



# Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter

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

*Friday 2nd December 2022*

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## In This Issue



In this week's edition of the newsletter

- Mrs Gow's weekly words
- Balderstone Brushes go on Tour!
- Forest school fun
- Church and community events
- Dates for your diary
- Contact Us

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



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*Thank you for all your kindness, as I came back to work after feeling poorly at the start of the week. This has been a very busy week in school as we get ready for the Nativity play next Wednesday. We have had a number of exciting visitors/events in school this week - Max the musician visited school to get ready to launch our new school Rock Band, Lancashire Fire Department came in to remind Year 2 and Year 6 all about fire safety and then we rounded off our week with this afternoon's fabulous Coffee Creative. I've been privileged to see a sneak peak of this year's nativity play, 'Prickly Hay', and I can assure you that we are in for a treat next week.*

*In worship, Reverend Karen joined us, to help us understand the season of Advent and why it is so important to Christians. Mrs Cast helped us to learn all about the symbolism of the advent wreath and the coloured candles that are lit every Sunday in Advent to show hope, peace, joy and love coming to Earth through the incarnation of Jesus as a baby.*

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Over the past two weeks, we have hosted many school teachers as part of Mrs Heyworth's work as a North West Maths Hub lead. The children in Year 5 and 6 have had multiple teachers observe and share their maths lessons with them and we have been extremely proud of the way in which the children have welcomed these staff and vocalised their maths learning, teaching others about how we use our maths journals in school.

I also wanted to personally thank our newly established Balderstone Brushes Art Ambassadors, who, with Mrs Turner, visited Euxton CE Primary this week to teach and lead an art session making watercolour calendars. It's fabulous to see our children taking a lead in learning and sharing their talents and abilities with others.

We said goodbye to Mrs Halton today, as she leaves us to start her new job at a secondary school in Chorley, near to where she lives. A huge thank you for all the support she has given to our school over the past year, both in the office and in her role on our welfare team. We thank her for her lovely phone manner and smiley face in our front office. We shall miss Mrs Halton and pray for every success as she starts her new role in finance. Please do remember that Mrs Johnstone works Monday - Thursday and will need lots of support as she tries to juggle the many jobs, phone calls, deliveries and visitors that arrive in the office on a daily basis.

Please do come and join us for the St Leonard's Christmas fair tomorrow in school from 2pm. Our children shall open the fair by singing Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. There are lots of stalls and games to join in with and there will be some lovely cake too. I hope to see you there.

Have a lovely weekend and keep safe from all the horrid germs that are out there at the moment. Have a restful weekend.

**Mrs Gow**

## Forest School



Both Year 1 and 2 took part in Forest School this week. We were den building on the field. Which team would stay dry inside their shelter when the rain shower came along?







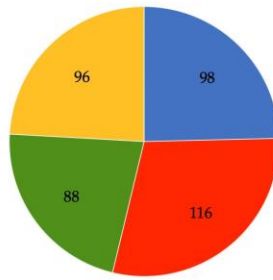
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House points for this week



### House Points week ending 2nd December 2022

● St Andrew ● St George ● St Patrick ● St David



*1 - Congratulations to St George - this week's winners! That's two weeks on the trot - well done.*

## Balderstone Brushes go on Tour



**2 - BALDERSTONE BRUSHES on tour!**

*Well done to our first group of Balderstone Brushes for sharing your love of ART with the Year 3 children at Euxton CE Primary school. You were AMAZING! What a great experience sharing your knowledge of art techniques with others to help them create their own calendars.*

*Thank you to [scribbleandstamp@email.com](mailto:scribbleandstamp@email.com) for the FANTASTIC T-shirts! We love them ♥*

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## Prickly Hay - Nativity News



Dust off your Country Dancing boots - ready for next week's performance of Prickly Hay. Thank you to everyone who has reserved their nativity tickets already. We offer (initially) 2 tickets per family for each performance. However, if you want more tickets we do offer a **reserve list** and we can then offer additional tickets. Please let the office know if you require reserve tickets. Given the financial pressures on us all at the moment we have decided NOT to ask you to purchase tickets but make a donation of whatever you can spare to support school in paying for the nativity license/performance fee and to support school funds. We would also like to give a donation to The Salvation Army (Year 1 and 2s charity choice for this half-term) from this payment. Therefore, when you go on to Parentmail to purchase/order your tickets, the cost will say £0 but you can type in its place any amount you would be able to gift the school. We shall also be selling refreshments on the night so please bring some change.

We look forward to welcoming you to our two performances on:

***Wednesday 7th December. 1.30pm and 6pm***

The children need to be back at school at 5.40pm and will need to come in through the front door of school, where they will be registered. The church door will also open at 5.40pm so please do not come any earlier than this.

### Costumes

Pre-school and Reception - Miss Roberts and Mrs Moosa sent a letter home tonight!

*Year 1 and 2 (in home school diary letter too)*

Angels – white t shirt (preferably plain) and white tights.

Shepherds, Innkeepers, & wise men – dark joggers or leggings and plain dark top.

Narrators – leggings and a Christmas or plain top.

All children will need pumps too to minimise noisy feet!

*Year 3 and 4*

White t-shirt and black or dark jeans/leggings and dark shoes/trainers.

### *Year 5 and 6*

Cool style, Philadelphia style clothes (think Fresh Prince of Bel Air style) - t shirts, baseball caps (worn backwards of course), hoodies, trainers - they are rapping!

After the nativity performance ALL the children will be coming back over to school and can be collected from the school hall. Our wonderful FOBS team will be serving refreshments (mulled wine, non-alcoholic mulled punch, tea, coffee, hot choc) in the hall and you can purchase treats and minced pies. The children will then be brought to the hall to you, once they are changed/picked up coats etc.

### *Swimming (junior children)*



The children from Fox class and some of our Owl children will be going swimming in the mornings for the next two weeks. Swimming is a **compulsory, statutory** part of the PE curriculum and all children have to attend until they have been assessed to meet a competent standard. This is part of our curriculum provision and is one area of learning which could (quite literally) save your child's life. Please remember to have your kits with you every day and remember your swimming caps.






What a joy to share this afternoon making Winter Wreaths with many of our families. A HUGE thank you to Mrs Riddell for sharing her secret willow weaving techniques with us and for preparing and gathering such a huge array of foliage for us to use to create our masterpieces. We had really fun this afternoon weaving, colouring, threading and inventing our own Winter Wreaths. I think we found some newfound talents (especially in some of our dads this afternoon) who were quite fabulous foliage arrangers. It was great to share the afternoon with our very own Reverend Karen too. There are still places available for our Elf Workshop (Arts and craft afternoon).











Let Lancashire Adult Learning work with you and your families to get ready for the festive period

Our talented teachers would like to come and teach your families some simple and effective craft skills to make fun and exciting decorations for the festive period - make this a personal celebration like no other! Whether you celebrate Christmas or not - this is a great event to spend time together and learn as a family.

Date:- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
 Time:- 1:00pm till 3:00pm  
 Place:- Balderstone school hall  
 If you would like to join us - please send an email to [askmrsturner@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:askmrsturner@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk)  
 Maximum 35 adults - replies will be numbered. Thank you!





## 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. **Aasiyah**

Year 1. **Adah**

Year 2. **Amelia**

Year 3. **Poppy B**

Year 4. **Liyaana (rollover) & rollover to next week**

Year 5 & 6 **The Whole of Owl class for their amazing Maths workshops**

## R.O.C.K. - Rise Of the Cool Kids!

On Tuesday, Max from R.O.C.K. came into school to tell us all about the new music sessions that are taking place in school from January. We had a fantastic morning with everyone from Year 1 to Year 6 having a go at playing either the drums, keyboard or electric guitar! If you would like your child to take part in these sessions, please fill in the forms that have been sent home by Monday. We're looking forward to seeing our Rock Bands in action!







## The Brass Band Concert

The annual Brass Band concert in church was a wonderful way to start Advent. The children were fantastic and sang brilliantly! They joined the band as the percussion section playing the bells and drumming along to The Little Drummer Boy. Thank you everyone for coming along!





## Christmas Raffle

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Balderstone St Leonard's  
**Christmas Raffle**

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

Email .....

All counterfoils, monies and unsold tickets to be returned to the promoter by 13th December 2022

Balderstone St Leonard's FOBS

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# Christmas Raffle

1st Prize: £150   2nd Prize £75   3rd Prize £25  
Plus food hampers and many other prizes  
The draw will take place on Wednesday 14th December



Printed by [www.raffleticketsonline.co.uk](http://www.raffleticketsonline.co.uk)

**Tickets £1.00**

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.



## Sporting Successes



A huge congratulations to so many of our Ju Jitsu children (both in and out of school) who were awarded their new belts at last week's gradings - congratulations to Muhammed and Sawdah who achieved their new belts with tabs this week too. We also have had a number of our youngest children (such as Zayaan) gaining their very first swimming awards. Ralph shared with us today that he had also had success as trainee of the week at his new football training. What great news! We're very proud of you all.

## Dates for the diary



**Saturday 3rd December.** Christmas Fair in school 2pm. Children to arrive at 1.45pm - games, fun and stalls

**Monday 5th December** Ks1 Kurling competition at St Augustine's RC High School

**Wednesday 7th December** - Nativity performances 1.30pm and 6pm

**Friday 9th December.** Celebration worship 9am in church (for STARS of the half term, with coffee beforehand in school from 8.40am)

**Monday 12th December.** Elf Workshop craft session pm

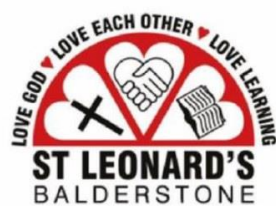
**Wednesday 14th December.** Christmas Dinner in school (wear your favourite Christmassy/jolly jumper)

**Thursday 15th December.** Christmas Disco 6.30pm - 7.45pm

**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 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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