



# Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter

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

*Friday 16th December 2022*

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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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*This week has been a joy. Christmas week in school has been a busy one but with so many triumphs. The swimmers in the juniors have ALL made incredible progress and have had so much fun. Squirrel class made the most incredible Christmas cakes (next year I am going to get them a stall on Blackburn Market!). EYFS treated us to the best rendition of When Santa got stuck up the Chimney - ever- in the Talent show and then Owls concluded the week leading a festive musical treat of 'Must be Santa' on their ukuleles at this afternoon's Carol service. Miss Lee, Mrs Chand and Mrs Riz have worked their magic in the school kitchen this week, making the most delicious Christmas dinner on Wednesday and party food on Thursday too.*

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Our prayers and thoughts are with the family of Mr Frank Woodward (our previous caretaker, verger of our church and long-standing friend of the school) who passed into glory this week. His funeral will be held at our church on Tuesday at 11am. We are holding Ann his wife and his children and grandchildren in our prayers and thank him for his loyal service to our school and church.



The children enjoyed their class parties this week, learning how to have fun whilst being able to lose pass the parcel, cope with being 'out' in musical chairs and also include everyone in the dancing fun! EYFS also had a flying visit from Father Christmas who came to say hello (leaving his sleigh on the school roof). Did you know that Father Christmas wears the same kind of shoes as Harry (our long-standing reading volunteer). I think they both shop in the same shoe store in the North Pole.













## Toddler Group Christmas party!

Our Balderstone Toddler group had a wonderful Christmas party last week. It has been wonderful to welcome some new faces to our youngest Balderstoners and to also see some of our 'regulars' meeting together and sharing news of parenting joys and sleepless nights! *Everyone is welcome* to join toddlers back again on Tuesday 10th January. A huge thank you to Mrs Johnstone, Mrs Leaver and Mrs Ilyas who help to run our baby and toddler group,













Despite the rather treacherous, freezing playground conditions, we have found creative ways of enjoying the ice- making ice sculptures/hanging ice baubles and also our whole school ice art competition. Here are the amazing entries:



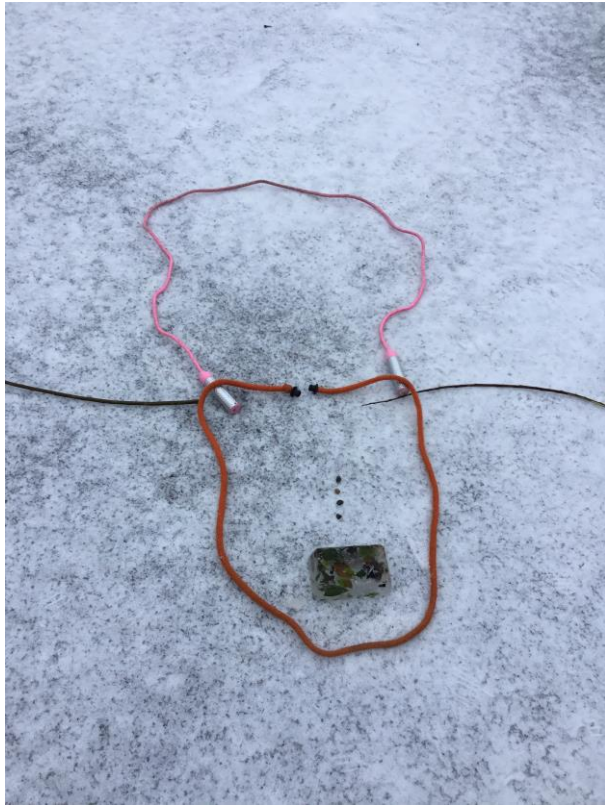






1 - Highly commended





2 - Winning design!







*3 - Runner-up*





**Gardening club had festive fun making their reindeer last pots. Aren't they cute!.** The Royal Horticultural Society also commented on Mrs Riddell's Tweet this week.







Busy Bees, with Mrs Moosa have also had fun this week decorating their own Christmas cakes. Look at these super, yummy designs.



I would like to personally thank our amazing FOBS Team for all their work this half-term. The Christmas Raffle and the Christmas Disco were well supported and raise absolutely essential funds for our school. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who give up their free time so readily to provide fun activities for our children and families. Congratulations to Alfie and Tessa's family who won the 1st prize in this year's raffle. Mrs Turner and I had great fun, with our very own DJ Xander,

boogieing the night away at the school disco. Thank you to all the parents/friends of school who have supported these events.

A special thank you to our governors, who have worked so hard this term, supporting school and also for all the practical help they have given running Daily Miles, making brews for Celebration worship, helping lead our marvellous school team.

***On behalf of the staff, governors and church family, may we wish you all, whether you celebrate Christmas or not, a peaceful, blessed and restful break and a joyous and healthy New Year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the blessing of this first term as your headteacher. Your support, generosity and kindness has been a real answer to prayer. May God bless you all, as we move together as a school family, into 2023.***

**Mrs Gow**

## House point Half term treat



St Patrick enjoyed their Half-term winners treat this week - designing and making their own ice-cream sundaes. I've never seen so many sprinkles and strawberry sauce!

## Bits and Bobs - Can you help us gather....?





Mrs Riddell is collecting Pringle style crisp tubes please and would like them bringing in after the Christmas holidays - they are for making lighthouses!

Christingle



Come along and join us at one of the most atmospheric and special services of our church year on Christmas Eve at 4pm. This service, partly in candlelight, helps us to raise awareness for the Children's Society and also helps us focus our hearts and minds on the 'real' meaning of Christmas. If you need a little light and joy in your Christmas run up then this is at the service to come to.

## Ipad scheme



The children in Year 3 & 4 who have ordered iPads - these will be delivered to school next week (Tuesday) and I am waiting for a set up date from MCC. I will Parentmail out potential collection dates for the 'Elves' who may need to pick them up before 25th Dec!

## Dates for the diary



**24th December - Christingle Service in church 4pm**

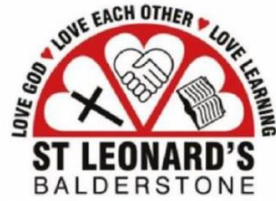
**Tuesday 3rd January - Welcome back to school**

**Friday 6th January - Celebration worship in church 9 am with coffee in school from 8.40am**

**Wednesday 25th January - Life Education Bus in school**



## 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)

**Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary school**

Commons Lane

Balderstone

Blackburn

BB2 7LL

01254 769150

[head@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk)

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