





Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary
Newsletter April 21st

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

Friday 21st April 2023

In This Issue



In this week's edition of the newsletter

- **Mrs Gow's Words for the week**
- **Moo's moments**
- **Bundle of Joy!**
- **Hello, Goodbye**
- **Courageous Advocates**
- **Parking warning**
- **Outdoor learning**
- **On your airwaves!**
- **Festival of faiths**
- **Church and community events - Forest Church**
- **Dates for your diary**
- **Contact Us**

Mrs Gow's Words for the Week...



Welcome back to the Summer term! I think that Spring has actually sprung this week and it has been lovely to be outside on the field at playtimes. To all of our staff and families who are celebrating Eid this weekend, from our whole school family may we wish you Eid Mubarak and may you have a blessed time with your families. I joined some of our Owl children in their fast on Thursday and it really helped me to appreciate the commitment it takes to fast from 4am to 8.30pm. It also helped me really appreciate a glass of orange juice and the first bite of a tuna sandwich! To all the children who gave up their favourite foods over Lent and to all the children who fasted for some of Ramadan - thank you so much for your commitment to your faith. See later in the newsletter about our Festival of Faith next Thursday.

We are blessed in our school by a very dedicated team of governors. Mrs Leaver (or grandma as many of our children in school know her as!) spent days of the Easter holiday helping us rearrange EYFS. We would like to thank her for all her time and effort. The children have really enjoyed all her efforts this week. It was lovely to invite our Toddler group to come and play in EYFS on Tuesday.

We are still looking to welcome more reading volunteers to support our early morning Book Buddies scheme. We are desperate to ensure that all our targeted readers get heard every day so they can improve their fluency and understanding. We would only need you for 15 minutes in the morning and you would be assigned a Book Buddy who you would hear read, Please see Mrs Gow if you would be able to spare some time.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Blessings,

Mrs Gow

Moo's Moments



I loved being in school today! I got to meet and play with the children in EYFS. I got walked by lots of new children who were very excited about holding my lead. It was super to walk in the EYFS playground. The children in EYFS were very excited about all the toys being sorted from the big shed. I was very interested in the big dinosaurs! Isaac was a bit scared of me at first but then he gave me a lovely stroke on the back. After five minutes, he was walking me around the big playground. The children were finding out all my paws (feet) and my claws (nails) and the children told me all about their pets. Some of them have parrots, fish and even cats!

I got to sit outside in the sunshine with the children who loved their patio set of deckchairs and a table. Every child in EYFS got to walk me around the playground. Myles loved telling me to wait! After a bit of a nap I enjoyed lunchtime play with all the children. The children loved watching me chase after a football (even though I wouldn't touch it!) They didn't realise that I was playing dodgeball really.





Baby blessings!



We are thrilled to announce that Miss Roberts has safely delivered a precious baby girl called Nellie. She was born exactly on her due date on Monday who weighed 7lbs and 7oz. We send Miss Roberts and little Nellie our love and prayers as they settle in to home together and a special shout out to her new big brother Samuel.

Hello, Goodbye!



A warm Balderstone family welcome to Mrs Rachel Willan, who is working in Fox class on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Willan is already part of our toddler group and is an experienced teacher and tutor. Welcome to the team!

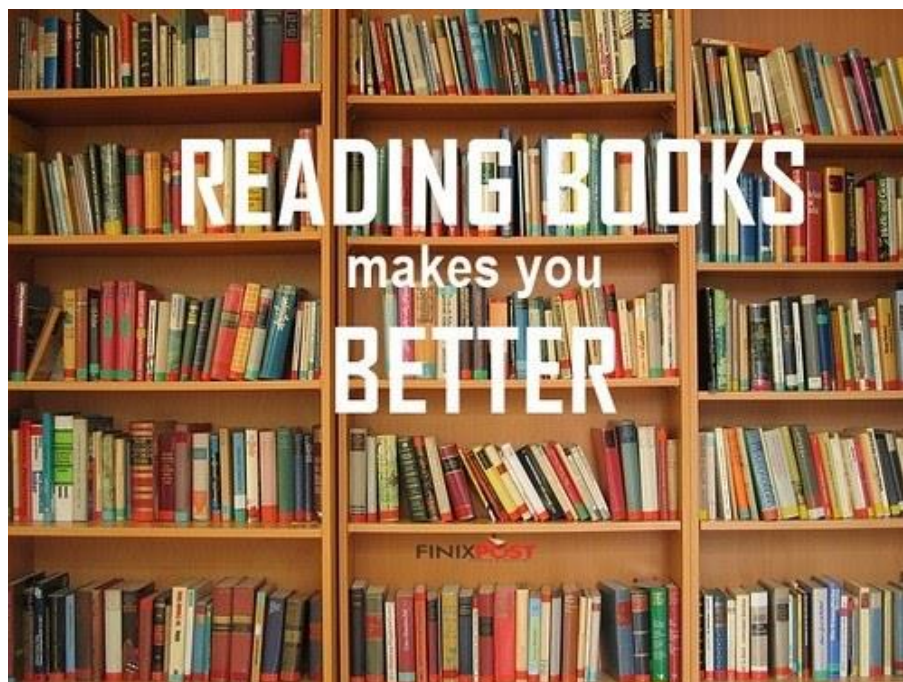
Today we have also say goodbye and thank you to Miss Murray (our trainee teacher in Squirrel class). We wish her all the best as she embarks on her teaching career.

Zig Zag line warning!



Please be warned - Lancashire highways are being very strict about anyone stopping on the zig-zag lines outside school. They even came down to school and issued parking tickets to the staff, governors and my dad - who was helped us work in school over Easter!

Book Amnesty



Please would you have a hunt for some of our reading books (especially those from Year 1 and 2's book packs) as some of our Share a Story packs are missing. Purple Pack 13 and Turquoise Pack 3 have disappeared. Please let us know if you find any books (no questions asked!)

Courageous Advocacy in action



A while ago Year 5 and 6 produced some artwork conveying their thoughts about war and conflict. Nigel Evan our local MP took this work to parliament to lobby Nick Gibb and to share our children's concerns about the war in Ukraine.

Hedgehog habitat hotels!



Year 1 and 2 have been learning all about Max the hedgehog from their class reading book, The Hodgeheg. They enjoyed some wonderful outdoor learning, making their own hedgehog hotels from sustainable and natural materials. Mrs Johnstone will be so proud of their hedgehog care!



Forest School - Outdoor learning



Year 5 had a fantastic first session in Forest School on Monday. They created their own boats and enjoyed racing them down the brook. Then it was time to explore! With a lot of splashing and some very full wellies, they worked together to discover the many magical spots in the brook!





<https://sway.office.com/vwNE8RZ0DlkbyMrv#content=S081rldbSi1p6A>



Sports for this half-term

Sports April - July	Brekkie slot	Session 1 12.00 pm- 12.30 pm	Session 2 12.30pm - 1pm	Football Rota	Active Play	After- school club
Monday	Daily mile	Year 3/4 Cricket Year 5/6 cricket	Ks2 Tennis	Year 4 /5	Loose parts play Playtime leaders Prayer box	Ks2 Quidditch
Tuesday		Rugby tots EYFS Rugby tots Year 1	Tag Rugby Ks2	Daily mile Tuesday Trot (with Moo)	Cars & diggers Playtime leaders Prayer box	Ks2 Archery Ks1 Quidditch
Wed	Daily mile	Ks1 Athletic Year 2/3 Football	Ks2 Athletics	EYFS/ Year 1	Willow Wednesday Playtime leaders Prayer box	
Thurs		Ks2 Girls football	Year 4, 5 and 6 football	Year 2/3	Skip and hoop Playtime leaders Prayer box	Ks1 tennis
Friday		Fitness Friday	Flourishin g Friday Frisbee fun!	Year 6	Playtime leaders Friday fun! Prayer space open with Mrs Gow 12.30- 1pm	

Summer 1st half

Summer 2nd half

We love our sports and we are very proud of our extra-curricular offer. This half-term we have two paid sports clubs on offer. Archery for the

Juniors on a Tuesday after school and Tennis coaching for our infants. Please see our full timetable of sports on offer. Every child has the chance to take part in sports & wellbeing clubs paid for by school EVERY lunchtime.



Martial Arts - Join Now



We were treated to a presentation by our very own Martial arts club this morning and the children were shown by Sensei Gary how to be assertive and keep our bodies and minds safe. The sessions over this half-term have been absolutely superb and very professional. I get the honour of seeing these sessions every Friday and I have been extremely impressed with the quality of teaching and

the engagement of the pupils. Sensei Gary is trying to keep the club going in school and would like to build up the club. I will be sending out sign up sheets for the club next week and would encourage you to consider this club for your child/children if you feel they would benefit from energy release and self-control.

Grand Radio Project



Four of our Year 5 children embarked on a new project and VERY excitingly they are going to be presenting LIVE on the radio. Imaan, Khadijah, Abigail and Georgia had fun creating their own topical theme for their show and created their very own radio jingle. They are going to be presenting a show about the history of Fairtrade and the state of Fair-trade in Lancashire. Over the next few weeks they will be interviewing local people about the theme and then putting together their own radio slot.

Join us for our Festival of Faiths



On Thursday afternoon next week between 2-3pm, we would like to give our families time to celebrate their faiths together. We would like to give the children the chance to do a show and tell session about their own faith beliefs. The children may want to bring in a photo from their own Christening, or bring in their favourite Bible, or something they made at Forest church, they may want to bring in some of their religious clothing, bring in their Eid clothes to show some of the decorations from their home. At the end of the school day we shall be opening up school to share a Jacob's join (where everyone can bring some food/cake/drinks) and learn more about each others beliefs and celebrations. We shall be sharing some Easter chocolate treats and we can share a brew together.

Church and Community events

A collage of images and text promoting the Forest Church. The central text reads: "FOREST CHURCH", "Bringing the Bible to life through nature!", "perfect for all ages" "child-centred activities", "Come and join our growing church family", "Monthly on Sundays 4pm @ Balderstone Church", and "Contact Rosemary on: 07851751356". The collage includes photos of children holding Bibles, children sitting at a table, children playing outdoors, a child holding a wooden cross, a child holding a jar, and a view of the church building.

This Sunday it is the fab Forest Church! Please do come along and join us for the outdoor fun, crafts and chat. We are going to be joined by Sarah Earnshaw the Diocesan Children's worker. Come and join Mrs Gow, Mrs Riddell, Mrs Draycott and Mrs Cummins for the fun - everyone welcome to join us at 4pm.

Family Friday fun in EYFS



Mrs Turner and Mrs Moosa would like to invite our Pre-school Bunny and Rabbit parents in for a Family Friday fun session on 28th April at 2pm. Come along and look around the new classroom set up and travel to virtual London with our children on their interactive London bus. There will also be a chance to make your very own coronation crown ready for the celebrations in May. Look at all the fun we've had learning this week.













Dates for the diary



Sunday 23rd April 4pm Forest Church. Come and join the fun!

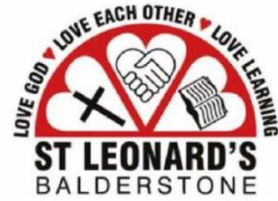
Wednesday 26th April Outdoor Elements day for Year 3/4 - see Parentmail letter for arrangements

Thursday 27th April Festival of faiths afternoon and after school - come and celebrate the faiths in our school and learn something new about each other. Children can bring in a show and tell faith item and then share food/drink - bring in some treats after school. 3pm in hall.

Friday 28th April 9am. Celebration worship in church.

2pm Family Friday fun in EYFS for all Pre-school and Rabbits parents/carers.

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)

Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary school

Commons Lane

Balderstone

Blackburn

BB2 7LL

01254 769150

head@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at <http://balderstoneschool.co.uk>