



# Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter

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

*Friday 17th January 2025*

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Thank you Balderstone family



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*I must be honest, in that I feel like a bit of a fraud writing to you this week, as I have only been into school fleetingly. A huge thank you to the whole school staff team who have (as always) rallied around to give me time to look after Grace this week. Thank you for the many kind, get well soon messages and prayers for her. They worked. She is out of hospital and has now, finally (after 8 years of investigations and tests) been given a diagnosis and started treatment. There's still a bit of a journey to go on to make sure she has the right treatment plan to get her fit and well for a return to university (hopefully), but there is hope! I am really sorry that I missed seeing our Year 1/2 parents/carers at the Year 1 & 2 lunch this week. Mrs Draycott, Mrs Burton and Miss Lee said it was a lovely meet up and the children were VERY hungry!*

*I told the children that my New Year's resolution was about finding the joy in every day, even in a week like this one, and so...*

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- I am grateful and joyful for all those who work in the NHS and supporting our massively overwhelmed, yet still outstanding provision*
- I am joyous because our school family is one where we support, care and adapt to each others' needs, especially caring for those who are vulnerable*

- *I am joyous because we are in a school community that believes wholeheartedly in the power of prayer*
  - *I am joyous because when I returned to school on Tuesday I was given a huge number of cuddles, questions and concerns from our incredible children, that just showed how kind, thoughtful and empathetic our Balderstone children are*
  - *I am joyous because a ceasefire deal in the Middle East is one step closer and aid can be accessed now (please God) by those who need it most*
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*I am also incredibly aware that many of us are looking to the ceasefire deal in the Middle East on Sunday with anticipation, prayers and hope. As a school family we shall be praying this week for the finalising and initiation of the deal.*

*Mrs Draycott has said that our worship this week has focused on children's responsibilities at home and at school. Lots of children said they had specific jobs to do at home, so this is your chance to ensure they are doing them! We have also started looking at David and his Psalms.*

*Your child should have brought home their short reports this week. These give a snapshot of your child's progress, attendance and behaviour for learning at this point in the year. Please remember that our consultation evening is coming up at the end of February (please see Save the Dates section) to meet with your child's class teacher/s and talk through in detail the next steps.*

*I look forward to being back with you all properly next week.*

*With gratitude (and a few more grey hairs)*

*Mrs Gow*

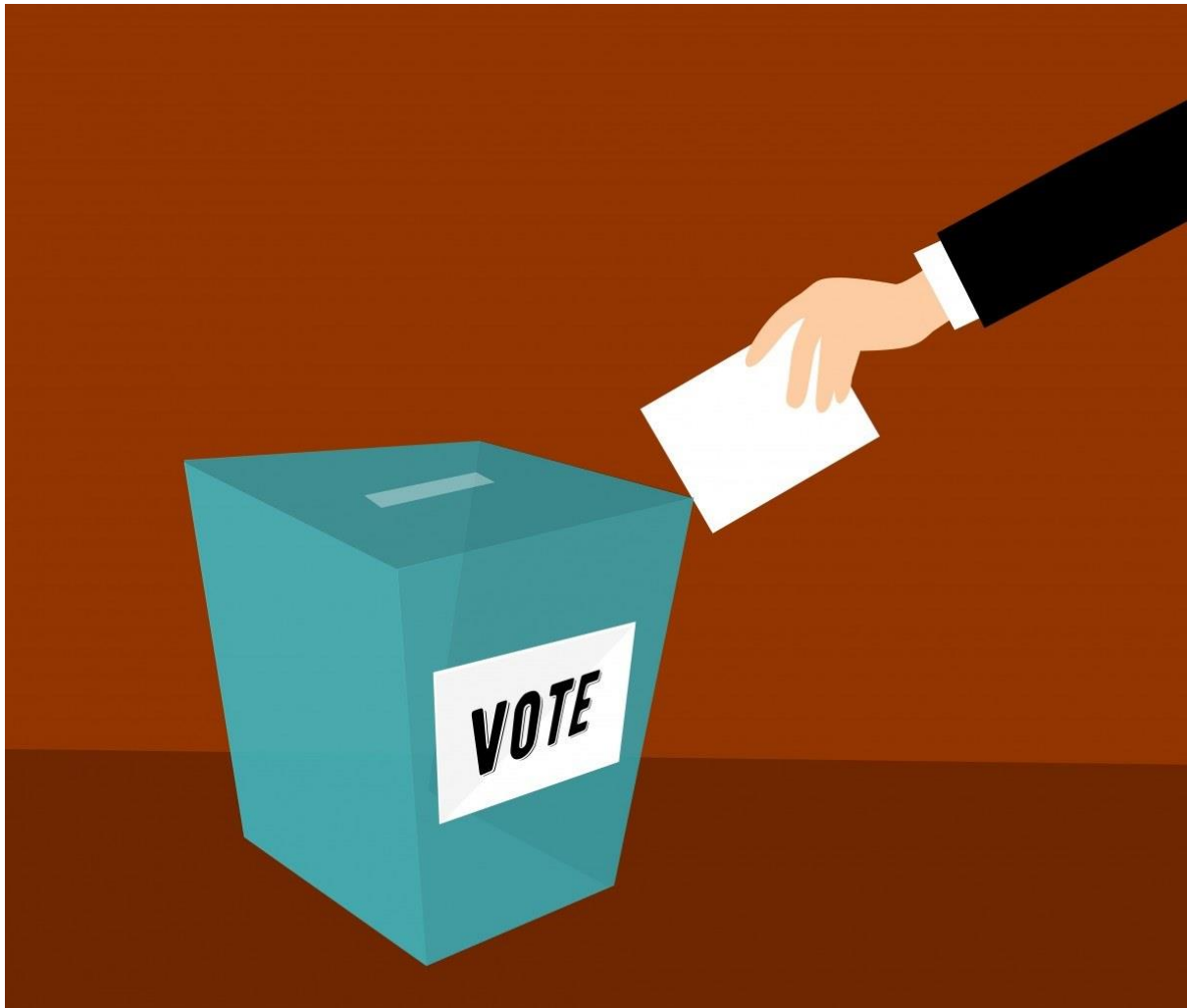
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## New appointment - Welcome Mrs Lisa Oddie



On Tuesday we held our interview process for the new role of Business Support Officer to run our school office when our lovely Mrs Johnstone retires at Easter. We received a high number of applicants for the post and after a very thorough process we are thrilled to announce that Mrs Lisa Oddie is joining the Balderstone staff team in this new role. Mrs Oddie will be working closely with Mrs Johnstone over the next term to make sure that the transition is as seamless as possible. I am sure we will all hold Lisa and her family in our prayers as she starts this new role in the coming weeks and of course Mrs Johnstone as she begins this busy transition period and her new adventures!

## Parent Governor Elections



Thank you to the four wonderful parents who have put their names forward for our parent Governor positions. We are lucky to have so many parents who are able to offer such commitment to further developing our school.

Please could you ensure your vote has been placed in the box outside of the office by the end of the school day on Monday as the votes are being counted on Tuesday.

## Flourishers



It was lovely, in Friday's worship, to celebrate the achievements of children in school and a huge well done to **ST GEORGES** who were this week's winning team. The following children were presented with a Flourishing Award for shining brightly this week:

<b>Pre school.</b>	Zainab
<b>Reception</b>	Bobbie
<b>Squirrels</b>	Ebrahim and Aminah
<b>Year 3</b>	Abu-Bakr
<b>Year 4</b>	Ameerah
<b>Year 5</b>	Safaa B

Year 6      Laura

Coach Joe      Leo

## Life Education Lancashire

We had a great time on Monday with Steve from SCARF Life Education. The children were very excited to see Harold the Giraffe and found out lots about our wonderful bodies.







## Let's Go Sing Concert



Foxes class are working hard to learn the songs for our Let's Go sing concert at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool. If you haven't bought your tickets yet, please click on the link below and come along and support us! We're performing on **Tuesday 11th March**. Watch out for more information about the day coming soon.

<https://www.wintergardensblackpool.co.uk/events/lets-go-sing/>

WHOOPS A DAISY MUSIC PRESENTS

# Let's Go Sing!

AT THE OPERA HOUSE,  
WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL



MARCH 10, MARCH 11, MARCH 12  
MARCH 13, MARCH 14 - 2025

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS!



ALL CONCERTS START AT 6:30PM

## Sports Clubs This Term



**SPRING TERM 2025**  
**SPORTS AND WELLBEING CLUBS CLUBS AT BALDERSTONE**



	Time slot 8 - 8:45	Monday	Tuesday Martial Arts	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	12 – 12.30pm	Y1/2/3 Football (18)	Sp1 Y3/4 Gym (7)	Fundamental movement skills Infants EYFS/ KS1	Y4/5/6 Girls' Football (17)	Sp 1: Athletics Year 5/6(12) Sp2: Y5/6 Cricket (21 - alternate y5/6)
	12.30 – 1pm	Y4/5/6 Football (23)	C4Life (11) Sp2 Dance	Year 4, 5 & 6 netball (21)	Rewards Session	Sp1: Tag Rugby Year 3/4 (20) Sp 2 Y1/2/3 Athletics (23)
	Football day (Field only)	Infants (dotty playground)	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	After School Parent Pay Club	CHESS	Dance	Wii FIT	Arts and Crafts	Cards

## Dance Club

All children from Reception to Year 6 are invited to our after-school dance club, which started on **Tuesday and runs from 3:15 – 4.15pm** each week.

The club will prepare children for a special dance show in March at Burnley Theatre Mechanics and will be run by a professional dance coach, Miss Estelle, from Progressive Sports. Please see the details sent out on parentmail this week for further information about this fantastic opportunity. Places are limited and so will be offered on a first come first-served basis. The children need to commit to coming to the club for the whole of the term (Jan to March) AND be able to attend the competition – as they will be learning the choreographed dance for the event.

We are looking forwards to seeing our children on stage performing again this year.

## Forest School



Year 3 began their Forest School sessions this week. We played teamwork games, trying to get the ball in the bucket using the piece of guttering, made New Year's potions to make our New Year's wishes come true and then explored the brook looking at all the changes that have happened down there since Year 3 last visited. We wrapped up warm and loved being outside! Remember to bring your warm clothes in again on Monday, Year 3!







## History Club



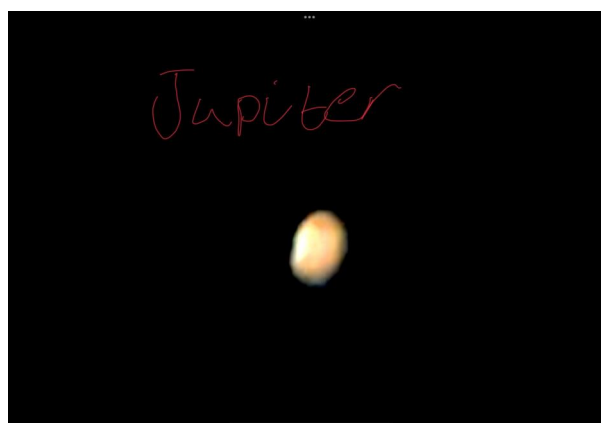
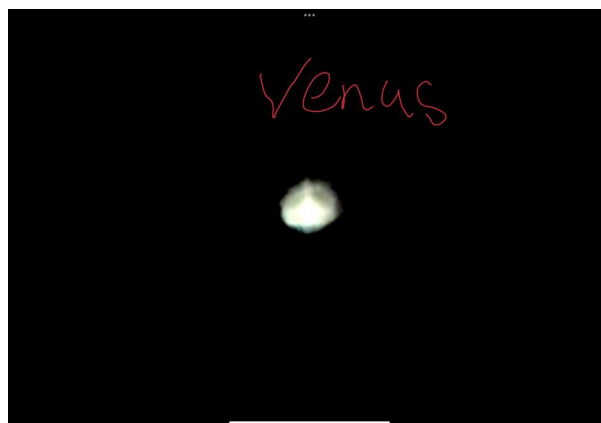
Maisie's (Year 6) History Club for EYFS and KS1 started on Wednesday. Children had lots of fun learning about our local history in a creative way.

Dates:- Wed 15th, 22nd, 29th January and the **last one will be 5th Feb.**

## Planet spotting!



There's been great excitement in school as we've realised now is a perfect time on a clear night to spot the planets in the night's sky! Thomas Oddie took these brilliant photos through his telescope and Thomas Barton has been outside too searching the night sky! Foxes have loved sharing their sightings. If you haven't seen them already, wrap up warm and go out and look for the bright objects that don't twinkle like stars. You can spot Mars and Jupiter in the east, and Venus and, if you're really lucky, Saturn in the west! It is lovely to experience the awe and wonder of God's creation in this way.





*1 - A close up of Jupiter*

## Church and Community Corner



Come and join us for Forest Church on Sunday 26th January at 4pm!

Everyone is welcome!



Join us at Balderstone Church

# Forest Church

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 4pm

## Dates for the diary



- Mon 20th Jan** Deadline for Parent Governor votes
- Wed 22nd Jan** EYFS Stay and Play phonics
- Tues 28th Jan** Maths Boosters starting in Y6 ( Letter to follow)
- Wed 5th Feb** Reception and pre school parent lunch
- Fri 7th Feb** Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics
- Fri 14th** Y5/6 parent lunch and Café creative  
Half Term
- Mon 24th Feb.** Term Starts
- Tues 25th Feb** Parents' Evening
- Friday 28th Feb** Pre School Stay and Play session
- Tues 11th March** Year 3 and 4 Let's Go Sing Concert in Blackpool
- Wed 26th March.** Y5/6 trip to Salford to Imperial War Museum and The Lowry



Keep in touch with the school family using the details below (or call into the school anytime to see us)

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