



Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter

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

Friday 27th January 2023

In This Issue



In this week's edition of the newsletter

- **Mrs Gow's Words for the week**
- **Fairtrade Conference**
- **Forest School Fun**
- **New Year themed lunch**
- **Sports roundup - football report**
- **Stan's nan - amazing art**
- **Upcoming events - World Book Day, Mental Health week, Safer Internet day**
- **Church and community events**
- **Dates for your diary**
- **Contact Us**

Mrs Gow's Words for the Week...



Thank you for your care and concern after my fall last week. I had an argument with the icy stone steps at the front of my house and I can conclude that the steps won!

The message I had planned for last Friday's celebration worship was all about counting our blessings and this has truly been at the forefront of my mind this week. Every single day, it is a privilege to bear witness to the skill of our staff, the kindness and wonderful values that our children hold and the support of our governors and families.

Today I had the pleasure of taking 4 of our junior children to County Hall in Preston to attend the Lancashire Fairtrade Conference. We had a marvellous day learning all about how we can make a difference to the climate crisis, to commerce and trade and how we can be wise consumers. We also got to bring and try lots of Fairtrade foods (mostly chocolate!). As we left the venue this afternoon and walked to the station car park, we passed a number of people begging on the pavements. The children immediately noticed these people and how others were walking past with out even glancing at them. We were carrying our bag of goodies - Fairtrade chocolates, bananas, apple juice. Then the children stopped in the middle of the street and said, "Do you think we could give these to the man sat on the street over there, our food from today?"

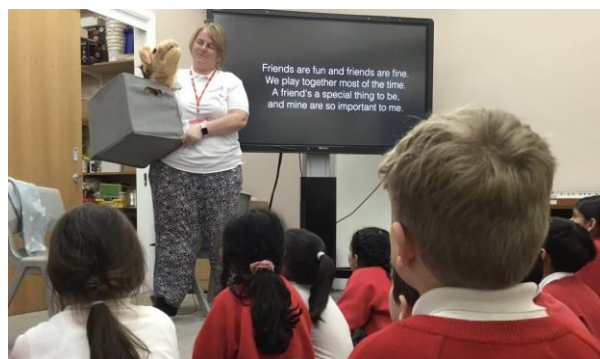
My heart sang, as these children all had hearts of compassion. They could easily have kept the goodies for themselves, but they were more concerned about sharing with those less fortunate. I approached the young man and asked him if he would like any of the food we had with us. He told the children that they had made his day and that Maltesers were his favourite food and he hadn't had them for ages. Those children touched that man's spirit this afternoon and I counted my

blessings as Headteacher of these incredible young people. These children truly acted as Jesus' hands and feet in Preston today.

From,

Mrs Gow (a very blessed headteacher)

Coram education - Life Bus Visit



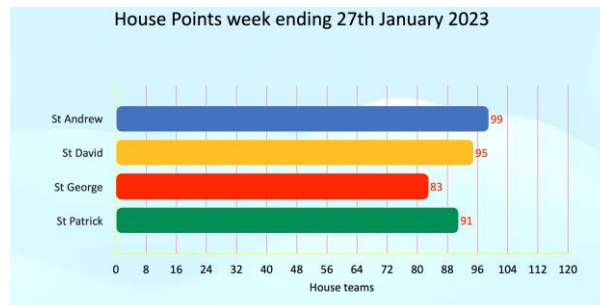


On Wednesday we had a visit from the Coram Life Education team and our favourite giraffe friend, Harold! Every class enjoyed a really informative session and learnt incredibly important facts about how to stay healthy in body, mind and spirit. Fox class were amazed by a magical T-shirt that could show you the organs working hard inside your body. The older children learnt about how important it is to keep our bodies healthy by protecting it from harmful substances. We love seeing Harold the giraffe and his friends. School paid for this important health education visit as part of our Sports Premium.

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.



1 - Congratulations to St Andrew- this week's winners!

Forest School Feathery fun!

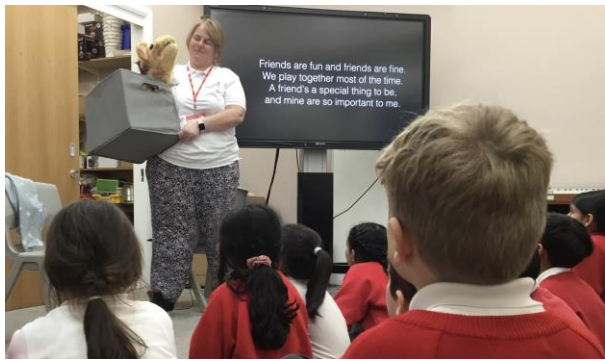


In Forest School, Year 3 learnt all about birds ready for this weekend's RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. We found out about different birds and made bird cake to hang from the trees around school. Some of us decided to try making nests and we looked closely at some old nests and feathers. Our favourite game involved us running around the field making tweeting noises to learn all about bird song!

If you'd like to take part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch, visit their website for details and lots of great fun activities. Then make yourselves a hot chocolate and spend some time together watching the wonderful wildlife around us!

<https://www.rspb.org.uk>





New Year Themed Lunch



Our wonderful catering team, Miss Lee, Mrs Chand and Mrs Burton put together the most wonderful January themed, New Year. We wanted to celebrate the start of 2023 in style. The children enjoyed a celebration themed lunch and also had party blowers, streamers and party hats. Note to self..... the sound of 97 party blowers is somewhat more than a teacher's patience threshold can manage! Thank you to Miss Lee and the team for giving us such a fun lunchtime.

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. **Ebrahim**

Year 1. **Rollover to next week**

Year 2. **Rollover to next week**

Year 3. **Juwairiyah**

Year 4. **Laura**

Year 5. **Rollover to next week**

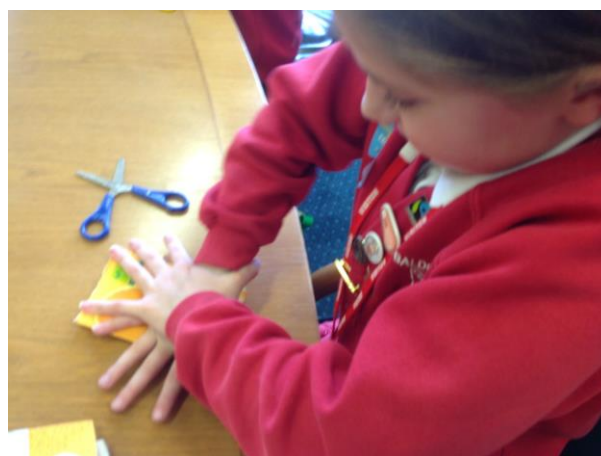
Year 6. **Anna**

Lancashire Fair-trade Schools' Conference



On Friday a representative from Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 joined Mrs Cummins (governor) and I to attend the Lancashire Fairtrade conference at County Hall in Preston. We took part in a number of workshops learning about the production of chocolate, the impact of the Fairtrade premium, a craft session held by Funky and Fair and we had a fair-trade packed lunch. We won the competition for the most Fairtrade items packed in our lunch boxes with a wonderful array of chocolates, jam, bananas and even a bunch of flowers! We were awarded a brand new kind of Fairtrade rugby ball! We are looking forwards to starting our Fairtrade award journey and setting up our new Friday Fairtrade Fayre stall after school on a Friday (thanks to young entrepreneur Haris). I was incredibly proud of our pupils who represented our school so wonderfully at the conference. It is heartening to know that our young people genuinely care about our world and the people in it being treated fairly.





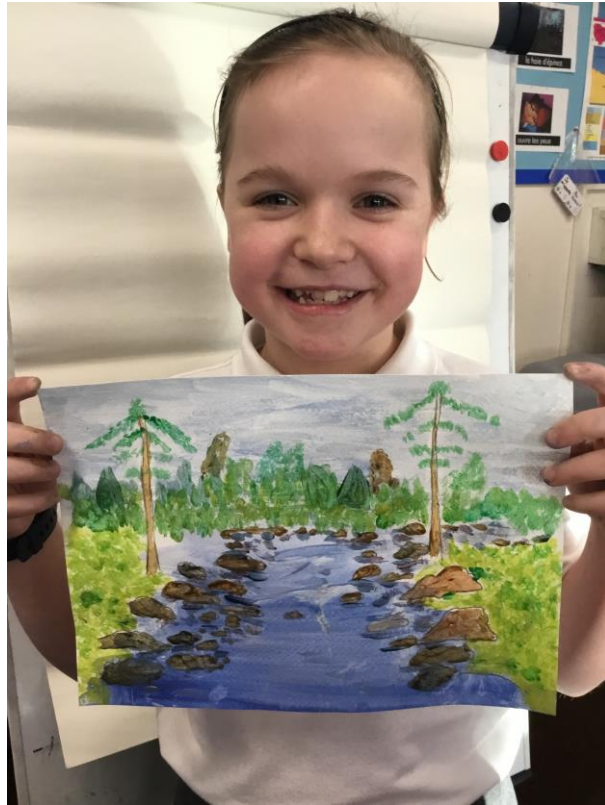




Art workshop with Nanna Nuttall



Fox class were treated to another workshop from our resident granny artist this week. The children were taught how to create a river scene from a basic ink drawing, The creation of perspective in the paintings was fabulous. A huge thank you to Stan's nan for sharing her expertise and time with us. We love your visits and are so proud of our finished pieces.



Internet safety day and Parent meeting

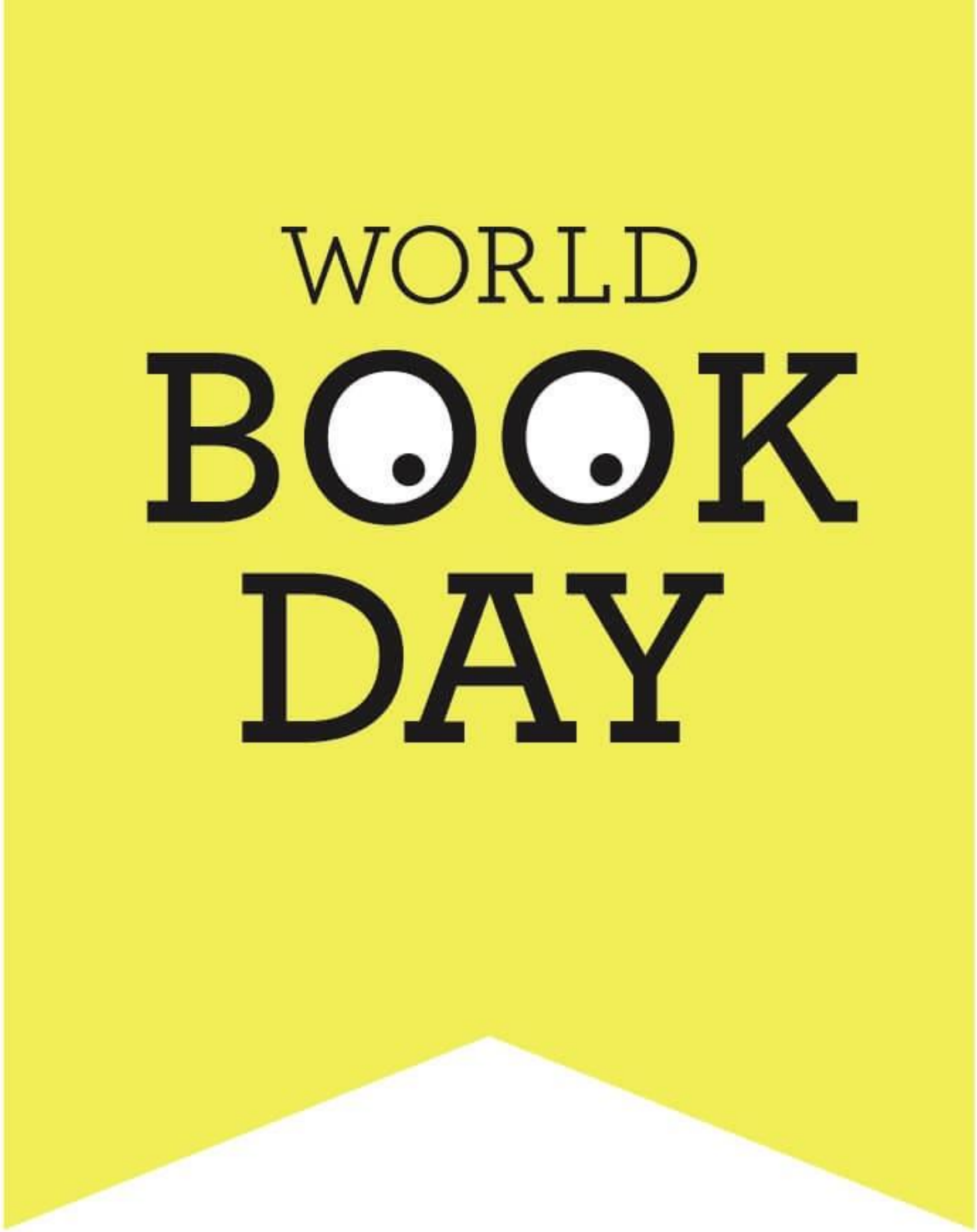
WHEN?

Safer Internet Day takes
place every February



The week beginning the 6th February is Internet Safety week in school. We teach staying smart and safe online throughout the school year, but this week we really focus on reminding ourselves of the many ways in which we use technology that enhances our lives, but also how this technology needs to be used safely, securely and smartly. As we move towards becoming a 1:1 device school and with many of Fox class having a shared device between home and school this is even more important. With this in mind, I will be holding a parent meeting to go through our safer usage policy and to discuss ways in which we can work together to keep our children safe and to teach them how to make wise tech choices. This meeting will be on Tuesday 7th February at two times one in person and one on Zoom. I'll confirm times once I've spoken to our partners at MCC.

World Book Day 2023 - 2nd March 2023

A yellow banner with a white triangular point at the bottom. The text "WORLD BOOK DAY" is centered on the banner. "WORLD" is in a black serif font. "BOOK" is in a large, bold, black serif font, with the two 'O's replaced by stylized eyes with black pupils. "DAY" is in a black serif font.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We always celebrate World Book Day in our school as we LOVE reading and all things books. This year, the theme is YOU ARE A READER. We are going to have a fairy tale themed in school for this day. The children can choose to come dressed as ANY fairytale/traditional tale character (from any culture) OR they can make a tail to represent the tale. More details to follow on our specially themed STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) world book day.

Sports Roundup



Year 5/6 Football tournament

Monday 23rd January

What a fantastic football team I (Mrs Riddell) saw in action on Monday evening! Balderstone Boys Team worked so hard in their 6 games at the league tournament in Clitheroe and showed amazing teamwork. They defended well, some great saves by our goalkeeper Eesa, and had many opportunities to score. We drew three, lost two and, the highlight of the night, won one 2-0. Thank you to all our supporters and Yasmin Riaz for managing the team. So proud of you all, you were amazing ambassadors for our school. Well done!

Supporting Blackburn Food bank



As a response to Mrs Riddell's worship about John the Baptist this week, the children have asked if we could do more to support Blackburn food bank. Therefore, in response to the children, we will be creating a collection cage for the food bank in the front entrance of school. You can deposit any donations in the box and we shall take the donations to the local food bank every two weeks. This regular donation will be very gratefully received by the food bank in Blackburn and Darwen, who are currently seeing a huge rise in demand for support.

FOBS (Friends of Balderstone School)



Our fabulous FOBS (parent and friends group) need you! FOBS are a team who plan the amazing family activities throughout the school year - from discos for the children, to Mother's Day gifts, to the Summer Balderstone Bonanza and the bonfire. As a small school (with increasingly tight budgets) our FOBS team provide essential funds for your children. We absolutely need your support - through attending our meetings (we don't ahem too many a year), to supporting the events. Next week we shall be holding our Annual General Meeting and EVERYONE is welcome. Even if you have never attended a meeting before, come along and meet the friendly faces of the team, come for a brew and a piece of legendary FOBS cakes! The next meeting is on Wednesday 1st February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Year 1/2 classroom. We'd love to welcome some new faces and welcome back our familiar crew! We can't thank this team of volunteers enough for the support they given your children. This last month, they have helped school pay for a full set of 1:1 iPads for Year 5 and 6.

Uniform reminders



Please could you ensure that our high standards of uniform are maintained - making sure the children wear black school shoes. If the weather is poor, the children can wear boots and then put their shoes on in school. Red hoodies are to be worn for PE please. We do have some spare school jumpers in school for the children in Year 6 who may have grown out of theirs and don't want to buy

new ones. Trainers are NOT to be worn to school, but do need to be brought into school every day. Grey or white socks are to be worn. PLEASE NAME ALL UNIFORM.

Thank you for ensuring we can keep consistency in our school rules.

Dates for the diary



Wednesday 1st February. Teacher union industrial action day - school open/house team day in school

FOBS meeting in Year 1/2 classroom 7.30pm

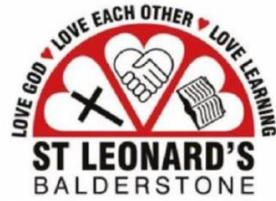
Monday 6th February Consultation afternoon/evening 2ppm onwards

Tuesday 7th February Safer internet parents meeting (all parents/carers welcome but especially our Year 3/4 parents who are signed up to the iPad scheme. Times to be confirmed.

Thursday 9th February. Coffee creative afternoon 2pm

Sunday 12th February All age worship

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>