



# Newsletter

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Dear families,  
The whole school pantomime of Jack and the Beanstalk has been the focus over the last two weeks with rehearsals leading up to performances at the Rawson Hall on Wednesday and Thursday. The children were truly spectacular from Willow Class opening the 'Village Fair' with maypole dancing;



Holly hosting the village fair stalls;



Beech's ghostbusters and Silver Birch class telling the traditional tale with aplomb!



The tech crew also worked alongside performers to ensure seamless transitions. Huge thanks to Miss Seymour who directed and prepared the children, alongside Mrs Martin who led the dance choreography and to teachers

and support staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes supporting the children, creating props and generally going over and above. It truly was a 'whole school performance' and for those of you that were able to attend, I think you will agree that the children performed magnificently and the joy on their faces showed their enthusiasm and passion: hopefully a life-long memory.



## Willow Class

We have read stories from around the world. Last week we read *Where In The World Are We?* and watched an animation based on it too. We designed our own ways of getting to the moon and built a rocket ship. This week we read *Meerkat Mail* and drew the main character, Sonny and described him. We have written a postcard from Sonny to his family. In phonics we have learnt all the consonant digraphs and have now completed our first set of long vowels. In maths we have been measuring mass and capacity. We have also been counting to 8 and beyond, working out 1 more and 1 less. In Learning for Life we have talked about what helps us learn. We practised maypole dancing and performed on stage in the panto! We have

looked at flags from around the world and tried making our own. We have looked for signs of Winter and signs of Spring. We have painted snowdrops.

## Beech Class

We have had an amazing two weeks in Beech class. In English, we have started to plan our own superhero stories. We have been tasked to create our own superhero who has the power of an element. Fire, air, earth or water. We have had some very creative ideas and have even got some evil, bloodthirsty monkeys in our stories! We even designed how our superhero looked on I pads.



In Art with Mrs Wood, we have been using leaves and paint to print. We painted the leaves and then pushed them onto paper, leaving a beautiful leaf print. We are very proud of them and cannot wait to add them to our element creations.



### Holly Class

In Holly we have been busy working on our portal stories. We have learned the grammar and writing skills we want to include – using speech marks, using commas when we write longer sentences and adverbs and adverbial phrases to describe and start sentences. We've created our bedrooms, the portal and our new world using interplaylands. This helped us to plan out our stories and sequence it in our minds. We've also talked about good antagonists and how to include a problem within our story. All we need to do now is write the rest of the story after half term. In maths, we have been working



on measures. We are moving onto perimeter and area after half term. We've also had a big push on times tables and it has been great to see the fluency with the 3x, 4x, and 8x table showing in our warm up games. We've enjoyed making Mayan clay plates, inspired by Mayan gods and patterns. We've also

begun to paint them gold and metallic colours. We've looked at the process of making chocolate. We ground up cocoa beans and agreed that modern hot chocolate with marshmallows and cream is preferable to the more bitter straight cocoa the Mayans were used to.

In PE, we've finished our dance unit and finished the half term with circuits. The children have been excellent at setting targets and trying to achieve their personal best in different exercises like push ups, sit ups, jumps and strength exercises like the plank and wall sit.



### Silver Birch Class

What a busy two weeks we have had!

Silver Birch have been writing their top copies of their narratives and I am so impressed with the quality of the work. The atmosphere that has been created in the writing from a short non-fiction clip has been excellent.

In maths, we have all been revising multiplication in Year 5 and in Year 6 we have started Ratio and Proportion. The children are showing resilience in some challenging areas of maths. We have discussed our methods of calculation what help us.

In science we have continued with forces and ended this week with looking at mechanisms. We carried out a rather messy but fun investigation to test

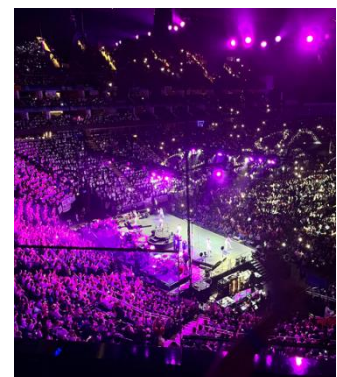
water resistance. We made predictions and were mostly accurate with these.

We took part in Safer Internet Day and this year the theme was all about scams and phishing. Ask your child what this might mean to them. We met a character called Trustworthy Trout! We did try to get a mention on the BBC Teach Live Lesson and are waiting to see if our name is on their list of contributors!

Another event we took part in was our amazing Panto! The children have spent any spare time they have had reading their scripts and I think they have done a superb job in performing this week!

### Young Voices

The Young Voices choir had the most incredible day travelling to the O2 Arena in London and performing along with 8000 other school children to an audience of family and friends. The choir demonstrated all our school values and a real love of performing and should be so proud of themselves – we were very proud of them!





### Shoe bags to Sierra Leone

It was lovely to hear from Simon Allaby that the shoe bags that we made and filled to send to Sierra Leone last summer have arrived safe and well. The children receiving them look very happy! Thank you to everyone that supported this venture.



### Friends of Bolney

At the EGM on Wednesday evening, both the chair and treasurer resigned from the committee and a new chair and treasurer were voted in to serve alongside the current secretary. The new committee have agreed to this in order for the FOB to continue to hold its charity status and be able to apply for grants and use the charity number for holding raffles, for example.

The committee will however be in name only which means that without individuals or groups stepping forward with ideas for fundraising, the money that the FoB currently give the school for example to support with vital termly curriculum resources, such as stationery, exercise books and subscriptions to educational packages, will no longer be available.

We extend our thanks to Danielle and Clare, our outgoing committee members, for all of their hard work and dedication during their time on the committee and for their tireless fundraising. We also welcome Lorna who joins Zoe and Lacey and we thank them for keeping the FoB active. Zoe and Lacey

have also worked tirelessly to support the school over the last few years.

Please look out for details on how you can help and please let the school or FoB committee know if you have fundraising ideas. If you wish to donate please use the QR scan code below.



### News from St Mary Magdalene

My name is Toby Dawson, and I am the newly appointed children and youth worker for Holy Trinity and St. Mary Magdalene. I have organised a church trail that will be set up around the church grounds in Bolney on Friday 14th, for the half-term holiday.

The trail will consist of 11 posters, each with facts on them, throughout the church grounds, starting at the entrance nearest the school and ending at the entrance to the church, where you will be able to find prizes in a small marked box.

### Diary Dates:

#### Reminder

Inset days – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Pupils return to school on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February.**

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**