



BALDERSTONE ST LEONARD'S CE

NURSERY, PRE-SCHOOL & PRIMARY

JOIN OUR SMALL SCHOOL FAMILY!

WE WELCOME 2 - 11 YEAR OLDS

A **small** school with **outstanding** opportunities!
Come and see our school family in action.

Open day is EVERY day!



<https://www.balderstoneschool.co.uk>



01254 769 150



Newsletter 7th November 2025

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

Friday 7th November 2025

In This Issue



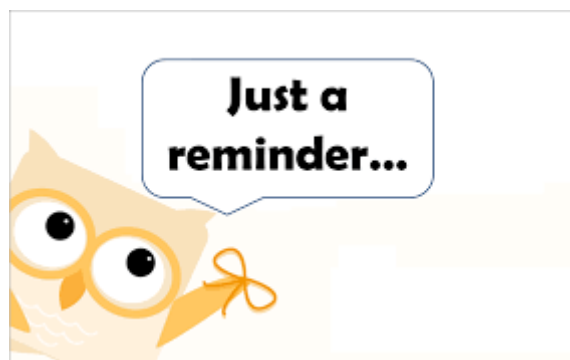
In this week's edition of the newsletter

- **Dates for the diary**
- **Mrs Gow's Weekly Words & Bonfire Night**
- **Breakfast club census week**
- **Children in Need**

- **BATS, Brambles and Bunnies trip**
- **Wellbeing Warriors**
- **Firework Feast**
- **Forest School**
- **Food for Life**
- **Fairy Tale engineering**
- **Church and community corner**

- **Contact Us**

Dates and reminders



Balderstone Brekkie club special week - all children invited

Football Year Junior team - Monday 11th @ Edisford 3.50 - 5.15pm

Sports Hall Athletics selected Year 3 & 4 children - 12th November (minibus booked)

Weekly Words



*The African proverb of it taking a village to raise a child is so true of our small school community. We ALL play a role, together, united to the success, socialisation and security of our little ones. There is no clearer example of our school community in action than at our bonfire night event. It's nearly here....our biggest evening event of the FOBS calendar...the Balderstone bonfire. This event is a school event organised primarily by our amazing parent, teacher and friends group called F.O.B.S (Friends of Balderstone School). This group of volunteers give freely of their time and talents to plan and orchestrate so many fun events to bring our whole school community together. Without the committee and small army of volunteers, these amazing events would not happen. The funds raised by FOBS go **wholly** to our children to pay for those enrichments that the school budget does not stretch to!*

Over the coming couple of years we are working towards raising funds for our very own minibus! So, whether you are a newbie to the Balderstone family or an established and long-standing friend of the school you are VERY welcome to come and join us for our bonfire night

fun (delicious curry and samosas, sweet treats/cakes/waffles and candy floss, bar/drinks and toys, glitter tattoos etc). Join us from 6pm on the school playground. In advance, I would like to thank the FOBS team and everyone (staff and volunteers) who help organise and staff the event. In all honesty it is one of my favourite social events of the whole year, seeing the enriching diversity of our school family and wider community come together and have such fun together. Please park courteously and remember that we have a lovely new family in the house next door. Please do not bring any sparklers to the event as we are not allowed them on the school grounds.

I hope to see many of you there tomorrow evening. I will be away from school for a while now as I start my treatment, so this will be a lovely way to spend an evening with you all before the challenges of the next few weeks. Thank you all for your prayers - they mean everything.

Mrs Gow

£10 per family or £4 adult £2 child

**BALDERSTONE
BONFIRE &
FIREWORKS**

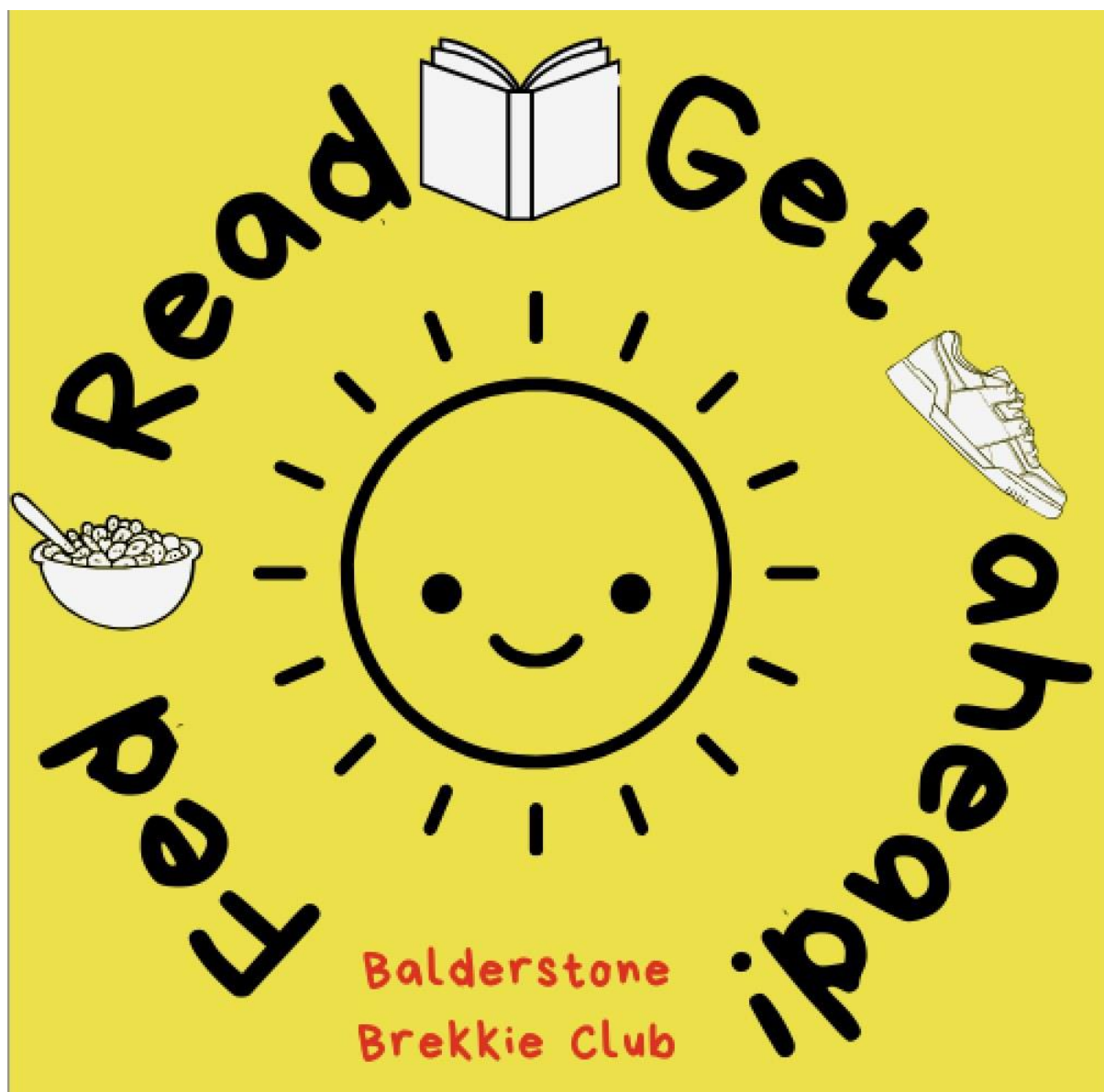
November 8th 6pm - 8pm
Fireworks 7pm

BALDERSTONE SCHOOL
Hot dogs. Mulled wine. Hot
Chocolate. Waffles. Cakes. Bar. Curry.
Samosas. Coffee. Tea

Open to all of the community
WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE
SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL

SPONSORED BY STIKS
GOURMET WAFFLES AND
PULSE STUDIOS

Breakfast club - themed week (we need your help!)



Next week is our special CENSUS week at our free breakfast club provision. It is absolutely essential that our breakfast club numbers remain as high as possible and as high as they usually are next week as our funding for the rest of the spring term depends wholly on next week's attendance figures. Our breakfast club has been a phenomenal success and has made a massive impact on our school day, on the children's social and concentration. We would love to continue this provision so we need your help. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD ATTENDS BREAKFAST CLUB AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE NEXT WEEK. The club doors are open from 8am - 8.30am and children there within this time can be counted. Every child in school from Reception to Year 6 counts in our numbers. ALL children are welcome to come to the club.

Next week we are hosting an interhouse board and traditional games tournament and we also have some special brekkie foods on offer.

Monday - Rock, paper, scissors day

Tuesday - noughts and crosses day

Wednesday - Pictionary wars

Thursday - Articulate day

Friday - Think words day



Feed Read Get ahead!
Saldarstone
Breakie Club

Breakfast Menu 11th November

Monday (hot brekkie)
Hash brown and beans

Tuesday
Croissants

Wednesday
Greek yoghurt and berries

Thursday
Bagels with cream cheese

Friday (hot brekkie)
Pancakes and waffles

Available every day Choice of Cereals
(with milk) - Shreddies, Cornflakes,
Weetabix or Rice Krispies

Fruit available daily!

Child in Need 2025 - Friday 14th November



WOW our new school council are efficient. They are busy planning their first big charity event of the year our Balderstone Children in Need day. Some local charities supported by Children in Need fundraising are:

- [Nightsafe](#) receives funding for its [LEAP project](#), which supports homeless and vulnerable young people in Blackburn with life skills, education, and employment.
- [Child Action Northwest \(CANW\)](#) has received support from the charity, which helps children, young people, and families in the area and has done for over 135 years. Many of our own Balderstone children have been supported through counselling from CANW.
- [Barnardo's](#) is commissioned to deliver a service in Blackburn with Darwen that provides advocacy, independent visitors, and mentoring for children in care and those on child protection plans.

- Other charities supported by the organization in the Blackburn area include [The Wish Centre](#), which supports children and young people affected by domestic abuse, and [Home-Start Blackburn and Darwen](#), which provides family support services.
- Bahja initiative Hyndburn
- Blackburn Youth Zone

Children in Need

Friday 14th November 2025

On Friday 14th November the school will be supporting Children in Need. There will be a non-uniform day. The children can wear their own clothes. Please be mindful of the weather. If the children do come in non-uniform then they must pay the £1 fee. This will be collected by the class teacher during morning registration. Also in the afternoon there will be stalls and games. There will also be our annual Pudsey Bear raffle. Tickets will be available from the office priced £1 per strip. The winner will be the proud owner of a Pudsey Bear! The School Council have organised an afternoon of fun, where the children will be raising money for charity.

How can you help?

The School Council would be very grateful if you could provide cakes, muffins, biscuits or chocolate bars which will be sold during the afternoon. Your child can bring in money to spend on the stalls and it would be very helpful if this is in change as most stalls will be between 20p and 50p. All the money raised on the day will go to Children in Need. This is a great event which the children love to get involved with. Any soft toys or books (that are in good condition) would be much appreciated.

Thank you. We know we can count on your continued support.

The School Council & Mrs Burton

B.A.T.S (Baby and Toddler Squad)



Our new BATS forest school sessions have been a resounding success thanks to our own Mrs Riddell, Mrs Leaver and the toddler crew and it is our final Forest School this coming Tuesday. After that, our very own Mrs Turner is going to host a special Winter Messy Arts and Craft session for our BATS.

On **Tuesday 2nd December from 9.30am all** our Brambles, Bunnies (pre-schoolers) and our Toddler group are going to have a special trip to Little Lancashire Village in Brownhill as part of their Everyday Superheroes learning. Even if your Brambles child does not attend on a Tuesday morning, they are invited to attend the trip on the morning of the 2nd December (more details to follow). They will need to bring their car seats into school on this morning, ready to be fitted to the minibus **or** you are welcome to drive your own child there and back.

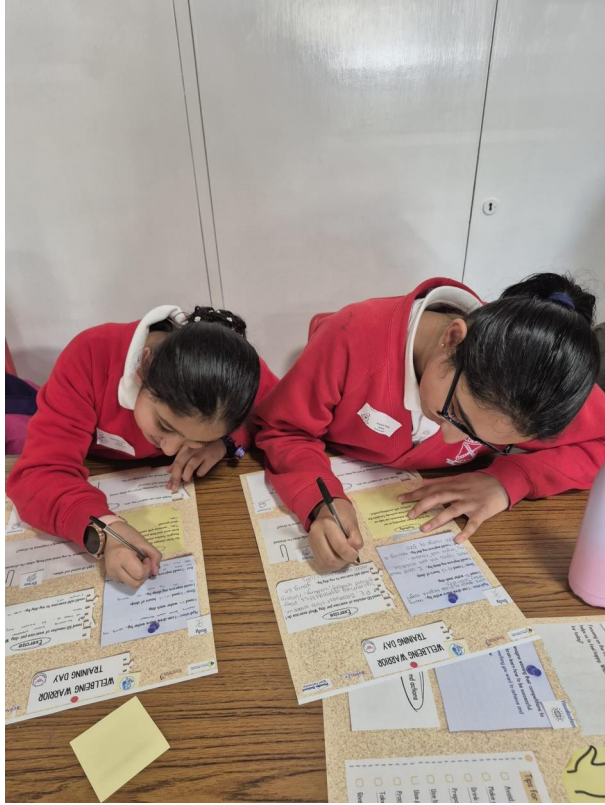
There are **7 spaces for our BATS** (babies and toddler) and their grown up. Please let Mrs Gow or Mrs Oddie know asap if you want a space on the trip for you and your little one if you normally come to our BATS sessions.

The toddler group (BATS) Christmas party with special visitor (in a red suit) will be held on Tuesday 9th December from 9.30am - 11.30am.

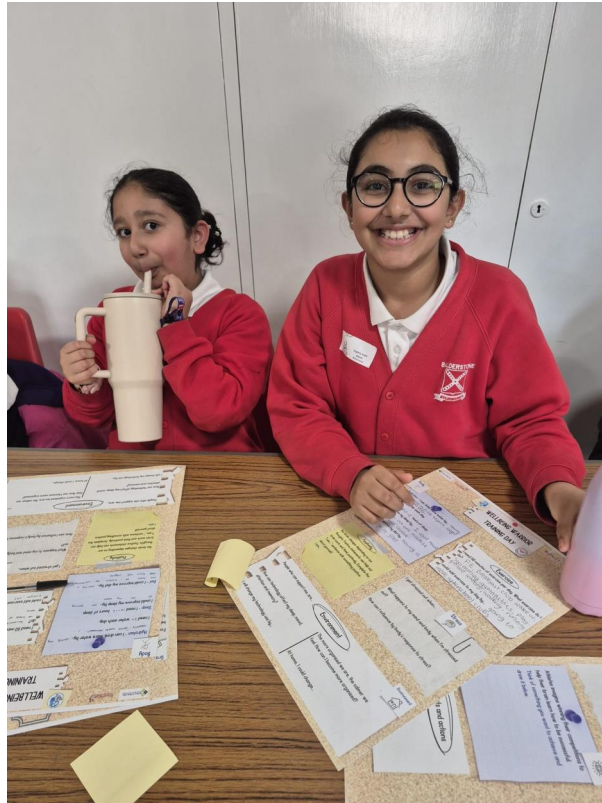
Wellbeing Warriors - training complete



As part of our pupil leadership roles, our two school Wellbeing Warriors have undertaken a day's training today with the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley school sports partnership to prepare them for their important role in safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing in body, mind and spirit of **all** our pupils. Mrs Lorgat accompanied the girls on their training day and was thrilled with the amount of ideas the children had to implement back in school. Watch this space as there is more news to follow from the girls next week...







Firework feast



Our incredible school catering team - Miss Lee, Naseema and Mrs Burton put together another incredible themed lunch this week. The children enjoyed Catherine wheel cheese whirls, Bangers (hot dogs) and the most incredible rocket biscuits! It is always a joy to see the children's faces when they see the hall, all decorated and ready for a feast (it is a bit like the faces of Harry, Hermione and Ron when they first enter the great hall at Hogwarts). Thank you to the team for making our school dinners magical. There were only 3 children in the whole school on packed lunches on Wednesday - and that tells you just how good our school dinners are!



Progressive Kids



If you need to book your child on to wraparound care from 7.30am till either 4.30pm or 6pm, then please use the qr code below which links to our school's booking page. You can book on up until lunchtime on the same day or ring school before 12.30pm.



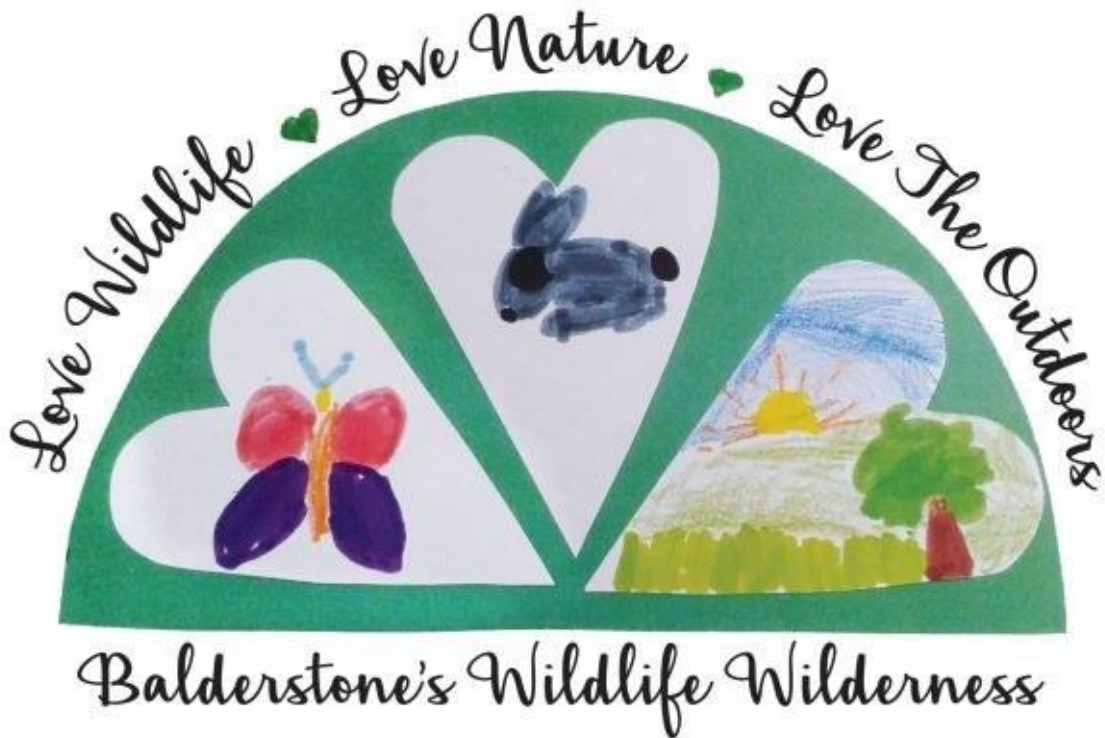
Do you need to access
our wraparound
provision?



Scan the QR code to book on:



Forest School

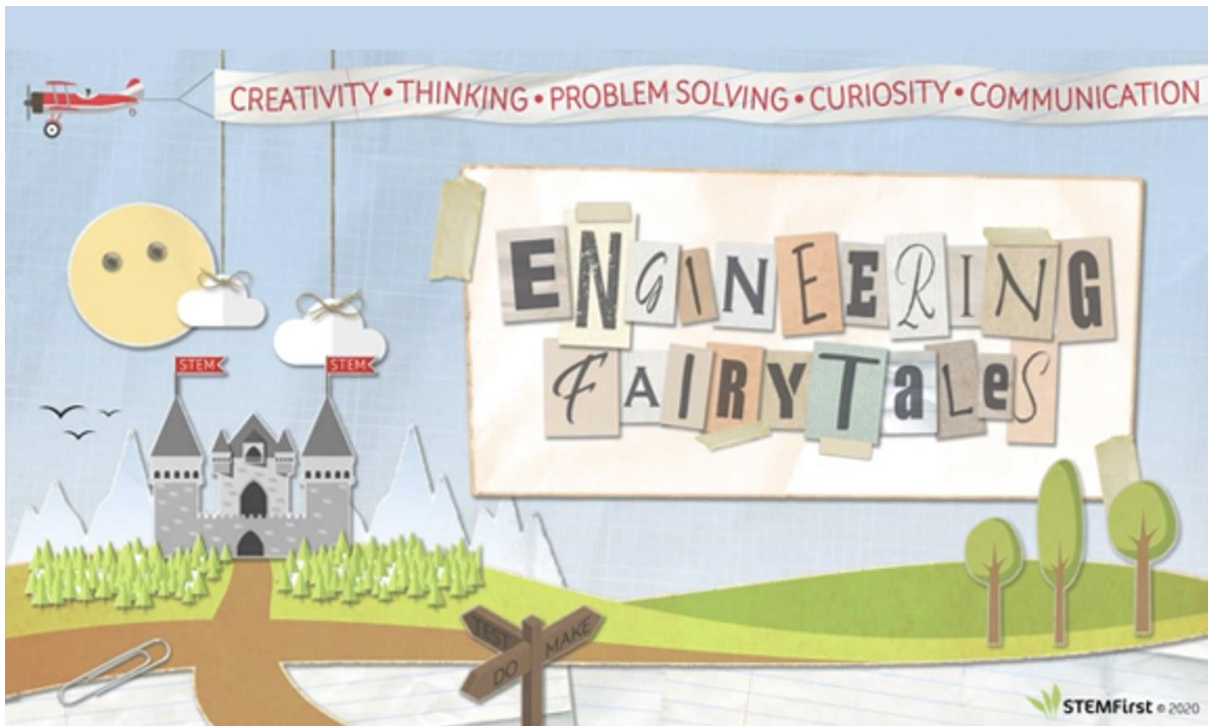


We went on a Bug Hunt this week in Forest School! We loved finding so many worms, beetles, slugs and even a frog in the nature area! We had time for a hot chocolate before playing some games as we learnt about the different animals who share our Forest School area.



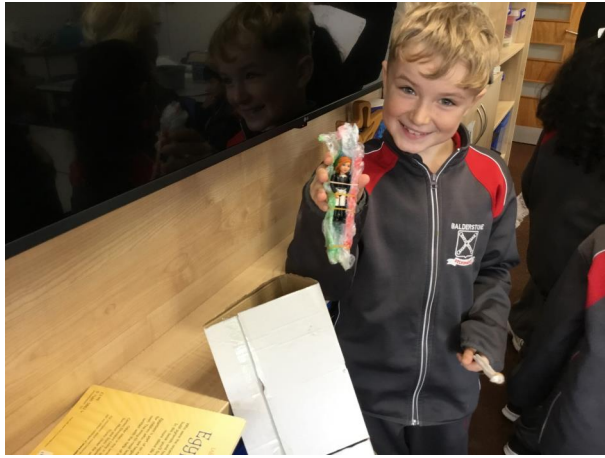


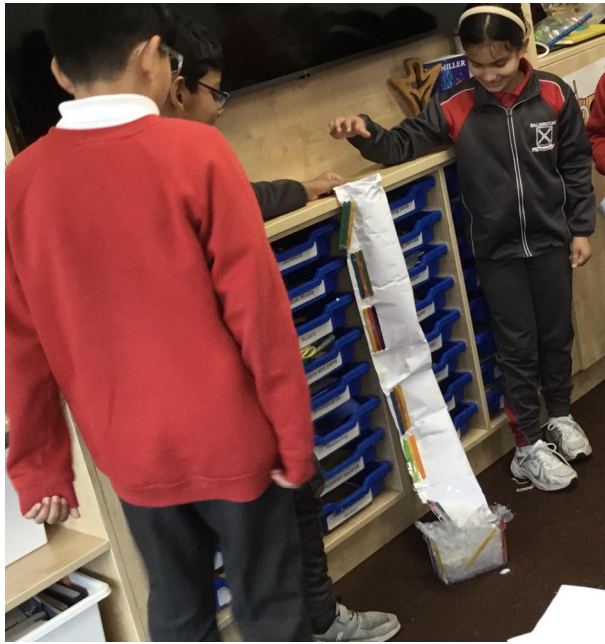
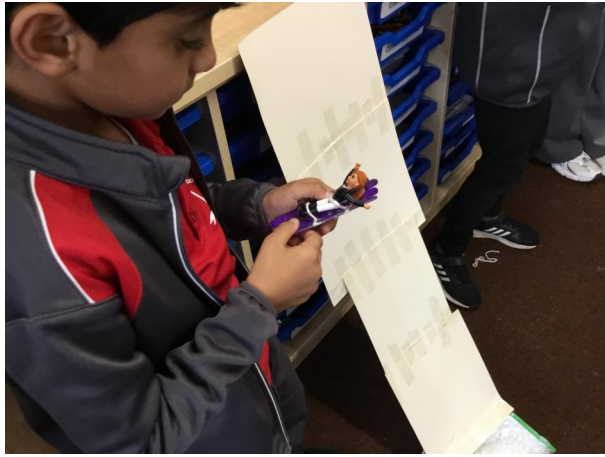
Fairy Tale Engineering in Foxes!



Fox class came to the rescue this week as Rapunzel needed our help to escape from her tower. In DT, Foxes have worked in groups to design their escape plan for Rapunzel and this week they had the chance to make their designs and then try them out. There were points for teamwork, following their plans and also for safely getting Rapunzel to the ground! Everyone in Foxes has worked so hard and we saw some wonderful teamwork in action. You'll be glad to know, most of the time, Rapunzel had a safe escape!







Food for Life



Our School Council with Mrs Burton and Miss Lee have been reviewing everything to do with food in school and we have come up with our aims that we'd like to work on over the next year. Here are some of the ideas:

- Less waste at lunchtime
- A greater range of fruit available
- More cooking with our classes and maybe other cooking activities too
- Choosing healthy choices for our packed lunches
- More themed lunches to celebrate together
- Sharing our favourite recipes

If you have any other ideas you'd like to share, please let us know! We're looking forward to sharing some wonderful food at the Bonfire night on Saturday and hope you're coming to join us.

Here's a copy of our new menu - make sure your child has made their choices with you on Parentmail.

Menu Serving Fantastic Lunches Everyday - All menus are carefully planned to meet School Food Standards, with all new dishes tested by children. Our aim is to continually introduce the best of our children and young people, and please consider where the food we put on the plates comes from and how it was produced.						
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Church and Community Corner



Join us at Forest Church - EVERYONE welcome (bring your wellies)



Join us at Balderstone Church
Forest church
23rd November 4pm

Get in touch



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

Please note: our office and telephones are only staffed in the morning sessions. Please leave a message on the absence line if you need us at other times. Thank you.

head@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk or bursar@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at <http://balderstoneschool.co.uk>