



# Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter

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

*Friday 3rd March 2023*

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## In This Issue



In this week's edition of the newsletter

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## Mrs Gow's Words for the Week...



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*In worship this week we have been considering what justice and fairness mean in our modern world. Justice is a very 'big' topic to consider but through our work on Fairtrade and equity the children are getting a really deep understanding of how they can make a difference to the world through their small actions. We are now in Fairtrade Fortnight (Feb 27th - March 12th) and on Tuesday of this week we spent a full day exploring the concept of Fairtrade, where some of our favourite foods come from and how, through choosing Fairtrade wherever possible, we can help some of the world's farmers gain a fairer price for their labours. Importantly, for our school too, we explored how important it is to buy locally and support the farming industry in our community. We considered the fact that just a generation ago (my dad for example - don't tell him I'm calling him old!) it was unusual to get tropical fruits such as pineapples and bananas, as they would only have access to local, seasonal products.*

*Susan Murphy from the Lancashire Fairtrade society joined us for the day on Tuesday as we completed our activities and she has sent the children the most wonderful reply.*

"Thank you so much for a truly inspirational day. I so enjoyed every minute. Please do pass on my thanks to all the staff who made my time with you all so enjoyable. The friendly welcome, the helpful insights that they shared and the enthusiasm of oyu all was amazing ~ I don't think I drove home, along that narrow road, I floated along, joyfully thinking about it all.

Your school's enthusiasm, ideas, activities and knowledge was so encouraging. It is said that the ethos and culture of a place comes from the top ~ that was certainly my experience.

And the children were wonderful ~ friendly, helpful, knowledgeable and enthusiastic. It was a pleasure to meet them ~ even the cheekier lads, who towards the end were asking "Miss" whether they could have Fairtrade chips, then pies and sausages!"

*A huge thank you to our fab FOBS team who organised Friday's chocolate bingo evening. It was great fun to share the evening with so many families and also to have Mr Holroyd back as our guest bingo caller.*

*From,*

*Mrs Gow (a very blessed headteacher)*

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## World Book Day 2023



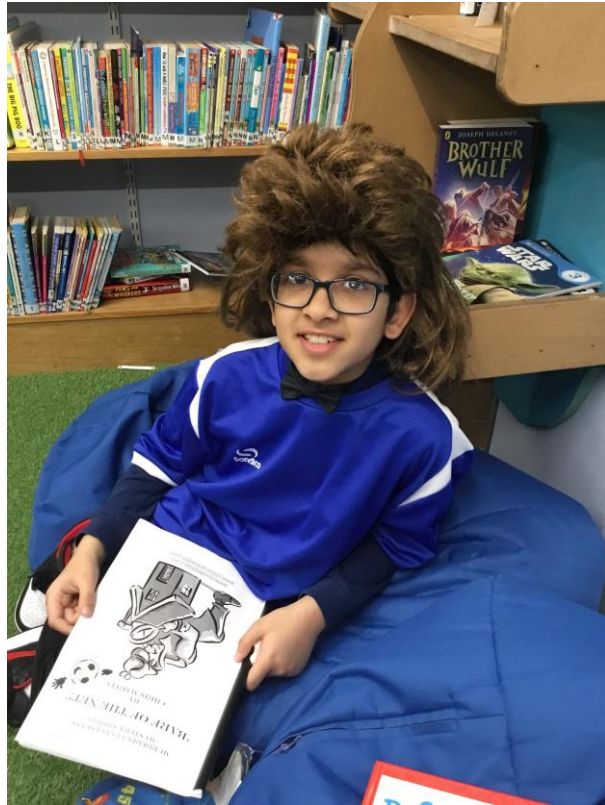
**We love reading and we certainly showed this on Thursday's World Book day. What an amazing array of costumes from traditional and fairy tales! STEM based activities (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths based) book fun was had in every class - whether it was making houses for**

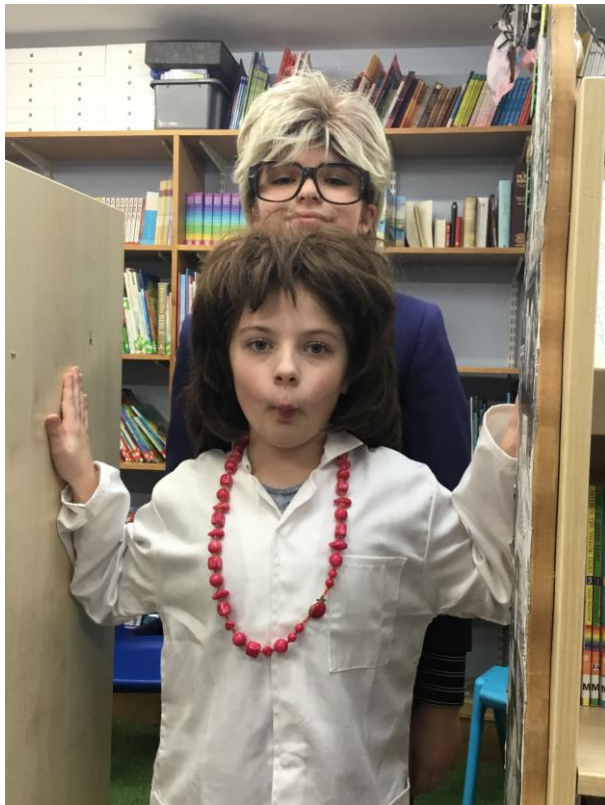
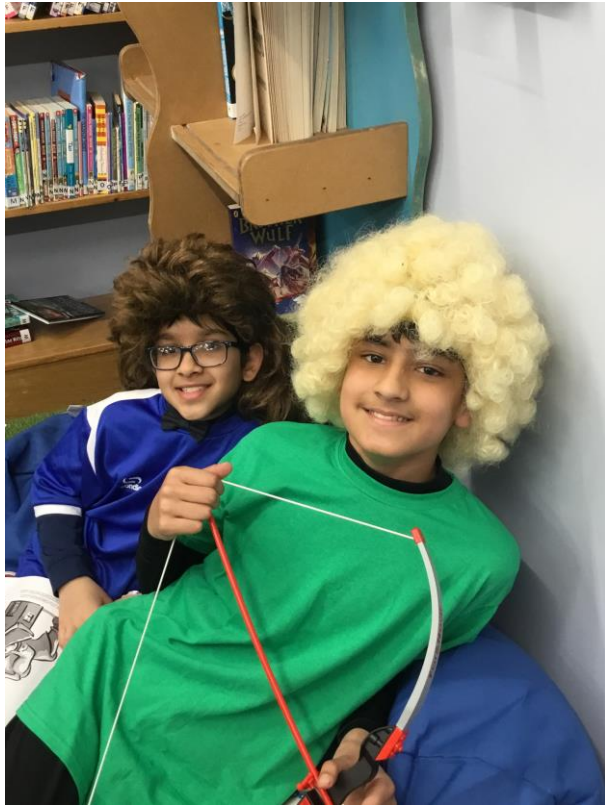
the 3 pigs in EYFS, protecting Jack's golden egg by inventing the best armour, building a new bridge for the 3 trolls or a special timer. Well done everyone, and enjoy spending your voucher.

Owland Fox class enjoyed a visit from Chris Martin (author of the Inky Stephens mystery books). The classes enjoyed learning about what it means to be an author, reading through the scripts and then performing the whodunnit for the whole of the juniors to solve. The children were desperate to work out the mystery.



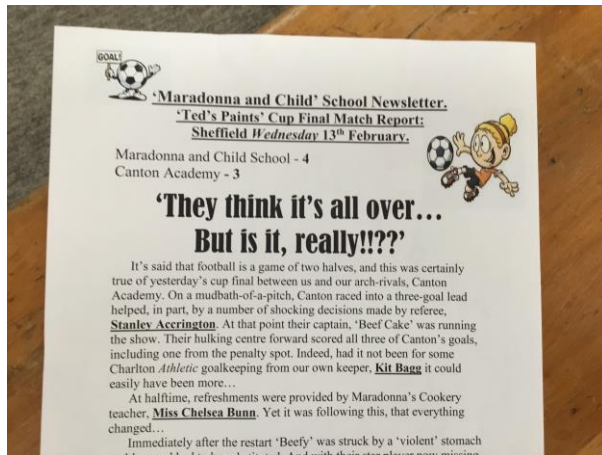












## House points for this week



Your child/children will be part of a school family group (dinner table) and this family group is part of one of our 4 house teams: St Andrew (blue), St David (yellow), St George (red) and St Patrick (green). Our school house points link to our school mission statement of Loving God, Loving Each Other and Loving Learning and are awarded to children for behaviour, learning and positive attitudes beyond our expected standards. Every Friday the winning team sits at a special 'top table' for lunch, is served first, has a sweet treat and can also take part in the Flourishing Friday fun activity at lunchtime play.

We loved going for our STARS half term treat at Huntleys on Friday.

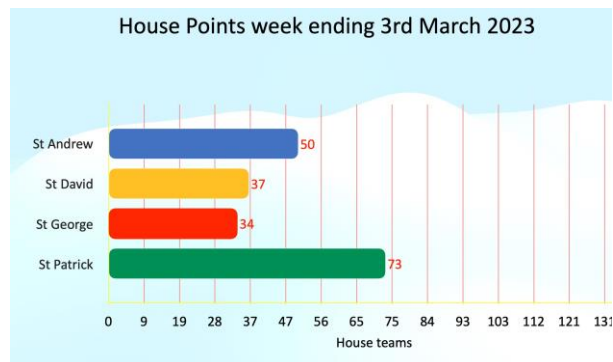








1 - ;'p'''p



2 - Congratulations to St Patrick - this week's winners!



Forest School fun!



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*Year 4 loved toasting marshmallows on the campfire in Forest School this week and we tried a new delicious baked apple recipe! We also went exploring in the brook. It was fun to see how deep we could go without getting our feet wet!*

**PLEASE NOT FOREST SCHOOL FOR YEAR 4 THIS WEEK WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, NOT MONDAY (AS Mrs Gow HAS A MEETING ON MONDAY AFTERNOON). PLEASE BRING YOUR SPARE CLOTHES, WATERPROOFS & WELLIES ON WEDNESDAY!**

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## Flourishing Friday Award Winners



Here are this week's flourishers who have shone our school mission of Loving God, Loving Each Other and Loving learning.

**EYFS. Phoebe**

**Year 1. Thomas B, Tessa**

**Year 2. Zahraa**

**Year 3. Eleanor**

**Year 4. William**

**Year 5. Matilda**

**Year 6. Michael**

## Sports Roundup



**Y5/6 Football**

**At Roefield 3G**

**Monday 27th February**

Team: Eesa, Zayd, Haris, Deen, Bilaal, Michael, Mohammed F, Muhammed I

Our third meeting of the league competition and we yet again saw further improvements in the team's ability. We played 4 games over the evening, winning 2 and narrowly losing 2. Our 4 – 0 victory over St Leonard's was our proudest achievement as we have been unable to beat this school in the past.

The boys continue to work well together with passion and determination and they never let their heads drop when things don't go as well as we would like. This always makes Mrs Heyworth so very proud.

It was really lovely to have a supportive team of Dad's on the side lines who also modelled Balderstone's excellent sportsmanship. Thank you Dads for being such positive role models and supporting the boys in the freezing cold.

A special Thank you to Mrs Riaz (Deen's Mum) who once again stepped in to help Mrs Heyworth manage the team.

**Y3/4 Glow Dodgeball at Oakhill College.**

**Friday 3rd March 2022**

**Team** – Mohammed R, Alfie, Eshaal, Zayn, Aaisha A, Shifa, Aleena I, Aliza

On Friday Morning, eight excited children from Foxes travelled to Oakhill College in Whalley to participate in a FUN glow Dodgeball competition. 23 teams took part in an event designed to encourage participation and a love of physical activity. It was certainly FUN....and VERY noisy and dark!

Children had to score their opponents at the end of each match based on their honesty whilst playing. Whilst we didn't win anything at the end of the event, Mrs Heyworth was extremely impressed and proud of the whole team: All of the children displayed excellent determination, passion, teamwork, self belief, honesty and respect for all involved. It was thoroughly enjoyable morning and the children's behaviour was impeccable. Thank you children.

Thank you to Shifa's parents for helping with transport to and from the event.



## Continuing support of Blackburn Food bank



Every two weeks we shall be taking donations to the Food Bank in Blackburn. Please leave any donations in the large cardboard box in the entrance foyer. If you are able to, then please do donate to the collection and we shall make sure your gifts get to the people of our community who need them most.

## Balderstone Farmers' Market and Fairtrade stall



We are looking to support our local farmers/growers and small-holdings through creating our very own Balderstone Farmers' market and Fair-trade stall. Our four fairtrade ambassadors will be opening the stall before Easter selling local produce and Fairtrade products. If you are a local producer and think you might have produce you want to sell/advertise on the stall then please let Mrs Gow know.

## Uniform reminders



Our good as new uniform shop will be available on a Friday after school (in the school library) if you need any new/nearly new items OR is your child has lost uniform and it isn't named you might find it there! If you have any serviceable school shoes, trainers or school coats, we would be very grateful for them.

## Therapy dog **consultation**





May I introduce you to Moo (sorry about the name but my children have named her and they think it's hilarious - Moo Gow instead of Moo Cow!). Moo is going to be trained to be a therapy/reading dog for our school. She is a miniature English bulldog, a breed renowned for their placid nature and love of children. She will NEVER be loose around school and will only be in school twice a week, working with children whose parents/carers **have given permission** for them to meet the dog.

Moo is nearly 7 months old and will only be visiting the school to get used to the environment/noises/smells and sounds for the next few months whilst she completes her training at Mellor Dog School. She will ALWAYS be on her lead whilst in school and will spend her day in Mrs Gow's office/front office in a safely gated enclosure whilst in the room. Children (with permission) will be initially invited to come into the office and read to her whilst she is in the enclosure. She will be walked when the children are NOT out at play until she has completed her basic obedience training. The benefits on wellbeing, mental health and on reading ages are well documented and Moo will be available as part of our nurture offer for children who need a bit of 'down' time - walking and talking or reading and stroking. Many of our local secondary schools have already adopted the school dog scheme and we hope to join them in this venture which can have a superb impact on children's reading confidence and reading ages.

She will be trained to be a minimal 'licker' as it is the saliva which we know is an issue for our Muslim families. No child/parent will need to have contact with her if they are either scared or if they would prefer not to be in contact with her. We are hoping that Moo will become a long-standing part of the Balderstone family, who the children get to know and love (she currently has a school jumper and school coat in the making!)

Please do come and talk to Mrs Gow about the scheme if you have any comments or would like a chat OR to meet the dog yourself.

#### 4. Dog behaviour standards

##### 4.1. Dogs involved in active sessions in schools must:

- a) Be a minimum of 12 months of age
- b) Not bark, mouth, jump up at, or paw people
- c) Be adaptable to new environments and unexpected stimuli, such as new smells, objects, and sudden noises
- d) Be socially confident, enjoy human interaction, and be relaxed and calm in the company of children, even when there is a level of noise and erratic behaviour around
- e) Be comfortable with appropriate physical interaction e.g. grooming, and not respond unduly negatively to unexpected lively behaviour from children
- f) Be comfortable engaging with children that may have physical/learning disabilities, and around mechanical aids e.g. wheelchairs, where relevant
- g) Exhibit no guarding of resources e.g. food/toys or avoidance behaviour
- h) Take treats gently when offered and not snatch toys from hands
- i) Be easily identifiable as a dog performing a clear role in the school



3 - Here are the Kennel club reading dog standards that she will be assessed upon.



## Dates for the diary



**Monday 6th March**  
Village school

Balderstone Brushes and MOPS (Puppet ministry team) visiting Abbey

Girls' football match after-school

Tuesday 7th March.

3.10pm - parents who have children in Year 3/4 who have bought iPad, come in and get your child's iPad linked to your phone/tablet with Jamf Parents.

**Wednesday 8th March**

All girls need trainers in school for World's greatest ever Girls' football day - all the girls will be doing some football today!

Year 1 and 2 Parent/carer lunch 12.30pm

**Friday 24th March**

Alternative Florist Coffee creative afternoon 2pm

## Contact Us



**A small school  
with a big heart**

We are currently accepting  
applications.

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



For more information visit  
 [www.balderstoneschool.co.uk](http://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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