



Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter

"rooted and grounded in love..." Ephesians 3:17

Friday 19th May 2023

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Mrs Gow's Words for the Week...



What a varied week - with sports fun, wilderness walks and a science festival all in the mix. The week started in the most blessed and wonderful way, with a walk in the woods with our infants. It was a joy to go out on such a glorious morning and enjoy looking for local plants and vegetation and also a few Wild Things too! There was such joy from our children, squishing through muddy puddles and screeching with laughter every time they found a new wild thing! There was such awe and wonder in God's creation as the children found a range of beautiful flowers. There is no better start to the week than having a walk in the fresh air and marvelling at the beauty of creation. We found Welsh poppies, lots of wild garlic, speedwell, wild strawberries, herb Robert and Little Robin, ivy, holly and lots of varieties of trees.











Then our junior children ended the week with a visit to the UCLAN Science festival. It was wonderful to see the children engaged in so many different branches of the Sciences and to hear their aspirations for the future, with many children talking about their future careers as surgeons, nurses, forensic scientists, opticians and nano-technology scientists. We found out all about the wonders of 'ugly' creatures and how they adapt and camouflage to their surroundings, whilst Year 3/4 made their own clay pots as part of their learning about pre-history and archaeological sciences. Year 5 & 6 spent an hour learning about the life experiences of a deaf scientist and how she uses British Sign Language to communicate. She explained her sensory experience of the world around her and the children asked some thought provoking and sensitive questions to find out more about her perceptions of the world. A huge thank you to Mrs Riddell for organising this amazing opportunity to widen our children's opportunities and outlook.

Our FOBS group met on Thursday evening this week to help organise our Summer Fun Event on **Saturday 8th July from 5-8pm**. Please put this date in your diary, as we need as many people to offer to help out for an hour on a stall and also to invite as many people from the school family and local community as possible. This event is our greatest fundraiser of the year and helps us to pay for our iPads hire in school. This year, more than ever before, we are dependent on our FOBS team to help subsidise the extended offer we give to our children. A huge thank you to Susie Barton, Janet Leaver and the FOBS team (especially our newest volunteers) who spend so much time planning such amazing community events.

I must say a huge thank you to all the families who supported church's walking day last weekend. It was fabulous to walk, talk and enjoy the wonderful sunshine together. What a blessing to see all ages, all faiths and members of brownies, guides, cubs, scouts and beavers all walking together. Moo loved walking with you all but did make us laugh when she kept flopping down into the cool grass verge for a quick lie down!

Have a restful weekend.

Blessings,

Mrs Gow



<https://sway.office.com/pISsBRs7Qo1xjdW#content=ZCa3J75W3EnUU7>

Safeguarding segment



Every week, our newsletter will feature a segment on how to keep ourselves safe in body, mind and spirit. I talked to many of our year 6 today about how they know our school is a **safe place** and they all started to talk about how we have locked doors, first-aiders, padlocks on gates and finger guards on doors, but I then asked them to think about safety as more than *health and safety* and how we ensure that our school is a safe and happy place to be. They then said (to my delight) that they know in our school that they always have someone to talk to and that bullying is not allowed to happen in our school because we are able to talk about things as soon as they happen and the teachers sort them out.

I wanted to make sure *you* were all aware that we have 3 trained Designated Safeguarding Leaders in our schools - **Mrs Gow, Mrs Draycott and Mrs Johnstone** and we are available to everyone to discuss ANY concerns you may have about a child/your family's safety, wellbeing or needs. As a Christian school, safeguarding and looking after each of you, as precious and valuable children of God, is at the forefront of all we do and is rooted in the culture and daily life of our school. Ms Emma James and Mr Jonathan Greenwood are our safeguarding governors.

This week I would like to highlight to you the Local Offer for Early help from Lancashire, If you feel that your family might benefit from some additional support then please come and talk to one of our DSLs in school or take a look at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/early-years-childcare-and-family-support/family-support/children-and-family-wellbeing-service/> to see what might be on offer locally to signpost you to early help.

Ribble FM - Live on Air



It was amazing to hear 4 of our very one Year 5 class on air this week on Ribble FM, as they presented their segment on Lancashire Fairtrade and interviewed the founder of the Shop of Hope in Clitheroe. Listen to their wonderfully informative show at <https://player.autopod.xyz/343577> Go to 26 minutes on the feed to find our superstar presenters! Fabulous courageous advocacy here girls, getting Lancashire to think long and hard about their shopping choices and how Fairtrade makes such a difference to farmers across the world.



UCLAN science fair 2023 - Raising STEM Aspirations

Lancashire Science Festival 2023

Inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers and mathematicians



Our junior children loved the Science Festival today and loved learning about the many facets of Science and technology. There is also an open day for families tomorrow. You can find out more information here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lancashire-science-festival-passes-2023-tickets-619935603077>

Here is a taster of the many activities we enjoyed at the schools' festival today:





















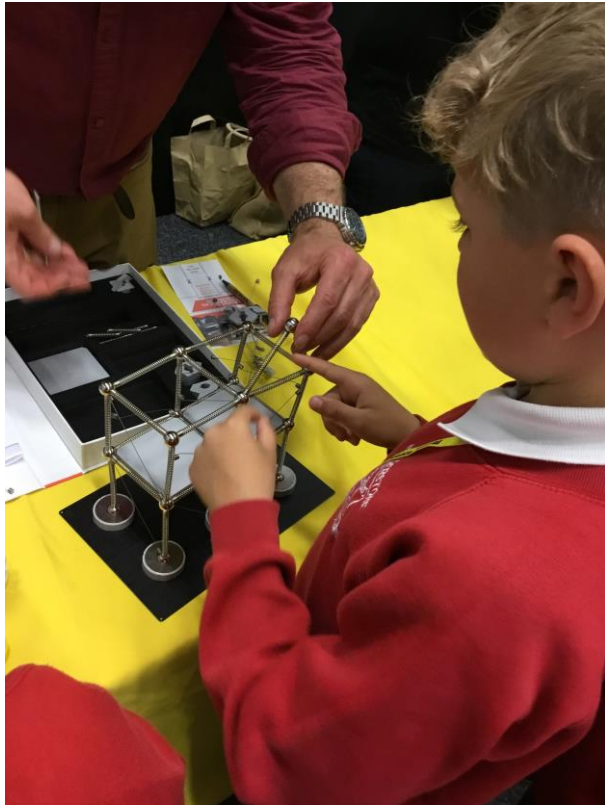




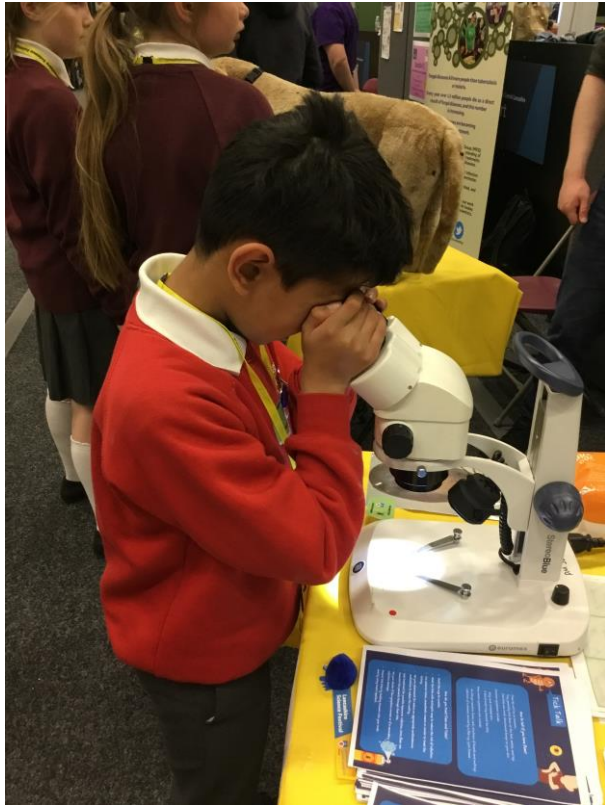






















Sports Roundup - Striking and Fielding



Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic time practising their striking and fielding skills at Accrington Academy on Tuesday afternoon. We took part in different activities to perfect our skills and then played a match of rounders. We played alongside children from other schools and made new friends. Mrs Riddell was very impressed with Foxes' enthusiasm and teamwork. Thank you to Mrs Leaver and Mrs Dixon for coming with us. A great afternoon!





We are praying for...



This week our Squirrel class spent time writing prayers for themselves and for others. They spent some quiet time, with God, in the outdoors. If you have any prayer requests then please drop them off in our prayer request box at the front of school. Every week the children from Salt and Light, staff and Rev Karen will be praying through these requests. Please make sure your requests are anonymous (unless you have permission to name the person) eg, please pray for a friend of mine who has an operation on her leg next week. Please continue to uphold our school, staff, governors and community in your prayers.



Forest School Fun



Our Year 5 enjoyed a rather scrumptious Forest School session this week - making their own fire and then cooking a 3 course meal: wild garlic bread (mixed, cooked and baked using our own wild garlic), followed by baked apples with sugar and cinnamon and then topped with toasted marshmallows! The most delicious Forest School session ever!

Maths in action - Fraction party



Squirrel class loved their fraction party this week. This practical learning activity helped the children get a clear understanding of whole and parts and how fractions are equal parts of a whole. What a yummy way to learn about fractions!







Photograph morning!



Just a reminder that next Wednesday 24th May is our **class** photograph morning. The children will be having photos taken with their year groups/classes. Please make sure you are in your smart school uniform ready for the photos.

Transition cluster event



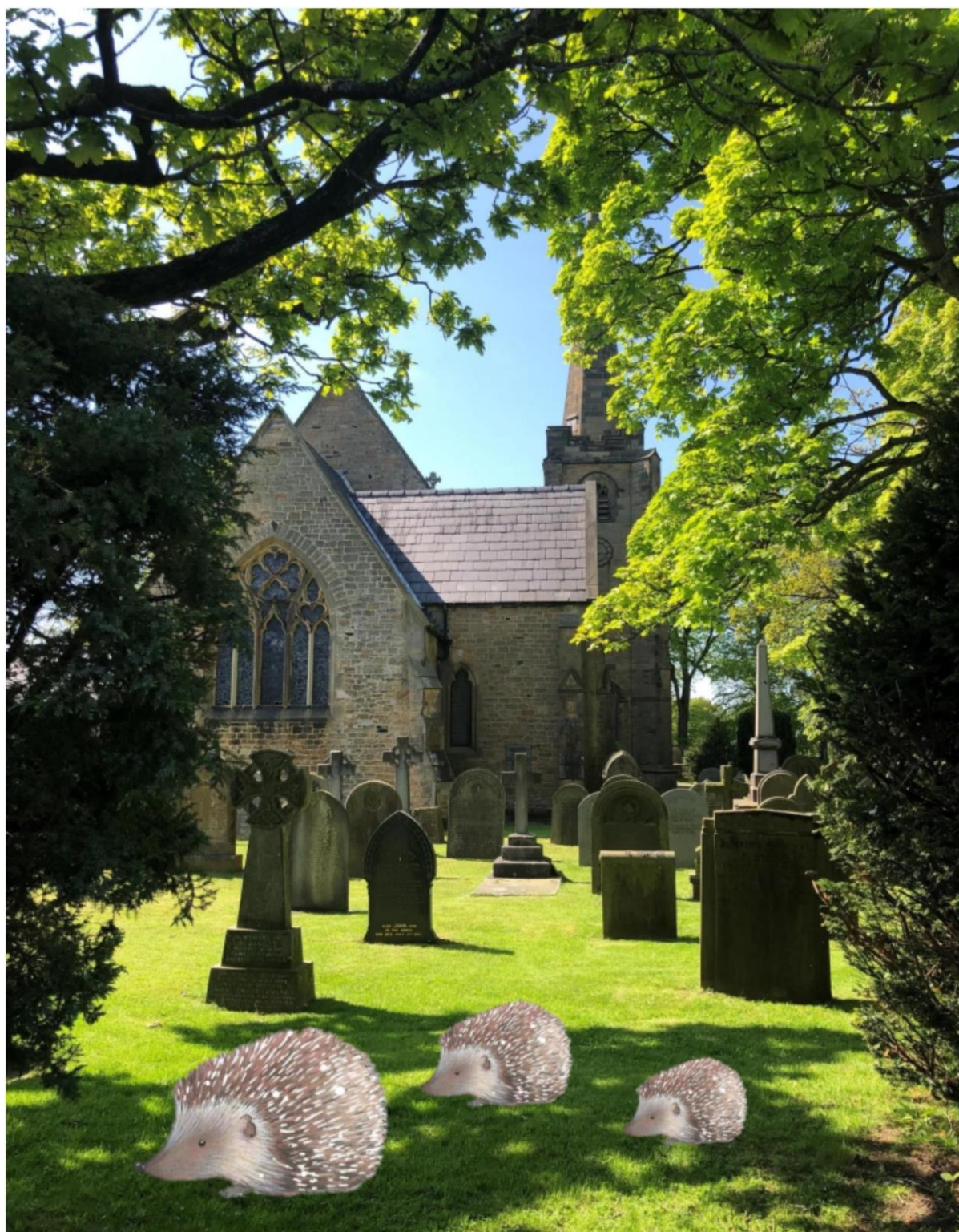
Next Wednesday from 10am - 2pm our Year 6 pupils will be gathering with other Year 6 pupils from our cluster schools to meet other children who are going to be attending their new high schools with them. We are still looking for any volunteers who might be able to help with transport to Langho St Leonard's school. Please give permission on Parentmail on *Monday* for the children to attend the event.

Church and Community News



Please do come and join us for our next Forest Church session on 28th May 2023 - for some rather prickly, hedgehog themed fun! Everyone welcome - of all faiths. There will be outdoor fun, crafts and we shall learn more about Pentecost.

Forest Church 28th May 4pm @Balderstone Church



Dates for the diary



Monday 22nd May. Year 1/2 gymnastics event (10 children attending from 10am - 12pm)

Wednesday 24th May Photo day in school, Year 6 transition event at St Leonard's Langho

Thursday 25th May. Celebration worship - in school this week at 2.30pm

Friday 26th May & Monday 5th June - INSET days in school - School closed to pupils

Sunday 28th May. Forest Church 4pm

Monday 19th June PROVISIONAL sports day- afternoon



1 - Year 6 parents - here are some key dates for special end of term events

Thursday 22nd June. - Lancashire Move up session in school for Year 6

Thursday 29th June - Lancashire Move up session in school for Year 6

Thursday 29th June - Ribblesdale Information evening

Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th July - Ribblesdale transition days

Thursday 6th July - Summer Production of Mary Poppins (see letter from Mrs Cast next week regarding roles and timings) - ALL CHILDREN NEEDED FOR BOTH PERFORMANCES.

Saturday 8th July - Summer Fun evening FOBS event (Year 6 bonus events)

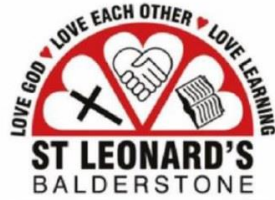
Towerwood - Tuesday 11th July - Friday 14th July

Wednesday 19th July - Year 6 treat afternoon (activity TBC)

Friday 21st July - Year 6 Leaver's service 10.45am followed by Leaver's Parent/family lunch 12pm and guard of honour 1.15pm.

Please let school know asap of any secondary school transition days/invites to make sure they are in our calendar.

Contact Us



**A small school
with a big heart**

**We are currently accepting
applications.**

Join us for our Open Week 31st
October – 4th November. Ring
school to book a tour.



For more information visit
 **www.balderstoneschool.co.uk** 
or contact **01254 769150**

Keep in touch with the school family using the details below (or call into the school anytime to see us)

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