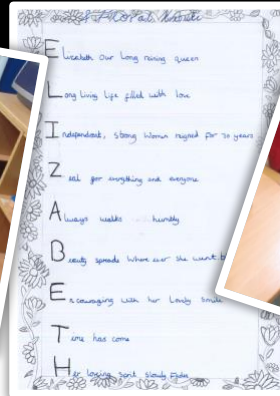


Balderstone St Leonard's Church of England Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 16th September 2022



Mrs Gow's Words of Welcome...



Dear school family,

We have spent a lot of our worship time this week reflecting on the life, good works, and strong faith of Queen Elizabeth. In times of mourning and loss, and especially during a time of national loss, really does emphasize the things that are most important to us. As a school family this week we have seen so many of our children shine. Our Toddler group was a joy this week with lots of new baby 'Balderstoners' joining the family (see photos below). The new Reception Rabbits have really shone in the ways in which they have settled into their new learning routines and have played and interacted with kindness with one another. You should see them all getting changed independently for PE now!

Squirrels have been busy in class starting their new farming topic and Year 1 loved their first Forest School session! Fox class have been having a rather chocolately week as they continue their learning based around Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (hence why I have been in their classroom a lot this week!). Owls class have showed real interest and produced some outstanding work on the monarchy. Not only have I seen the start of some terrific learning this week, but my heart has sung to see the children in their new 'family' groups playing, caring for one another and showing compassion and kindness in all of their interactions. Playtimes this week have been an absolute blessing, watching the ways in which our school family - from youngest to oldest care for one another.

Another joy has been hearing and seeing our Year 5 Owlets flourish in their bike riding abilities. A HUGE congratulations to the 3 children who can now ride a bicycle without stabilizers, who only two days ago could not ever imagine they would be cycling unaided around the yard! A special mention to Imaan, Safaa and Sophie on their incredible progress!

Next week we would like to open the doors for you, as part of our school family, to come and see your child/children's new classroom and to meet their class teacher. Please see the dates/times below. Please note, that due to the Queen's funeral on Monday, **we are not in school** but do pray that you can spend time with your families, marking this historic occasion.

Blessings,

Mrs Gow

Driving on Commons Lane

There have been a couple of quite serious incidents on Commons Lane this week which have resulted in Miss Lee losing her wing-mirror and sadly other parents in near misses/confrontations with other drivers. One of the most amazing things about our school is its semi-rural location, but this does mean that we must be extra cautious and courteous as we drive down the lane. Our PCSO team of Aimee and Will are going to spend a lot of time policing the lane to help us to make it a peaceable, passable and pleasant place for us to drive/walk down. We would love to start a walking bus scheme very soon, but this is entirely dependent on the safety of the road.

Please do not park outside Mrs Heffernan's house (where the cones are) or on the zig-zag lines as the new lollipop lady (AKA Mrs Gow) cannot see the road clearly if you park there!



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Flourishing Friday Award

Every Friday the staff choose a child

from every year group who have flourished in one of our school mission areas: Loving God, Loving each other and Loving learning. This week's



'flourishers' are:

EYF&: Muhammad
Aidan

Year 1: Tessa

Year 2: Ameerah

Year 3: Poppy B

Year 4: Sarudah

Year 5: Aleena

Year 6: Haris

We are very proud of your efforts! You are invited to have hot chocolate & treats with Mrs Gow in her office on Friday



Forest School fun!

Year 1 had their first Forest School session this week. Look what an amazing time they had!



Uniform, jewellery and PE

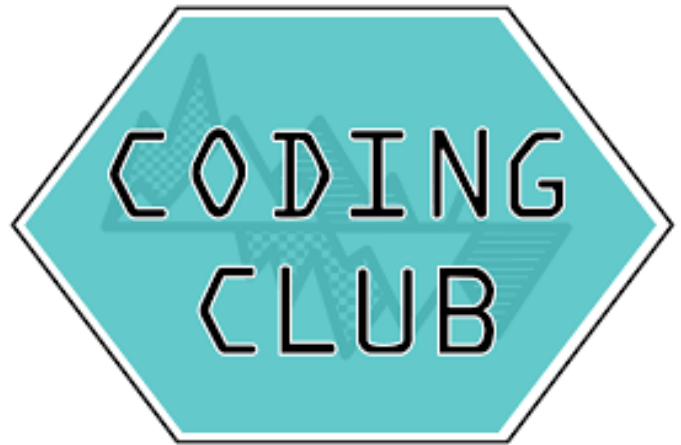
The children look so smart in their school uniforms, so thank you so much for this. Please make sure that all of your children's kit/uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name so we can reunite them with lost property.

No jewellery for school please other than a wrist watch (not a smart watch with internet/phone capabilities) and only a pair of plain stud earrings. Earrings must not be worn on PE days or during extra-curricular clubs/competitions

Join the Balderstone Family



Please spread the word about our rather splendid Pre-school Bunny provision. Everyone is entitled to 15 hours of provision OR you may even be eligible for 30 hours of free-childcare provision. This opportunity gives your little one a flying start to their EYFS learning and lets them hop into Reception class brimming with confidence. Places are available from the term after your child turns 3 years old. We also have some **limited** places in our classes across school. Please spread the word about our wonderful school family in our local community.



Our first extra-curricular club started this week and the children had an amazing time starting their 'Hour of Code' journey.

Balderstone Baby and Toddler group

Come and join the Toddle-tastic fun every Tuesday from 9.15 - 11.15am. Come and join us for fun, fellowship, food and friendship. A huge welcome to our newest members - baby Daniel and Olivia.





Important Admissions information

Do you have a Pre-school or Year 6 child? Read on for crucial information

School Admissions for 2023

Primary Admissions - If your child is in their **last year of pre-school or nursery** you can now apply for their primary school place at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools. It is quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application. You must apply **even if you already have siblings in school or if your child currently attends the pre -school**. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application. Please note, if you are a non-Lancashire resident, e.g. Blackburn with Darwen, you will need to apply through your own local authority. The closing date for primary applications for September 2023 is **15th January 2023** If you are applying to Balderstone please ensure you complete a **Supplementary Information Form** which you can get from the school office.

Secondary Admissions - If your child is in year 6 you can now apply for their secondary school place www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools. It is quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of you application. You must apply even if you already have siblings in the secondary school. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application. Please note if you are a non-Lancashire resident, e.g. Blackburn with Darwen, you will need to apply through your own local authority The closing date for secondary applications for September 2023 is **31st October 2022** Please do not hesitate to contact school directly if you need any advice about admissions. We understand that applying to high school is a stressful time for parents. Mrs Heyworth will talk about the process more in her Meet the Teacher session.



Wrap-around care
is available in our
school now from
7.40am - 8.40am
and then 3.10 -

5.45pm. Please speak to Mrs Johnstone
to make enquiries.

Secondary School Open Days

Please check individual school's websites
to confirm dates and times:

Ribblesdale High School Thursday 29th
September 2022 4.30pm - 7.30pm

St Wilfrid's CE Academy
Thursday 29th September 4pm - 8pm

Witton Park Academy
September 22nd 3pm - 6.30pm

Clitheroe Grammar Entrance exam
Saturday 24th September

Diary Dates

Friday 23rd September - Celebration worship in church 9.00am

Thursday 29th September - Celebration worship in church - 2.30pm (note change of day to accommodate parents who cannot make Fridays)

Friday 7th October - Celebration worship in church 9.00am - Harvest Festival

Friday 14th October - Celebration worship in church 9.00am

Thursday 20th October - Celebration worship in church - 2.30pm STARS for the Half-term

Confirmation classes continue this coming Monday evening at Samlesbury 6pm.

KS2 Coding Club Tuesday 3.10pm - 4.10pm (for the next 5 weeks for the children who have booked a place)



The school have opened a Book of Condolence. It is situated in the front entrance corridor. Please feel free to come and write in your message.

These will be kept in the school's archive and copied onto the official online Book of Condolence from the palace. The book will be open until the end of next week.

Please come and join us to find out more about your child's new class and meet their class teacher/s.

MEET THE
TEACHER 

Tuesday 20th September 3.15pm - 3.40pm

Owls class (Year 5 & 6) Mrs Heyworth - followed by talk about the secondary admissions process for Year 6 parents.

Squirrel class (Year 1 & 2) Mrs Draycott and Mrs Burton

Wednesday 21st September 3.15pm - 3.40pm

Fox class (Year 3 & 4) Mrs Riddell and Mrs Turner

Thursday 22nd September 3.15pm - 3.40pm

Rabbit class (Reception) Miss Roberts and Mrs Moosa

