



# Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary - 6th June 2025

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

*Friday 6th June 2025*

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## Weekly Words



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*Well we are already into the final half-term of this academic year! Isn't time flying. To all of our families who are celebrating Eid al-Adha today, our Balderstone family wish you a blessed celebration with your family.*

*This week in school we have held Sports and wellbeing week - sharing at least one hour of physical activity every day. A huge thank you to our Wellbeing Warriors and sports leaders for planning in such amazing activities. Poppy B came up with the most wonderful timetable of events. On Monday we started the week with our annual Sports Day. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and friends of school who came to support the children. It is always a joy to see our family house teams working so well together, cheering each other on and looking after the younger children in true Balderstone fashion. A special cheers for all the volunteers who came along to run the carousel of events and to all the brave mums and dads who ran in the parent races. House team final results will be shared at celebration worship next Friday. We have also held our annual Quidditch tournament this week, dusting off our*

*broomsticks and chasing after the golden snitch! On Thursday we held our very first 'The Cube' enrichment day, with the children working in teams to complete a series of physical and mental challenges. What fun!*

*Last weekend I had the absolute honour of attending the confirmation of 5 of our children. A special congratulations to Alfie, Laura, Maisie, William and Abigail (Year 6 last year!) for making this commitment and witness to their Christian faith. We rejoice in your witness to Jesus as Lord, as you confirmed your baptism promises for yourselves. We also had the pleasure of welcoming Reverend Nathaniel to the parish. He is our new vicar and he will be joining us for our Bloke Brekkie on Friday - so come along and say hello. We pray that his time in Balderstone, Mellor and Samlesbury is one that is filled with many blessings.*

*Mrs Riddell and our Gardening club were VERY excited this week as their brand new greenhouse has been erected. A HUGE thank you to Balderstone St Leonard's church social committee for their generous donation of a new greenhouse. We look forward to seeing, enjoying and eating the delicious offerings they grow.*

*On Tuesday our School Council are holding the Sponsored Obstacle course. Please make sure that the children have their spare clothes in school. Given the horrific, continuing suffering of the children of Gaza, school has decided to also donate to the Gaza appeal through the British Red Cross in the Summer term. As important as the new adventure trail is to our children, we also want to ensure that our global family are supported by our school fundraising. The Bible clearly tells us, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Please do support the sponsored, family and FOBS events this term as much as you can.*

*Have a wonderful weekend.*

*Mrs Gow*

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Dates for the Diary Summer term please see the website calendar for more details



Coming up next week:

**Monday 9th June** - Forest School session Year 5 (please bring your spare clothes), Year 5/6 football, please bring in your sponsorship forms

**Tuesday 10th June** - Year 4 multiplication table check, Sponsored Obstacle Course

**Wednesday 11th June** - phonics screening test for Year 1 children, themed lunch - Out of the World,

**Friday 13th June** - non-uniform day for Summer gift, Bloke Brekkie, FOBS Father's Day, Year 5 & 6 Orienteering all day

## Sports and Wellbeing Week



We love being healthy, active and sporty at Balderstone. We are a platinum sports school! Here are some of the highlights from Sports and Wellbeing week this week. Every child has enjoyed well over an hour of physical activity every day this week - building health in body, mind and spirit!











*1 - Quidditch fun!*



*2 - I did it!*





*3 - Check those reaction speeds!*



*4 - Teamwork!*





Balderstone Brekkie Club - Census week



PLEASE support our breakfast club **every** day next week. It is our census week, where we have to submit our attendance to the Department for Education. Our breakfast club has been averaging between 40-60 children a day (which is brilliant) but we need **as many of our children** to attend next week, all week if possible! The future success of the club depends upon take-up. Arrive any time from 8am - 8.30am next week. Remember that Friday 13th is our special Father's Day breakfast. Fill in the form at <https://forms.office.com/e/yXdNGfqf83> to book a place for the special blokes in your life.

**On Friday 13th June from 8am we are holding a BEST BLOKE BREKKIE - bring the favourite men in your life to join us for breakfast. We will be having a cooked brekkie with both veggie and meat options! Rev Nathaniel is looking forward to meeting you there.**



FOBS Summer Fun - Save the date 21st June!



**We've got a fantastic few weeks ahead, and we wanted to keep you in the loop with all the exciting things happening!**

#### **Father's Day Gifts**

Father's Day is just around the corner. If you'd like to order a gift, please send your order as soon as possible. The children will be bringing their gifts home next Friday, 13th June – just in time for the big day.

#### **Summer Fun – Our Biggest Event of the Year!**

We're counting down to Summer Fun, and this year's event is shaping up to be the best yet.

To get things started, we're holding a Non-Uniform Day next Friday, 13th June, in exchange for a summer toy donation for the tombola – thank you in advance for your support!

***Then it's on to the main event on Friday 21st June, 5–8pm – and we've got something brand new and exciting this year...***

#### **New This Year: The Circus Workshop!**

For the first time ever, we're bringing the circus to school! Come and try your hand at plate spinning, diabolo, juggling, hula hooping and more. It's fun for all ages and guaranteed to make you smile.

#### **Volunteers Needed – Can You Spare an Hour?**

To make the day run smoothly, we really need your help. We're asking for just one hour of your time – and with two people per stall, why not sign up with a friend and enjoy the time together?

Giving a little time means everyone gets a chance to enjoy the day with their families too.

You can sign up now at:

[volunteersignup.org/YY4TP](https://volunteersignup.org/YY4TP)

## Sponsored Obstacle Course - Tuesday



Mrs Burton and the School council team have designed the most incredible obstacle course for Tuesday's sponsored event. Every class will have access to the circuit for a timed period. How many laps will you be able to complete? Mrs Gow and Coach Joe will also be joining in (all sponsorship greatly received). You can boss Coach Joe around for once!

Donations will be put towards the new Adventure trail and also to the British Red Cross Gaza appeal. Please remember your spare, old clothes - as we are going to get grassy and muddy!

## Hockey festival



Mrs Lorgat and I had the pleasure of taking 6 of our Year 5/6 children to the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley School sports partnership School games hockey festival. It was a joy to see the children's skills progress so much. Not only did the children win lots of the local mini-matches but they also played wonderfully as a team. A special mention to Mu'aaz who was talent spotted by the head coach of Clitheroe Hockey club! Why not get involved....

- **For Ages 5-11:** Our youngest players train on **Mondays from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm** and **Wednesdays from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm** at Westholme School in Blackburn. These sessions focus on introducing the basics of hockey in a fun and engaging way, perfect for beginners and those still developing their skills.



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## STEM Cyber force activity session



This week our Owl class enjoyed an amazing problem solving activity session hosted by the Cyber STEM team from BAE and the RAF. They had to undertake a number of tasks to open the mystery cases! The team delivering the session were amazed but the reasoning skills of our children. Three of our groups managed to crack the case with perfect scores (this was highly unusual). Great teamwork Owls!





Can you help?



Are you going anywhere by plane over summer?

If you are, and the airline is giving out free headphones that you don't need, please could you keep them unused for school? We'd love everyone to have their own headphones to use with the iPads for music activities. Please ask friend and family too. Although we love listening to their music compositions, it would make some music lessons a lot quieter!

Thank you!



Fantastic den building in Forest School with year 5 just before half term. The ground was hard because of the lack of rain but our Year 5 team didn't give up. Great resilience meant that our dens were built and everyone survived the Mrs Burton rain storm! We then had great fun playing water relay games with some super team work. It was great to see everyone return to school with smiles on their faces even if we were a little wet!











## Safeguarding Section



Here is some information about the HAF vouchers for holiday clubs. We shall be running a 4 week holiday club at Balderstone this summer during the first month of the holidays. Keep a look out for more information and booking details.



**HAF provides holiday clubs and activities for children and young people who are:**

- In reception class to year 11.
- Entitled to benefits related Free School Meals.
- Not on FSM, but who meet the criteria for other vulnerabilities, please ask at school if you think this may apply to your child if they.

- have an active Early Help Plan –
- have a Child and Family Plan
- are a Young Carer
- are Children Looked After or subject to Special Guardianship Order
- if they have SEND and you as a family are experiencing financial hardship that makes accessing a paid place for your child very difficult – not all SEND children are eligible for HAF
- or if you as a family are in crisis –for example, sudden bereavement, illness or financial problems, refugee families and children at risk of criminal behaviour and/or exploitation.

There are lots of exciting fun activities on this Summer, vouchers can be used to book 16 days of provision (minimum of 4 hours)





## All you need to know about HAF vouchers

- There is no application process.
- They are sent to all eligible families from **Hello@holidayactivities.com** by email or text
- Schools order them online - they do not send them out.
- Other professionals can order them for children that have other vulnerabilities or are not in school
- They have a link to the registration and booking system.
- They are linked to the district your child attends school in – if they live outside that district, they can be transferred by contacting **CFW-HAF@lancashire.gov.uk**



We have limited places at all our clubs and they book up very quickly.

Please encourage families to only book a place if they intend to use it and to cancel if not

No-shows are a problem, waste funding and deny other children a place.

**Contact:**

Talkzone: **0800 511 111**

Text: **07786 511 111**

Email: **talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk**

Webtalk services:


**lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone/  
get-in-touch** or **facebook.com/  
LancashireYZ**



Smartphone free childhood - Childhood is too short to be spent on a smartphone!




As a school we are strongly advocating finding out more about Smartphone free childhoods. SFC!

 **So what is SFC 2.0?** Our updated brand and website – what we’re calling SFC 2.0 – is the result of months of deep thinking, creating, designing, writing and doing (fuelled by a lot of late nights, long weekends and strong coffee). We hope it marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for this magical movement.

We’ve refreshed our brand, reimagined our resources and rebuilt our site from the ground up. All with you – the inspirational SFC community – in mind.


*So now, on our new website you’ll find:*


 **Clear answers to the biggest questions** about smartphones and kids

 **Simple breakdowns** of the problem, solution and evidence

 **A growing bank of tools**, templates and guides for parents and teachers

 **New videos, stories and content** to watch and share

 **Editable posters, flyers** and – by popular demand – Canva templates

 **Local organising guides** to help you build momentum in your community

 **Curated links, podcasts and videos** to explore (or geek out on) the issue

Find out more about the movement at <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

## Church and Community Corner



Come and join us for Cafe Church this Sunday 8th May at 4pm in school. Enjoy a cup of tea and a piece of cake as we join in worship together. There's something for everyone, all ages, with games, activities, crafts and a chance to sit down and chat with friends. We'd love to see you there!

## Café Church



Come and join us for worship with tea, coffee and cake!

@ Balderstone School  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 4pm



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

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