



# Newsletter 17th April 2026

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

*Friday 17th April 2026*

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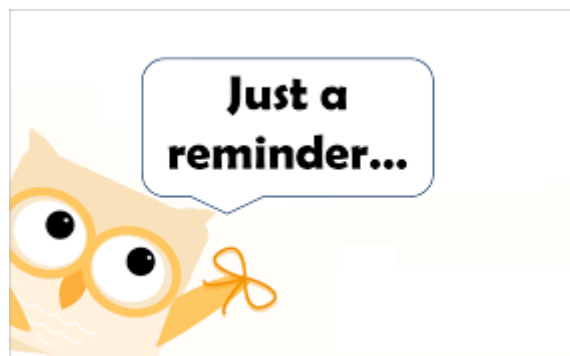
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## **Dates and reminders**



**Friday 17th April** - Chocolate Bingo

**Tuesday 21st April** - Y5/6 netball League at RHS

**Thursday 23rd April** - Y5/6 Quad Kids Athletics at Wilson's 12:30 - 2:30pm

**Tuesday 28th April** - Last Y6 Booster Class

**Tuesday 28th April** - Y4/5 Cricket at Clitheroe Cricket Club 9:30 - 3pm

**Wednesday 29th April** - Y3/4 Girls Football Festival at Accrington Academy 3 - 5pm

**Tuesday 4th May** - Y5/6 Netball

**Wednesday 5th May** Y1/2 Animal Olympics at RHS 10 - 11:30am

**Thursday 6th May** - Y3/4 Gymnastics Competition at SARCHS

**Monday 11th May** - Y6 SATS week

**Thursday 14th May** - FOBS Colour Run

**Monday 18th May** - Sports Day 1pm

**Wednesday 20th** - Y3/4 Striking and Fielding festival at Accrington Academy. 12:30 - 2:30pm

**Monday 22nd June** - Y6 Leavers service at Blackburn Cathedral

**Tuesday 14th July** - Summer production of **THE WIZARD OF OZ**

**Wednesday 15th July** - Y6 leavers treat afternoon



*1 - Mrs Draycott's Weekly Words*

It has been lovely to welcome the school family back after the Easter break. A warm welcome to the new families who are joining us from September in Reception. We are sure you will soon feel like part of the family. We have started the summer term by re- focusing on our mission statement based on Ephesians 3: 17- 19: And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. What a great reminder as we start the final term of the academic year, to know that we can all flourish as we are rooted and grounded in God's immeasurable love.

There has been lots going on in school as usual this week. Children in EYFS have been writing non fiction texts about growing plants which links beautifully to our worship theme of the week. In Squirrels class, children have been learning about life cycles and have made some super springy frogs that you can see on their classroom window. Foxes class have been using their sewing skills to create their own pencil cases and Owls class have been investigating how we see light.

Thank you for the chocolate donations and to the FOBS team for organising the Chocolate Bingo. Events like these are so important in helping to raise funds for our school. Please see below future events and a link for the Sponsored Colour Run.

## Inter faith Themed Lunch

Today's lunch was a lovely celebration of faiths as we shared together different foods. A huge thank you, as always to Mrs Burton and Miss Lee for creating such a special lunch for the whole school family to enjoy.

There has been lots in the news recently about changes to school lunches to reduce sugar and ensure healthy meals are provided. As a school, we already serve lunches that adhere to these guidelines and promote healthy eating.











## Food For Life



Balderstone School is now a Food for Life School!

We have achieved our Bronze Food for Life award. This is awarded for promoting healthy, sustainable food education. At Balderstone, we grow, cook and learn about where our food comes from and the children have an active role in shaping their lunchtime experiences in school. A big thank you to everyone that has been involved especially to Miss Lee, who cooks us the most amazing lunches every day! The School Council and Mrs Burton have

been fantastic at putting forward new ideas to make the lunchtime experience at Balderstone an enjoyable one.

Whether you've cooked, planted, harvested, followed a new recipe, found out about farming, composted, shared ideas or just talked about food, thank you!

Thank you to Mrs Riddell for leading this and for all her hardworking in submitting the required information.

## Forest School



The sunshine came out for Year 5 this week at Forest School! It felt almost like summer!

Year 5 started their Forest School session with our tyre game. The challenge is to get from one side to the other without standing on the grass. It was great to see some fantastic teamwork and communication skills.

Their next challenge was to create a treasure map using mud paint and any other natural colours to lead another team to the treasure (a small piece of wool hidden somewhere on the field!).

We then had time to go down to the Forest School area and explore the brook. We found some great little creatures in the water, a collection of pieces of pottery and we ventured just that little bit further to see what was round the corner in the brook!

Remember to bring your kit on Monday, Year 5!










### Upcoming F.O.B.S events



 **Save the Dates – Upcoming FOBS Events**

 **Colour Run – Thursday 14th May, 3:30pm. On the school field.**

Come in your oldest clothes and get ready to be covered in a rainbow of colour – it's going to be fun, bright and full of laughter!

 **Bloke Brekkie** – Friday 19th June. Join us to celebrate the special men in your life.

A lovely opportunity to spend time together and start the day with a smile.

 **Summer Fun Day (FOBS)** – Saturday 4th July 2026

More details to follow, but expect a fantastic day of fun for everyone! We look forward to seeing you at these events. Further details, including volunteer sign-up opportunities, will be shared closer to each date.

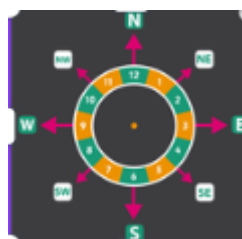
### **Colour Run Fundraiser – 14th May 2026**

We are excited to share that we will be hosting a **sponsored Colour Run** to celebrate the end of SATS and to raise funds for our new playground markings. Following the huge success of last year's sponsored obstacle course, which helped us develop our wonderful adventure playground, we are bringing back the fun and combining it with the colour run. This promises to be a great event for all pupils to enjoy while raising money for a great cause.

**What are we fundraising for?** We are raising money to enhance our outdoor space with new playground markings, helping to support active play, creativity and learning during breaktimes. Examples of the exciting markings we are aiming for can be seen below.

**What happens next?** Sponsorship forms will be sent home next week. Children can begin collecting sponsors from family and friends. Donations can also be made using the QR code also. If you are a UK taxpayer, please remember to tick the Gift Aid box on the form, as this allows us to claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated at no additional cost to you.

**Scan to donate.** We are looking forward to another successful fundraising event and appreciate your continued support in helping us improve our school environment. Thank you for your support!





B.A.T.S



BATS are heading outdoors this half term. On Tuesday, the children had a great time on the bikes and playing on the adventure playground. We have planned more outdoor activities for the children to enjoy, including some gardening sessions with Mrs Riddell towards the end of the half term.

## Church and Community Corner



Come and join us for Forest Church on Sunday 26th April at 4pm in church!

There'll be tea, coffee, refreshments and craft in school for everyone to enjoy!

### **Join us at Balderstone Church**



**Forest Church  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 4pm**

## Keeping Safe Online

[https://kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk/?es\\_c=484A94022961382F76AFA4D834F6021B&es\\_cl=C6A8DF29E6D832FCBACF7D13A7B54767&es\\_id=ph7%c2%a322](https://kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk/?es_c=484A94022961382F76AFA4D834F6021B&es_cl=C6A8DF29E6D832FCBACF7D13A7B54767&es_id=ph7%c2%a322)

This website has been updated to help families and give them more confidence in talking to their children about what they're doing and experiencing online.

The updated content includes:

- how to spot the signs of online bullying
- guidance and support if a child is being bullied
- practical tips to help make online gaming safer
- information on age ratings and parental controls for games

## SEND AT BALDERSTONE



### **New online route for SEND and**

#### **Inclusion feedback**

There is now a clearer, more streamlined way for families, young people and professionals to share compliments, comments or complaints about SEND and Inclusion services. The new corporate system provides a single front door for all feedback, improving how enquiries are logged, tracked and responded to.

The updated "Give feedback about a SEND service" webpage now explains the process more clearly and directs users straight to the correct online form. This makes it easier for families and schools to tell us what's working well, suggest improvements, or raise concerns.

[Give feedback about a SEND service - Lancashire County Council](#)

# East Lancashire Young People's Mental Health

**Concerned about your Mental Health?**



**Lancashire &  
South Cumbria**  
NHS Foundation Trust



**Are you under 18 or concerned about someone under 18?**

**Advice sessions are available on-line via**

**'Attend Anywhere'**

**Delivered by CYPMH East [tinyurl.com/ELCAS-LSCFT](https://tinyurl.com/ELCAS-LSCFT)**

Enter the word "CYPMH East" as the first name and "drop in" as the second name followed by your date of birth.

You will then enter our virtual waiting area where we will collect you.

Wednesday 1st April 2026	1pm – 3pm
Wednesday 8th April 2026	3pm – 5pm
Wednesday 15th April 2026	5pm – 7pm
Wednesday 22nd April 2026	1pm – 3pm

## 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:



If you haven't been down on to our field lately, have a peep over the gate. Thanks to gardening club's work last year we have daffodils and snowdrops flowering on the field. Thank you gardeners!

[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.

[n.draycott@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:n.draycott@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk) or [bursar@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk)

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



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