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it."

Psalm 96:11

16th October 2026

Head's Message

We have had another busy week here at St John's as we approach the end of the half term. Mrs Jobbins and Mrs Van led a Phonics Workshop on Monday for Saplings, Birch and Cherry Class parents. On Wednesday we welcomed our Year 3 families to lunch. The children were amazing on Thursday when we did a low-key intruder alarm drill, which had to be done before our Health and Safety annual inspection which takes place in November. Today, World Food Day, is rounded off by the first PTA disco of this academic year. Next week, we have Parents' Evening on Monday and Tuesday. The Mayor of Cheshire East is visiting us on Wednesday. Then on Thursday we have a swap shop event at the end of the school day, before we close for the half term holiday. Please note, as this is the last newsletter of this half term, that Friday 23rd October is an INSET day and so school closes on Thursday 22nd October and reopens Monday 2nd November. Lastly, on Friday 6th November the children are invited to school in comfy clothes/pyjamas in return for a tombola gift for the PTA's Christmas Fayre. Maple Class can come to school in Forest Schools attire and then change after their session.

Snack and Acorn Wrap Around Club Payments on Arbor

For children that have snacks or use our Acorns Wrap Around Club, as we approach the end of the half term, next week you will find an invoice raised on your child's account for payment.

For those paying on Arbor, please look in the 'Trips' section for the relevant Acorns Wrap Around Club or snack invoice, and pay using normal methods.

If you wish to pay for Acorns Wrap Around Club using the government child care scheme or private voucher scheme please look in 'Trips' for the amount owed and pay this amount via your provider. Once school receives a confirmation of the payment, the amount owing/invoice on Arbor will be cancelled.

Lunch bills can be accessed and paid at any time.

Any questions please get in touch at bursar@stjohnsboll.cheshire.sch.uk

Sustainability News

Last week a visitor came to visit the Eco-Council about endangered species in Cheshire. We talked about what we could do at St John's. We also talked about getting big planters to use the rain water from the roof as well as planting endangered species to make a boggy area for flood water.
Samuel

Diary Dates

23rd October – INSET day

2nd November – School opens for Autumn Term 2

4th November – Year 4 Family Lunch
 6th November – Comfy Clothes Day for PTA tombola items
 11th November – Special Diwali Lunch for children
 13th November – Maple Class Cake Sale
 14th November – Reception 2027 and Saplings Open Day 10am-12 noon
 22nd November – PTA Christmas Fayre (please note this is a Sunday)
 27th November – Teacher led clubs end
 9th December – School Christmas lunch
 15th December – Infant Nativity at 10am (joined by Saplings) – with PTA refreshments
 16th December – Junior trip to the pantomime at Buxton
 17th December – Junior Christmas Play at 2pm and 6pm – with PTA refreshments
 18th December – Carols around the Christmas tree at 2pm – with PTA Refreshments
 18th December – Term ends
 4th January – School opens for Spring Term 1

News from Saplings

The children have loved learning all about different body parts, using the book Eyes, Nose, Belly, Toes. We have created faces using loose parts and collage materials and Mr Potato Head to make funny faces! In phonics, the children have been playing rhyming games. Everyone enjoyed meeting the guinea pigs; we learnt how to be gentle and calm when they were around.

News from Birch Class

This week in Reception we have all enjoyed our very first Drawing Club session! We used the text, 'The Leaf Thief', to inspire us to draw and write about the main character, setting and an adventure; these all linked to a squirrel discovering that the autumn wind was in fact, the leaf thief. In maths we have focused on subitising small quantities and sorting representations of these quantities into groups. We have learnt more about the changing season and sketched autumn leaves and pumpkins.

News from Cherry Class

Another wonderful week of learning! In English, we have been focusing on making our sentences more exciting by using adjectives and experimenting with different sentence starters. In maths, we have been exploring the part-whole model to help us understand how numbers can be broken down into smaller parts. In science, we have been learning about our senses and how we use them every day to explore and understand the world around us. In art, we have been discovering the work of the famous pointillist artist Georges Seurat. Inspired by his unique style, we have been creating our own beautiful autumn leaves using tiny dots of colour.

News from Maple Class

Maple Class has worked so hard this week and, with only one week left to go of this half term, you can see how much they have progressed since day 1. In maths we have been looking at adding and subtracting over boundaries and making connections between numbers and patterns. They have also been having a lot of fun partaking in the interactive times table challenge. In English, we started our new book, 'Jim, a Cautionary Tale', and they got to add rhyming words to a poem and write a letter. Science was more data driven this week by looking at an experiment and determining how strong magnets were by what they could hold. The children then created a bar graph to show the results. Finally, in RE we spent some time looking over how stories in the Bible link to our daily lives and how we can always be the best version of ourselves.

News from Oak Class

This week, in maths, we have looking at multiples, common multiples, factors and common factors and exploring the rules of divisibility. In English, we have started a new Literacy Tree unit on 'The

Tempest' by William Shakespeare, creating character profiles for the key characters and identifying links/relationships between them. In history, we have been learning about how the census has changed over time, and, in PSHE, we have been learning about about complex emotions and strategies we can use to regulate our emotions.

Celebration Awards

Good Work

Birch – Levi for working so hard in his literacy lessons.

Cherry – Eva for her amazing observational drawing.

Maple – Rory for her consistent effort and creativity in English.

Oak – Sophia for putting in such an amazing effort to learn her key number facts and becoming much for resilient in maths lessons.

Good Citizen

Birch – Aylinn for being so kind and thoughtful.

Cherry – Albie for being resilient, overcoming challenges and coming to school with a smile.

Maple – Finley T for being a role model that everyone in Maple Class can look up to.

Oak – Olivia for offering such insightful contributions in our classroom, especially during our PSHE lessons.

Ethos Award (Creation) – Oak: Austin for being kind and nurturing towards to younger pupils in our school.

House Points – Oak Bank are in the lead.

Sports News

Birch – We warmed up our bodies by moving in different ways before taking part in games with the parachute and balls.

Cherry – The children focussed on football passing games. The aim of the game was to pass the football through a gate and score more points than the opposition. The gates could be made smaller/bigger. The gate was taken away and the children had to aim to knock a football off the cone the most times in two minute slots.

Maple – Children competed in competitive football matches and basketball matches. We were working on our resilience and attitude during matches. Children were given bonus points/goals for how their attitude was during matches.

Oak – This week, we played football matches working on teamwork, resilience and attitude during games. After football, the rain took us inside and the class decided to play a big mystery game trying to find 'imposters' whilst using gymnastics equipment moving around the hall working to win the game.

Star Sports Performers

Birch – Rowan

Cherry – Amelie and Isla

Maple – Maksym and Sasha

Oak – Henry V and Laela-May

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Bollington St John's

PTA

Save the dates for our upcoming 2026 events

Friday
16th October

Autumn Disco



Friday
6th November

Comfy Clothes
Day



Friday
13th November

Maple Class
Cake Sale



Sunday
22nd November

Christmas Fayre



Tuesday
15th December

Infant Nativity
with PTA refreshments



Thursday
17th December

Junior Nativities
with PTA refreshments



Friday
18th December

Carols around
the Christmas Tree
with PTA refreshments



We look forward to seeing everyone there!