



Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter 22nd March 2024

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

Friday 22nd March 2024

In This Issue



In this week's edition of the newsletter

- Mrs Gow's Words for the week
- Themed lunch thanks
- Forest School Fun
- Sports Showcase
- A Marathon thanks
- Church and Community news
- Safeguarding section
- **Contact Us**

Mrs Gow's words for the week....



What an incredibly busy week we have had with trips, special visitors, sports events and dance competitions! Today we had the honour of extending our Balderstone radical hospitality to the brand new Bishop of Burnley - Bishop Joe Kennedy. His appointment was approved by His Majesty The King and posted to [the Downing Street website](#) at 10am today and his very first visit to the diocese was to our small school, to join us for a special Forest Church session led by our children. What an honour to welcome Bishop Joe to our family and welcome him to his new role. I cannot tell you how proud I was to share with him the joys of our interfaith school family. A huge thank you to all the families who supported forest church this afternoon and a warm welcome to the new families who joined us for our Easter planting fun! Please hold Bishop Joe in your prayers as he, and his family, make the move into the diocese.

<https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/news/913/next-bishop-of-burnley-will-be-rev-dr>

As we move through Lent towards Holy Week (and also through Ramadan), we particularly remember in our prayers those who are suffering - through poverty, famine, war or illness. Today, we also pray for our royal family with their struggles with cancer as we heard the news of the Princess of Wales' diagnosis. This week in worship we have been waiting on God's help - knowing that God always hears the prayers of those in need.

Blessing and prayers.

Mrs Gow

















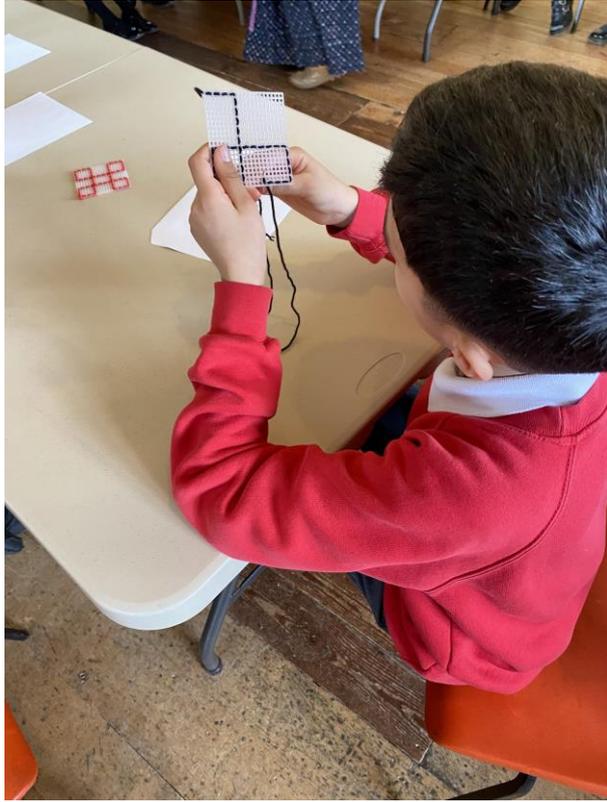


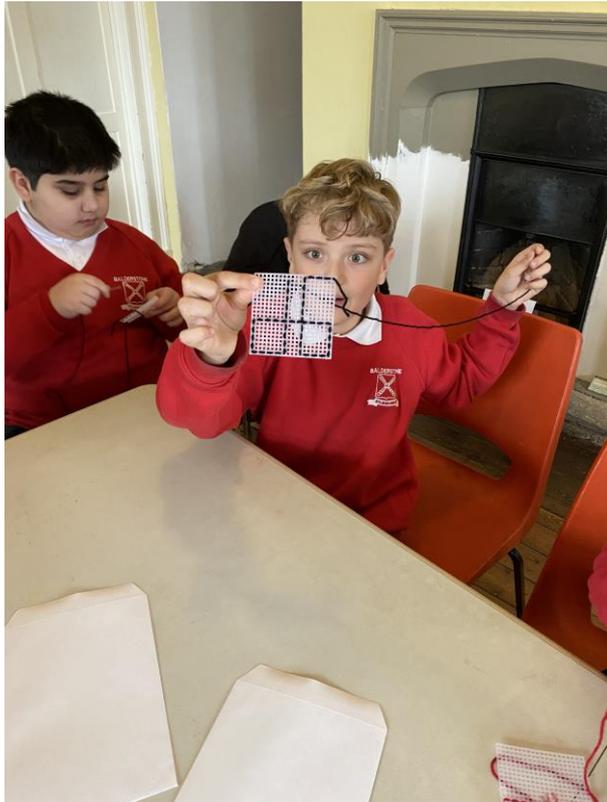


History Heroes - Gawthorpe Hall trip



Our History Heroes, and History champion Mrs Turner, led us back in time again to learn more about the past. This time we went to Gawthorpe Hall in Burnley to learn about a Mr William Shakespeare! The year 5 children and some Year 4 history hero representatives learnt about Shakespeare's life, times and language. We also got to have a go at some Elizabethan black stitching! We can highly recommend Gawthorpe Hall for a visit - it is a beautiful stately house and grounds.











<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/73NAyQGjaEWPPZZ7#content=tSqKm4vkVqDf5B>

Lost and Found



Over the course of the last week we have had a number of children bringing toys, items, trading cards, special stationery from home into school. I would ask that these items stay at home please, as they only serve as a distraction and can create issues when things are misplaced, broken or swapped.

Please encourage your child to bring a school water bottle OR inexpensive water bottle into school for use during the day. We are out and about and take these bottles on trips etc with us and staff cannot be responsible for expensive/elaborate bottles. A full classes worth of air up bottles is worth over £1000!

Some items have gone missing this week that we need your help in locating them:

Matilda has two missing cardigans that have badges on: Arts council badge, Skipton Castle badge
Ammaarah's lilac/purple air up bottle is missing

Please ensure that your child's items/bottles/clothing are named and clearly labelled so we can reunite missing items with their owners.

[Safeguarding section - Health: Scarlet Fever and measles updates](#)



This week continue our focus on health and wellbeing - with updates about the immunisation programme in the local area.



Around the world in 5 lunches



Our wonderful school lunch team - Miss Lee, Mrs Chand and Mrs Burton have taken us on a tour of the globe this week in our themed lunches. We started the week in Italy, then went through France back to England and then across the Atlantic to America and then finishing the week in India. The children have been blessed with some nutritious, tasty and varied food this week and it has been great to see some of the children try some new dishes. Thank you to the team for all the extra effort they put in to making our school dinners so much more interesting! We look forward to our next adventures and our Euro cup themed food!



Dance Competition 2024



Balderstone Children once again made the staff extremely proud on Tuesday evening when they performed on stage at Burney Mechanics Theatre.

The brief/ theme provided for this year's competition was: "With the amalgamation of muscles & mind, 2024 is the year for "Breaking Boundaries" as the dance world makes its Olympic stage debut. Make our heads spin and the floor rock with your freedom story."

Seventeen children from year 1 to 6 choreographed and chose the music to create a dance about resilience, determination and succeeding through hard work.

Our Dance was entitled 'Mind over Matter': having thought about the power of our mind in achieving our goals.

"In the beginning we have a dream to compete in the olympics and consider the challenges and obstacles that we may overcome. We then set to training with determination and desire to succeed. We encounter setbacks and challenges along the way, but from determination, we are able to succeed and fulfil our dreams."

The Children have worked extremely hard over the last ten weeks and this was reflected on stage on Tuesday. This could have been quite a daunting experience: bright lights, smoke and the large auditorium in darkness.... But even our very youngest, Olive, was not phased ! They all performed with energy, enjoyment and enthusiasm.

We were particularly touched by the strong bonds and unity between the children of all ages: singing the sound tracks beautifully together on the coach; looking after each other on stage and holding hands as they entered the finale. Our mission statement shone through each and every child throughout the evening and we couldn't have been prouder..... and that doesn't even touch how proud we were of them in the actual performance.

We would like to say a massive thank you to all those who came along to support the children in Burnley and to coach Al and coach Aimy for their help support and guidance putting this together. Coach Al even managed to come along on the evening – so an additional thanks for her time.

Thank you also to Mrs Gow, Mrs Draycott and Mrs Turner for coming along to help and support as well.... they only just managed to fit in a toilet stop between their return to school and their journey to Burnley! A very busy and long day for you all, but your support was very much appreciated.

Finally, a massive WELL DONE to all the children. We are so proud of you all! Watch their amazing performance on the link below.







<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/73NAyQGjaEWPPZZ7#content=QeUdyj31MWf9DK>

Sporting Round-up



On Monday our Squirrel class gymnasts were in action, getting the opportunity to experience authentic gymnastics centre. Mrs Draycott and Mrs Dixon were thrilled with your team work and skills.























All creatures great and VERY small!



Our infant children, thanks to Mrs Dixon have had the honour of raising their very own chicks and 'Paddy' and pal have proven to be a real hit with our EYFS. Our toddler group also had an Easter treat getting to stroke, hold and meet our feathered chicks.

Thomas O also shared his own chicks with his class this week. Thank you for sharing your wonderful chicks with us!

Mrs Hussain then made us all go kitten crazy, by letting us meet her brand new 8 day old kittens! The children in EYFS have loved learning all about different baby animals. Mrs Gow nearly managed to sneak out two kitten underneath her scarf. We are not sure how pleased our school dog, Moo would feel about two new feline sisters though! Thank you to everyone who has given our youngest children these core memories.













A marathon thank you from Mrs Johnstone



A huge thank you to everyone who has supported Mrs Johnstone's son, Andy, in this fund-raising for Marie Curie. Mrs Johnstone drew the winning ticket at lunchtime today and the winner was Eeva! Enjoy your wonderfully sweet treat. We shall be praying for Andy as his big day approaches.

Forest School fun!



In Forest School this week, Year 1 had great fun in the brook. Here they are building their willow raft designs and testing them out!







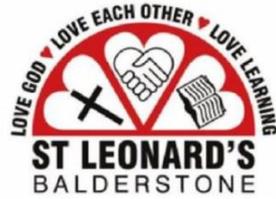


Church and Community News



Tomorrow - Saturday 23rd March 9.30 - 12pm is annual church working day, where our school and church family come together to clear, clean and look after our school and church grounds. If anyone can spare half an hour or so to come along and help clear the churchyard, school garden areas, then we would be incredibly grateful. We realise that many of our families are fasting at this time, and therefore might struggle to help out his time. All help gratefully received.

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>