



Newsletter

Bolney Church of England Primary School
Church Lane, Bolney, Haywards Heath,
West Sussex RH17 5QP
Tel: 01444-881352 Fax: 01444-881047
E-mail: office@bolneyprimary.school
Web: <http://bolneyschool.org.uk>
Headteacher: Ms Emma Lofthouse

Autumn
Term
Newsletter
Friday 7th
March 2025

Dear families,

This term started with two Inset days which were really productive for our staff. The focus was on the teaching of maths mastery, with the addition of dyslexia training and work on behaviour, attitudes and high expectations for all. This included looking at our school rules and our commitment to becoming a Rights Respecting School. All of these form part of our school development plan, the headlines of which can be found on the school website. Since the children have been back, it has been busy busy. Silver Birch and Holly have been involved in project enrichment, with Willow and Beech's still to come. World Book Day is always a treat and this year was no exception – the children looked fantastic so thank you for your support with their fabulous costumes.

Willow Class

In Willow Class we have read Meerkat Mail. We drew the main character, Sunny, thought about what they would need to pack, how we could punish the jackal chasing the character. We have been learning about Meerkats and where they live. In maths we have been counting to 8 and beyond, working out 1 more and 1 less, talking about off and even numbers, making pairs and doubling. We have been noticing the changing seasons; buds on trees and spring flowers and painted

daffodils. We designed our own pancakes and looked at flags from around the world and designed our own. We have talked about what helps us learn and talked about staying safe and the importance of following instructions right away. We loved taking part in our first World Book Day!

Beech Class

We have had a lovely time in Beech Class over the last week and a half. We have finished off our beautiful artwork. We worked really hard using different mediums of art.



We all dressed up in great cosumes on World Book Day. We spent the morning making story cubes. We drew pictures of characters and settings. Some of us wrote stories using our story cubes.



In computing, we made self portraits on the laptops and some year 2's started to explore photography and wrote the steps they took to take a picture.



Holly Class

In Holly we have finally finished our stories, inspired by the Land of Roar. There have been some excellent, vivid descriptions and creative ideas throughout our work. We need to finish them by proof reading, checking for punctuation and using our newly acquired dictionary and thesaurus skills to find vocabulary improvements. In maths, there has been some excellent problem solving going on. We are investigating area and perimeter. We have considered how to find different shapes with the same perimeter and how we can find all the possibilities. We have begun to explore area, starting by counting the squares inside a

shape. We will be exploring the connection between area and perimeter next.

In science, we have been learning about muscles. We have seen how they work in pairs to allow movement and how they are needed alongside bones and tendons to enable our bodies to work.

In our history and geography lessons we have been continuing to learn about the Maya. We were fascinated to find out the Maya people still live in Mesoamerica and millions still speak the language. We have looked at artefacts and recreated Death Masks in our art lessons.

We were lucky to have an entire day devoted to exploring the Maya culture led by our workshop leader from Portals to the Past. She taught us Pok a Tok – the deadly ball game, a board game and made some hunting games for us to play.



We also got to handle obsidian and jade, shells and spear heads when we learned about trading and hunting in more detail. We performed a human sacrifice on Miss Goad and finally learned all about the calendar. This allowed us to find out what spirit was looking over us and what predictions the Maya made



based on birth date.

It was a fantastic day and the children learned lots of new

things about the Maya. The fact it was also World Book Day made it more fun as we had Elphaba, Willy Wonka and many others busily hunting tapir and jaguars!

Silver Birch Class

What a brilliant start to the new half term.

Silver Birch have had an exciting week coming back into school after half term. We had two fantastic trips. The first one was to help bring our new English and Vipers text to life when we visited the London Eye. The children were given disposable cameras to take their own photos and they loved it.



It was quite funny to watch them hold them like a phone!



The second trip was to Wintershall Estate. We met Lucy and started our day with a reflection by the lake.



After that, we walked up the hill to wonder at the Stations of the Cross. This was a lovely opportunity to find out more about Jesus' journey and to

spend time reflecting. The artwork is outstanding.

On our return from school, we have started planning our scrap books, blogs or leaflets about the trips. In addition to this work, we are in the process of planning our own version of Stations of The Cross for our Easter service this year. We are on Chapter 4 of our Vipers text, The London Eye Mystery. We are enjoying it so far and are constantly questioning how one of the characters has vanished; knowing what we know about the pods!

In maths we have revisited decimals in Year 6 and continued with Ratio. The children can really see how this maths links to real life in many ways. The Year 5's have been continuing with division and learning about efficient methods. Our mental starters have focused on times tables, place value and arithmetic style questions.

It has been World Book Day and we celebrated in our classrooms. It was lovely to see so many children and adults dressed up- thank you for your support with this!



Parent Governor vacancy

Please see the email that went out this week if you are interested in becoming a parent governor at our school.



- We need new parents to join our friendly team of governors! It's a great way to use your experience and skills to help the children learn.
 - You will get to know more about what your child doing and learning.
 - You will help make the school make important and difficult decisions!
 - Our team is made up of parents(you), teachers, people from the community and me the Pupil Governor.
 - We meet up every term in the evenings. If you have anymore questions please contact Zoe or Clem Sutters. Thanks for reading.
- Frankie Watson - Pupil Governor

Stations of the Cross Easter Journey on Friday 4th April between 2:00-3:15. All warmly welcome.

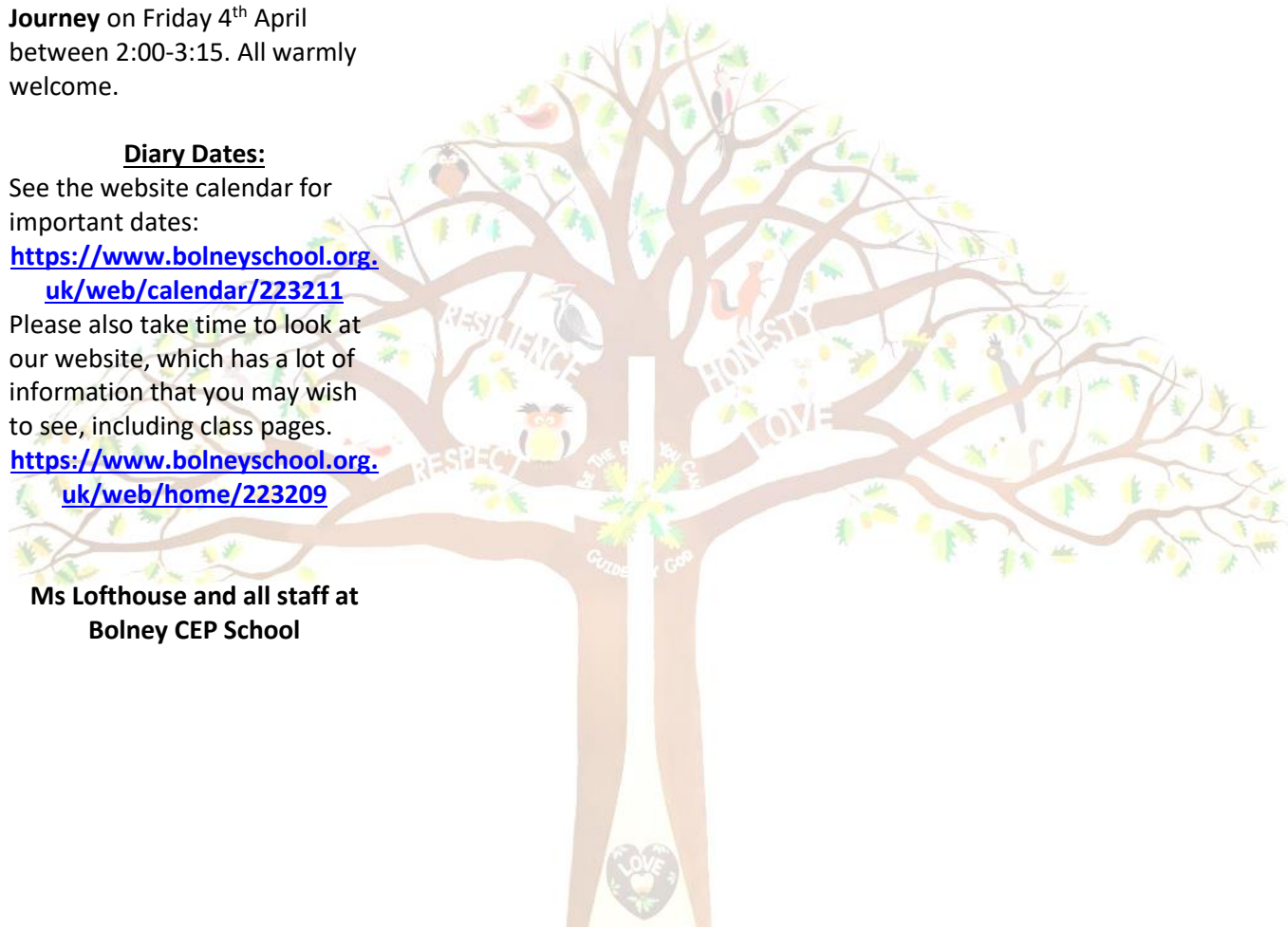
Diary Dates:

See the website calendar for important dates:

<https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/calendar/223211>

Please also take time to look at our website, which has a lot of information that you may wish to see, including class pages.

<https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/home/223209>



Ms Lofthouse and all staff at Bolney CEP School