



Newsletter 24th April 2026

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

Friday 24th April 2026

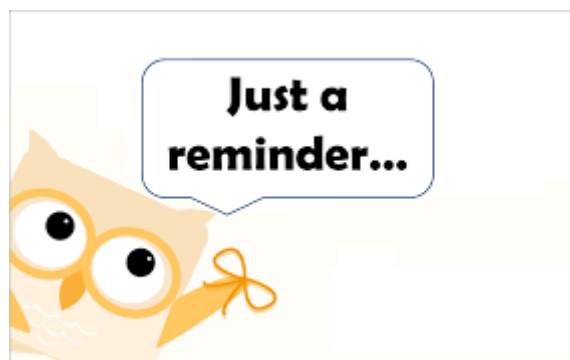
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Dates and reminders



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 5th 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

What a lovely few days we have had in the sunshine! It is always great when the children are able to play together on the school field. On Monday afternoon this week, I had the privilege of showing a family round school and the classrooms were empty! We prove, time and time again at Balderstone that learning is not confined to a classroom. Our worship focus for this week has been describing God and we have thought so far that God is Love and that he is the creator of all things. In today's Celebration worship, the following children received an Excellence Award for RE due to their ideas, questioning and their high standard of work. Well done to Sophia, Aisha, Amelia, Liyana, Ibrahim, Adah, Fatima Z, Fatimah M, Huzaifah, Safiyyah ad Khadijah M.

Children in EYFS have been busy planting following the instructions they have written. Squirrels class have been exploring what it means to belong and the meaning of their names. Foxes class have been thinking about Peter being described as the rock of the church so have painted their own rocks in recognition that our lives need a solid foundation. Owls class have marvelled at the wonder of the human eye this week and have discovered in detail about how we see. It is in moments of learning like this, that we take a step back and marvel at the intricate creation of God. 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!

Our pre school and Brambles places are filling up fast and our school family is rapidly growing which is a real blessing to see. God is truly faithful and answers prayer. Unusually, we do have a couple of spaces for Reception 2026 so if you do know of anyone who is looking for a Reception space, please spread the word.

Church and Community Corner



Come and join us for a fun Forest Church this Sunday at 4pm starting in church!

If you haven't been before, come along and see what it's all about. We'll be going outside in the sunshine and then enjoying tea, coffee and biscuits in school with craft activities too.

Come along and bring your family and friends for a great afternoon!

Join us at Balderstone Church



**Forest Church
Sunday 26th April 4pm**

SPORTS NEWS



Netball League



Team: Poppy S (C), Inaaya, Zahraa, Ameerah, Haniya, Amelia

On Tuesday, our Y5/6 netball team competed in the second round of the HRVSSP RV netball league at Ribblesdale High School. We played 2 friendly games during the evening and 4 competitive.

Our first friendly resulted in a loss against Langho St Mary's and our game against Mellor saw a 1 – 0 win, with a goal from Amelia.

Following our competitive loss against Salesbury, we were also able to come together, mix up and have a mixed team game, which was played in good spirits and a lovely opportunity for the girls to make new friends from another local school.

During the evening, we also played beat Barrow 2 – 1 (with goals form Poppy S and Amelia) and lost to Pendle, who had THE most amazing GS -it caused amusement amongst the spectators! However, the team did their best to fight back and Haniya managed to put us on the score board.

The evening was jam packed with games and little time to rest as we had only taken 6 players on this occasion. Nevertheless, the girls enjoyed themselves, showed super sporting values and showed some excellent passages of play. We currently sit in 8th position in a strong league of 14 teams having played less games than others .

Well done Girls!



Y5/6 Athletics

Team: Zak, Zayn, Yahya T, Aliza, Abdullah, Ameerah, Inaaya, Zahraa, Shifa, Juwairiyah, Danyal, Umar

On Thursday, we were blessed with beautiful weather when we travelled to Wilson's Playing fields. Our Y5/6 Children competed against 19 other schools in the annual HRVSSP "Quad Kids" event. All children competed in a 75m sprint, 600m run, mini vortex howler throw and a standing long jump.

Mrs Heyworth was exceptionally proud of each individual as they competed to the best of their abilities and showed HUGE determination and resilience. A special mention to Yahya , who caught the eye of other teachers, spectators and Mrs Johnson (our SGO) for being the "Happiest runner on the track" as he tackled the 600m race with determination. This is not the first time Yahya's infectious smile has been identified - he was also spotted being the "happiest swimmer" as he competed in the backstroke race at the swimming gala last year. Keep smiling Yahya!

The children represented school incredibly well and, although it was an exhausting event, appeared to have a lovely afternoon and still managed to return to school with bundles of energy!

Forest School



The sunshine has arrived! Year 5 had a wonderful afternoon building dens on the field. Den building is an activity that every year group takes part in. As the children get older and more experienced in building their dens, they learn new skills such as tying knots and building the structures that are more stable. We mixed up the teams this week and it was great to see the children working together, swapping ideas, helping each other and enjoying being out in the sunshine. We stopped for a quick hot chocolate break, usually that's to warm us up but for the first time in a while we sat in the sunshine! Then Mrs Burton arrived with the rain storm to test the dens. Everyone stayed dry, well almost!








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.



🎉 Sponsored Colour Run – Join the Fun! We’re excited to share that our Sponsored Colour Run is coming soon – a lively, colourful event for everyone to enjoy.

Date: 14th May

Time: 3:30pm

Location: School Field


This year, we are raising money for new playground markings to support active, creative play at break and lunchtime.

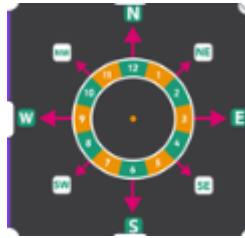
What you need to do:

- Check the poster for full event details
- Encourage your child to collect sponsorship using the form provided
- A parental consent waiver will be sent out next week
- Further details about the day will be shared nearer the time

Please return all completed sponsorship forms and donations after the event. Families are very welcome to come along, support and enjoy the atmosphere together.

Following last year’s success, we will also be recreating the Year 6 colour throw photo.

 Bright colours, big fun – all for a great cause!



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.

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:



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 or bursar@balderstone.lancs.sch.uk

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

A promotional flyer for Balderstone St Leonard's CE. On the left, there is a photograph of two young children in outdoor gear. The main text is in bold, red and black fonts. It reads: 'BALDERSTONE ST LEONARD'S CE' in large letters, followed by 'NURSERY, PRE-SCHOOL & PRIMARY' in smaller letters. Below that is a red banner with white text: 'JOIN OUR SMALL SCHOOL FAMILY!'. Underneath is a black banner with white text: 'WE WELCOME 2 - 11 YEAR OLDS'. The text continues: 'A small school with outstanding opportunities! Come and see our school family in action. Open day is EVERY day!'. At the bottom left is a QR code. At the bottom center is the website 'https://www.balderstoneschool.co.uk' and the phone number '01254 769 150'. At the bottom right is a small version of the school's logo.