



The Bolham Bullet

ISSUE 761 20th December 2019

Dear Parent, Carer, Friends

As we sit down to reflect on 2019 and write our Christmas Bolham Bullet it hardly seems as though twelve months have gone. This time last year we had received notification that Ofsted would be visiting on the 18th December and we had to pull out all the stops to provide the information they required to demonstrate to them just how good our school was. Ofsted then agreed with what you as parents' already know and regularly tell us, is that 'Bolham is a GOOD school'.

2019 has continued to be a successful year for Bolham School with staff, governors and pupils all working extremely hard throughout to be the very best they can and for pupils to enjoy learning through a varied and balanced curriculum. Our achievements continue both in the classroom and through outside activities and events. It is lovely that Bolham is a comparatively small school and the close relationships this brings, although this equally presents it challenges in terms of ensuring our achievement data is in line with or above national outcomes for children and in meeting the wide and varied learning needs within each small cohort of pupils. Staff however all put in long hours and sustained effort to ensure they deliver the very best teaching experiences to enable the children to achieve and progress in all aspects of learning and not simply based upon end of key stage results.

We were delighted to be awarded with our Gold School Sports Award this year which recognises not only our commitment to physical exercise and sporting events, but also a healthy approach to diet and exercise. Many of the children have had the opportunity to represent our school at varying events in addition to taking part in many different sporting activities in school with Mr Williams and visiting sports coaches. Once again, our Jaguar Challenge teams supported by Mr Dickinson went on to achieve great things in Gaydon at the National Finals and we are so very proud of all who took part in this. We also had teams take part in Youth Speaks and the Exmoor Challenge organised by the Rotary Club. Bolham Singers have taken part in a range of musical concerts and events showcasing their wonderful voices and represented the school so well. Our children have continued to support local charities with fundraising for Comic Relief, Children in Need and local charities such as CHAT and we are proud of the way in which they consider the needs of those less fortunate than themselves.

We are pleased to inform you that the Governing Body is now at full strength with the appointment of three new Governors to Bolham School in recent months. We are undertaking a review of our Governance early in 2020 to enable us to move forward

Diary Dates

- 20th December - Last day of Autumn Term
- 7th January - Start of Spring Term**
- 17th-21st February - Half Term
- 27th March - Last Day of Spring Term
- 14th April - Start of Summer Term
- 20th April - Bikeability - Year 5
- 8th May - Bank Holiday
- 11TH May - KS2 SATs
- 21st May - Wilcombe Wobbler
- 25th-29th May - Half Term
- Week of 8th June - Year 1 Phonics Screening
- 10-12th June - Class 4 Residential
- 9th-10th July Class 3 Residential
- 17th July - Last day of Summer Term



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collectively and strategically lead the school. It is our intention that you all know who the governors are and the role they undertake in leading the school with its management of policies, budgets and the overall curriculum. All Governors visit the school on a regular basis so they carefully understand the challenges it faces and to see first-hand the impact of the decisions they make. Please take a few minutes to look at the governor profiles on the school website and also review the minutes of our meetings which are published here too. In addition, please do speak to any of the School Governors when you see them about any aspect of their role within the School.

Friends of Bolham School (FOBS) have continued to fundraise, obtain grants and put on social events for the school which we are very grateful for. FOBS support so many different activities across the school and provide additional equipment for use by the children that they otherwise would not be able to have or experience. FOBS does however rely on parents, carers and friends to help support them and if you feel able to give a few hours of your time they would be delighted to welcome you on board. Without FOBS many activities simply would not take place as the funds would not exist to provide these, examples of FOBS contributions this year are new display boards for the Jaguar Challenge and class trips such as Class 4's trip to the Bovington Tank Museum.

Our final thanks goes to your wonderful children and the energy and enthusiasm they put into their school education and development and to all of our dedicated and hardworking staff who work hard every day to deliver the very best experiences and education for all the children.

We would like to wish you all a very peaceful and enjoyable Christmas however you may be spending it this year and look forward to welcoming you all back in 2020.

'Together we aspire, together we achieve'

Yours sincerely

Denise Woodgate
(Headteacher)

Stephen Moakes
(Chair of Governors)



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

ADVANCED NOTICE

There will be no After School Club on the last day of term (Friday 20th December).

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS

Please can all outstanding balances for payments please be cleared before the start of the next term. Many thanks.

PARKING

Please can we ask that parents do not park in the bus bay and park considerately in the village.

LITTER

We have had a complaint about littering in the village, please can we ask that you take any litter home with you.

AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL CLUB

The after school football club will start again on Wednesday 9th January.

SCHOOL MEALS

Please note when we return after the Christmas break we will be on week 3 of the dinner menu.

TAG RUGBY

Thank you for your responses, we will no longer be accepting any more consent slips for the after school TAG rugby.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Class 1

Special mention to the whole of Class 1 for a fantastic performance in the church, you were all amazing!

Class 2

Special mention to everyone for your good behaviour when Mrs Hillier was away.

Class 3

Special mention to all of the children who did a fantastic job speaking in church!

Class 4

Special mention to all of class 4 who took part in the Christmas carol concert.



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LEARNING LEAVES

Class 1

Paige Hutchings - For her helpfulness and kindness in the classroom. Well done!

Arthur Atkins - For his fantastic listening and writing in phonics. Well done!

Class 2

Zac Armstrong - For being brave and taking on narrating at the church. (The only year 1 child!)

Jenson Tarr - For being a star and stepping in to be a narrator.

Class 3

Ethan Gale - For the superb effort he has put into his Christmas story. Well done!

Hugo Lathwell - For always setting a brilliant example for others. You're sensible, thoughtful and delightful member of class 3.

Class 4

Briony Hill - For her science/maths work and noticing data that was not quite right.

Charlie Valentine-Marsh - For pushing his science investigation that little bit further.

Jasmine Ruby - For her science/maths work and noticing data that was not quite right.

Phoebe B - For her science/maths work and noticing data that was not quite right.

LOST PROPERTY

Claudia Dent in Class 3 has lost a PE t-shirt, PE shorts, uniform shorts and tights. If you find any of these items can you return them to Claudia or the School Office. Many thanks.

CAROL SERVICE COLLECTION

Thank you to everybody for their support last night, we raised an amazing £290 which will be split equally between CHAT and St Peters Church.

