



Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter

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

Friday 9th December 2022

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Mrs Gow's Words for the Week...



The nativity was a triumph this week! A huge thank you to the children, staff team, FOBS team, governors and audience who joined us for our performances of Prickly Hay. The children shone and so many of you commented on how confidently, clearly and joyously the children sang, rapped and spoke. I was incredibly proud of our school family on Wednesday and felt truly blessed by the children's retelling of Jesus' birthday. Year 1 and 2 did an amazing job with their acting and EYFS were little stars - quite literally! Thank you to everyone who supported the church Christmas fair last weekend. The children did a super job running the games stalls.



Despite the many coughs and sneezes, there has been a really festive feel to school this week. Excellent learning has been taking place across every year group with EYFS producing the most

amazing ice sculpture/lantern and some WOW Geography work. Year 1 and 2 have been busy finishing off their Great Fire of London topic. Year 3 and 4 have been busy learning/honing their swimming skills and Year 5 and 6 have started making their sandals in DT for their 'In the Footsteps of Jesus' topic.





Obviously we are carefully monitoring our children for illnesses at the moment, as there are a range of horrid viral and bacterial infections circulating. Please ensure that you follow the advice sent out on Parentmail this week about vigilance around Scarlet Fever, Group A strep and Invasive Group A strep.

The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and pallor around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a 'strawberry tongue' - swollen, bright red tongue, possibly with a whitish coating. As the child improves peeling of the skin can occur.

- Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should **not attend** nursery / school / work until **24 hours** after starting appropriate antibiotic treatment for scarlet fever.
- Whilst scarlet fever is circulating it is especially important that any children and adults with chickenpox do stay off nursery or school until all their blisters have dried over, which is at least 5 days after they first appeared.

A huge thank you to those parents who have exercised such care this week and have not sent poorly children into school or have collected poorly children. Of course we DO NOT want your child to miss school sessions OR be absent, but at the moment, I would advise a sensible/cautious (but not over zealous) approach to sending your child in if they are feeling a bit under the weather. If in doubt, the advice is always contact a health professional - as we do have a number of children who have been prescribed antibiotics to try and shift underlying, persistent infections. I will, of course, let you know if we have any confirmed cases of scarlet fever.

IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU MAKE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S ABSENCE TELEPHONE LINE IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL. Ring 01254 769 155. This number is open 24 hours a day to leave a message to let us know if your child is going to be absent and why.





1 - The rash appears red on light skin tones, and is bumpy and browner on darker skin tones.

Next week is our final week of term and we have some wonderful festive fellowship events:

TUESDAY Talent Show

WEDNESDAY Christmas jumper day (school uniform with a Christmas/bright jumper) and Christmas dinner

THURSDAY - class party (come in WARM party clothes), FOBS festive disco (see attached flyer)

FRIDAY - carols around the tree - in school (parents welcome 1pm)

FINISH FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY 1.30pm FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER



Thank you so much to Mrs Riz (Mohammed-Faizan and Rehmat Fatimah's mummy) who has been helping us out in our school kitchen for the past half-term. She has been a fantastic help and has been an amazing team member, helping Miss Lee.

Have a restful weekend everyone and let's get ready for some Christmas joy next week!

Mrs Gow

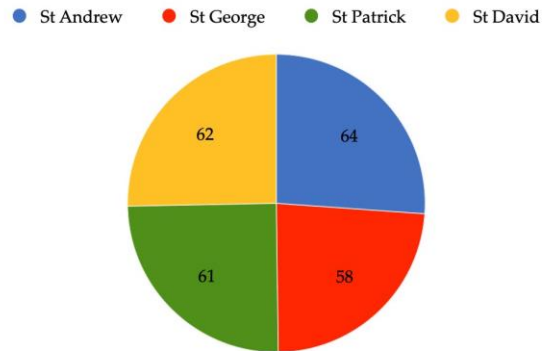
Santa dash - Daily miles next week



Next week our daily miles (Monday and Wednesday 8.20 am) will have a festive feel. Come along with your hats, antlers, Santa suits on and let's keep fit and festive together!

House points for this week





2 - Congratulations to St Andrew - this week's winners! It was a close one this week.

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



We need to collect a number of 'junk' modelling items for school.

If you have any empty cereal boxes OR small 5cm tall empty tin cans - Mrs Draycott &* Mrs Burton need them on Monday please.

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



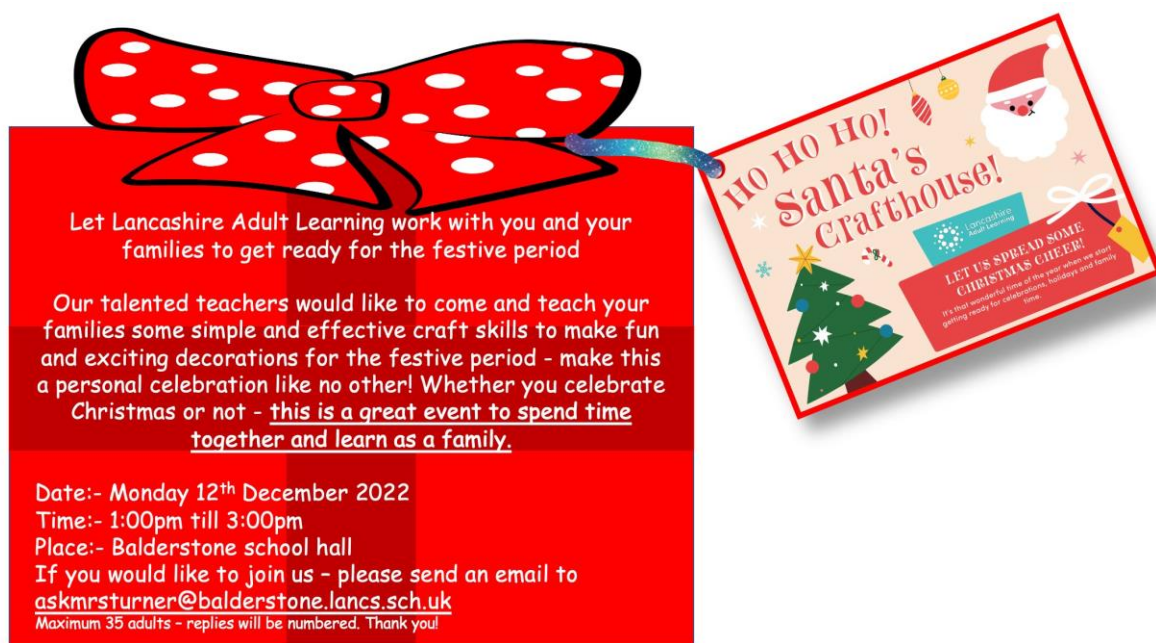
Swimming (junior children)



WOW - our junior swimmers have been outstanding this week. I had the pleasure of accompanying the children during their first swimming sessions of the year and all the staff were thrilled with how

confident, brave (in some cases) and hard working they have been. All of the children have made progress and they should be very proud of themselves. One more week to go to build their confidence, hone their water safety skills and stamina. Remember your kits and swimming caps on Monday.

Elf Craft Workshop



From 1pm on Monday, families who have signed up for the Elf Workshop are welcome to join us in the school hall.

'Let Your Light Shine' awards



Here are the 'stars' for this half-term, who have shone our school mission of Loving God, Loving Each Other and Loving learning all throughout this last seven weeks.

EYFS. **Amaarah**

Year 1. (roll over)

Year 2. **Yaqub**

Year 3. **Shifa**

Year 4. **Ammaarah**

Year 5 **Khadijah P**

Year 6 **Michael**

All-age worship



Come along and join Mrs Riddell and Mrs Gow at all-age worship in church this Sunday at 11am. We are looking at joyous news and celebrations,

Christmas Raffle



Raffle Tickets are still on sale. Please return the money and tickets that were sent home last week. There are lots of spare raffle tickets booklets available in school if anyone could sell some in their place of work. The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday of next week. 1st prize £150!

Snow protocols



As the weather takes a turn for the colder, it is probably time to refresh our snowy day routines.

- Mrs Riddell (lives closest to the school building) and will inform Mrs Gow if the weather/road conditions are treacherous/difficult to access school safely. Mrs Gow will try to get into school to assess safety for staff/parents/children. If the snow is light and roads are passable then school will OPEN. If staff are unable to safely travel to school then...

- Mrs Johnstone will post a message on Parentmail as soon as possible to let you know that school needs to close
- Miss Roberts will update our school Facebook page.
- The school website will have a flash banner on the front page saying school is closed OR open.
- Lancashire Radio stations will be informed if school closes.
- Staff will post work on school website class pages for the day if school is closed.

We shall only close school if the road/access is extremely difficult/dangerous OR if enough staff cannot access school to keep the children safe.

Sporting Successes



A huge congratulations to our school kurling teams (some of whom represented school for the very first time) who WON the infants Ribble Valley New Age Kurling competition last Monday. We were very proud of our children and parents who came along to support our team.

Christmas Disco



Thursday 15th December

6:30 – 7:45

Music and games

£5 entry per child



Price includes:

A choice of 4 of the following:

Crisps

Sweet bag

Chocolate biscuit

Glow in the dark tattoo

Glitter cheeks

(and unlimited drinks)

Please complete the order form below and send into school with the correct money.

LAST DAY to order your tickets: **Tuesday 13th December**

Dates for the diary



Monday 12th December. Elf Workshop craft session pm

Wednesday 14th December. Christmas Dinner in school (wear your favourite Christmassy/jolly jumper)

Thursday 15th December. Christmas Disco 6.30pm - 7.45pm (join DJ Xander, Mrs Gow and the FOBS team for a boogie!)

Friday 16th December Christmas Carols in church - everyone welcome 1pm

POLITE REMINDER THAT WE FINISH FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY AT 1.30pm ON FRIDAY 16th.

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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