Be the Best You Can, Guided by God

Newsletter

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

Autumn Term Newsletter Friday 13TH November 2026

Dear families,
We have had a busy few weeks back and the children have been working hard on their class big questions. We have also been focusing on our characteristics of team players and friends in worship.
It has been lovely to see our councils meeting over the last few weeks and planning ways to make the school the best it can be. Rights Respecting have been responding to a neighbour's request about making drivers aware of their speed on Church Lane and the School Council are helping the community by considering what post box toppers they would like to design. The eco team have had a delivery of free hedging which they are planning on planting so everyone is doing their bit!

Willow Class
We have had a lovely two weeks in Willow Class! It has been wonderful listening to new stories, discovering exciting books and learning all about numbers.



In maths, we have been busy comparing numbers. Year 1 have been exploring larger and smaller amounts, while Reception have been comparing numbers up to 10, identifying which numbers are bigger and smaller. We have enjoyed playing lots of fun maths games to practise and develop these skills.



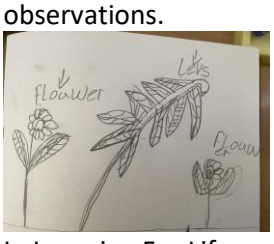
In science, we have been learning about evergreen and deciduous trees. We explored the different types of leaves and used our leaves to create our very own leaf crowns.



We also enjoyed going on an autumn walk last week, looking carefully for signs of the changing season. We spotted lots of autumnal treasures and talked about how the world around us changes as we move into autumn.



Beech Class
In Beech Class, we have read Lost In The Toy Museum by David Lucas, about toys that come to life in the Museum at night. The character Bunting has to hunt for them. We have written setting and character descriptions and planned our own toy adventure stories. We have looked at exciting story openings and written our own stories. We are looking forward to moving on to non-fiction writing next week.
In VIPERS, we have started our new book, Rapunzel, another Beth Woolvin book, though it's not the version we are used to – Rapunzel saves herself!
In Science, we have talked about properties like absorbency and stretchiness.
In Design Technology, we have designed our own puppets and begun making them from paper plates. We are looking forward to making vehicles next.
In Maths, we have been practising number facts to 10, including quick recall of 1 more and 1 less, 2 more and 2 less and doubling.
In Music, we have been singing working songs together and have started practising for our Nativity! In Art, we have started a new unit focusing on drawing natural objects from careful observations.



In Learning For Life, we have talked about differences and similarities and gender stereotypes. In PE, we have been playing games in preparation for Tag Rugby.

Holly Class

Holly class have been using all of our Stone Age knowledge to begin planning information pages. We've been looking at what makes a fact page interesting to read and we're working on turning information into our own style and words and adding detail.

In maths, we're focusing on written methods for addition and subtraction. We're making decisions when to use a formal method and when to use mental strategies. We're also thinking about efficient ways to add 3 numbers together. We're also working really hard on times tables. We're practising lots and we're competing to get the best scores on hit the button and TTrockstars.

We've begun a Stone Age themed dance in PE. We've used different movements, speeds and levels to create a sequence in groups. We're now working on bigger group performances. We've split the class into two groups and we will be performing for the other group once we have have practised and perfected our routines.



In science, we're learning about digestion. We've learned the key organs and parts of the body that are involved and we're explaining what function they have. Some 'lucky' children got to model the body parts using our digestion suit and others had to identify where key parts like the stomach and small intestine were located.

In art lessons, we've been making clay pots. We made spheres of clay and used our thumbs to make the hole. We used pinching techniques to even out the clay rim. We used twine and tools to create patterns and markings. We then sealed the clay with a paint/glue mix. We will be painting and decorating them in our next lesson.





Silver Birch Class

Silver Birch have had a great start to the second half of our autumn term and we have already started to feel a little Christmassy!

In English, we have started to draft our articles. We have a variety of news to report! Some children have decided they will report on the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, some want to report about the curse caused by the Canopic Jar and some about the journey from London to Egypt.

In maths, we have been exploring decimal fractions and revisiting times tables. We will be moving into hundredths next week. We used our playing cards again to play make the largest number. If we were lucky enough to be dealt a ten in our four cards, we could use it to multiply our other three cards!



In geography, we used Google Earth to find Egypt. We then had to find neighbouring countries, the seas, and a little about the geographical location of Egypt.

We started Forces in science and conducted investigations about gravity. We used Galileo Galilei, an Italian Scientist's experiment (not steel balls but water bottles!) to assess whether heavier objects reach the ground quicker than lighter objects- ask your child what they found out. We will be working on the different forces each week.



In RE, we have started our Understanding Christianity unit- Was Jesus a Messiah? Part of our learning journey is to consider what qualities are needed to be a Messiah and to use this knowledge to create a WANTED poster.

Rights Respecting Team

The RR team have been working hard to make Church Lane safe. See if you can spot their signs.



Remembrance Day
On Wednesday we marked Remembrance Day by observing the solemn 2 minutes silence in Church and at the War Memorial and laying poppy wreaths.



Non-Uniform
All house teams have now gained at least 200 team points and have all asked for a non-uniform day which we will hold on Friday 20th November 2026.

Friday Celebrations
Class leaves went to:







Values certificates went to:





TTRS certificates went to:









Diary Date	Event (Where events are for specific children, it will say 'email')
Tues 24th Nov	Sports Crew training - email
Fri 20th Nov	Non uniform (team points treat)
Fri 27th	Non uniform – bottles and sweets
Fri 4th Dec 2:30-4pm	Xmas Fayre in school Christmas jumpers

Ms Lofthouse and all the staff at Bolney CEP School

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