



Balderstone St Leonard's CE Primary Newsletter 6th May 2024

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

Friday 6th May 2024

Mrs Gow's words for the week



Happy Bank Holiday Monday everyone! I hope you have enjoyed the additional sunnyish day with your families (if, of course, you have been fortunate enough to have the day off work!)

As we approach this new week we keep in our thoughts and prayers the tentative negotiations surrounding Gaza and particularly Rafah. We pray that the Prince of Peace reigns and that His love protects all those in peril. Bishop Philip has written:

We therefore ask the Diocese of Blackburn to join us in prayer for peace in that place and an end to the violence which has led already to the loss of so many innocent lives.

Pray also to the God who calmed the storm to be at work in the hearts of those immediately involved in making decisions regarding what to do next, so that they might choose peace over perpetual bloodshed.

Finally, pray for God's wisdom to be found in those who advise leaders across the Middle East and wider world as they consider how to respond.

+Philip Blackburn

There are a number of safeguarding and safety issues in this week's mini-newsletter that need putting in the forefront of our minds, especially as the weather is brightening up and we are spending more time outdoors.

Every blessing,

Mrs Gow

Car park safety reminders



We are blessed with an amazing car park to serve our community but it has been brought to our attention that there have been a couple of close calls on the car park (specifically cars entering the car park at speed). I spoke to Katy our PCSO last week to update her about our speed campaign surrounding school and we continue to be concerned about the speeds at which drivers are taking the bends, the dip and then accelerating rapidly on the straights up and down Commons Lane. A parent had their wing mirror (on their stationary car) ripped off by an industrial vehicle recently too.

Please do take the turn into the car park slowly - as there can be parents unloading, children walking and other cars coming in the opposite direction.

Pedestrians must use the safe walkway and do not model poor crossing behaviours by walking across the driveway - always use the small gated entrance to cross.

Children must NOT cross themselves into school or remain unsupervised on the junior playground. Sometimes Mrs Gow is at the crossing and then it is fine for the children to cross with her, but often Mrs Gow isn't there or is in class and children need supervision across the road. I know it tends to be quiet in one direction there, but the issues with electric cars nowadays means that they cannot be heard approaching and children particularly can get distracted.

Katy is going come down with the speed camera before the end of term to engage the children in some persuasive road safety. She is also going to be enforcing car seat laws. I have attached the legal guidance surrounding car seats and seat belts.

Thank you, in anticipation, for keeping our precious children safe.

Child car seats: the law

Contents

- Using a child car seat or booster seat
- [When a child can travel without a car seat](#)

Using a child car seat or booster seat

Children must [normally use a child car seat](#) until they're 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first.

Children over 12 or more than 135cm tall [must wear a seat belt](#).

You can choose a child car seat based on your child's height or weight.

Related content

[Seat belts: the law](#)

[New child car seat rules: no change for existing booster seats](#)

F.O.B.S news



Our Friends of Balderstone School (parent, carer and friends association) met last week to start to plan the summer term activities for our school community.

Susie Barton, mum to Thomas, Laura and Anna has been our FOBS secretary since 2016 and she has done an absolutely outstanding job - helping to organise, resource and staff so many incredible family and community events. Susie took on the role whilst working part-time and juggling her many other commitments.

Susie, on behalf of your Balderstone School family, we would like to ***sincerely thank you*** for the incredible organisation, energy and imagination you have brought to the FOBS team. Your commitment to the role, supported by the rest of the FOBS squad, has meant that so many enrichment opportunities have been offered to our children AND so many fun and collaborative events have happened - especially instigating our most successful new event the Balderstone Summer Fun evening, which you were instrumental in founding. You will be truly missed on the leadership team, but we are thrilled that you are staying on FOBS to volunteer with coming events.

We are incredibly grateful to the other members of FOBS who have stepped (or continued with) their lead roles - Janet Leaver (Chair), Meg Evans and Lisa Oddie (secretaries) and to Jonathan Greenwood and Louise Dixon (treasurers).

We are ALWAYS looking for new members, helpers, volunteers, leaders and community minded people who can help bring our school community together with fresh, fun and family-based events. If you would be interested in joining the team, then come along to our next meeting OR sign up to help at the upcoming Balderstone Summer Fun evening on Saturday 29th June 2024!



1 - Summer fun 2024! Save the date 29th June 5 - 8.30pm

Our next BIG summer event happens in June - The Balderstone Summer Fun evening! Save the date for Saturday 29th June (get it blocked out on your calendars now). This is the biggest and best that Balderstone has to offer with special inflatables, stalls, BBQs (halal and non), live music this year and

LOTS LOTS more. More details and information about how you can help make the evening a success will follow but please pray for sunshine and book the date in your diaries now!

Safeguarding section - Railway safety



This week we have been contacted by the Learn Live team to highlight the crucial area of safety on and around our rail network.

"Due to increasing incidents of trespass on the railway near your school, we urgently need you to please share the relevant **FREE** 15 minute safety video with your teachers to show in class and send the link to parents who can watch it at home."

Over 21 million students, parents and teachers from across the UK have already watched these videos which has led to a significant decrease in the number of fatalities and injuries in their area through watching the rail safety videos.

The children will be watching the age appropriate versions of these presentations, but please

NEW Primary school version. <https://switchedonrailsafety.co.uk/>

Suitable for infant children

<https://learnliveuk.com/ks1-primary-school-safety-talk/>

NEW Primary school version: Suitable for junior children <https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-primary-school-safety-talk>

Equipment in school - let's not waste learning/play time!



Could you please ensure that your child has the correct equipment in school for their learning - PE kits, trainers in school every day for clubs and lunchtime sports activities, equipped pencil cases for the children in the juniors, reading records in EVERY day and reading book packs (infant children). Please make sure this equipment is named.

We have had a number of children unable to access proper PE provision, due to missing trainers/appropriate footwear - the children will NOT be allowed to do PE in their school shoes.

Remember please our uniform and presentation standards - no earrings on PE days. no nail varnish. minimal hair accessories in school colours please.

We are reminding our junior children that it is THEIR responsibility to pack their own school bags and check that they have everything necessary for the next day. The children love to say that, "Mum forgot my kit!" but we keep saying that the PE kit belongs to them and Mum won't be wearing it! Our Year 5/6 children particularly have to get used to being independent organisers.

Our nearly new uniform stall has plenty of stock to help you with nearly end of term replacements. Please do not buy new PE kits, as school is phasing in the new kits starting from July - so do not replace PE kits yet.

Flourishing Friday Winners



A huge congratulations to last week's Flourishing Friday award winners. We're so proud of your efforts - you have shone this last week. Keep up the great work living out our school mission:

EYFS Ayaan

Year 1 Phoebe

Year 2 Thomas B

Year 3 Yahya

Year 4 Safaa B

Year 5 Abbas

Year 6 Khadijah & Imaan

Sports Round-up - Lancashire Youth games festival



Mrs Draycott and Mrs Lorgat took 10 of our Fox class children to join the fun at this Striking and Fielding youth games. The children had a brilliant time trailing some new sports and then focusing in on honing their striking and fielding skills.









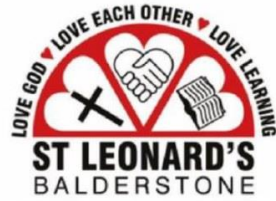
Save the Dates Summer Term 2024



To help you plan at this busy time of year, we have tried to include key dates till the end of term. Most of the dates are subject to change but the events in **BOLD** impact/involve whole school. Please note, that the events are subject to change dependent upon high school transition days (we have only been given these dates for 2 of our secondary feeder schools so far).

Weekly reminders	Martial arts sessions now every Tuesday
22nd April	Netball Year 5/6 after school
23 rd April	Toddler, Pre-school and Reception lunch 11.45am
24 th to 25 th April	Anderton Centre – Fox class
	Reception children vision screening 10.30am
26 th April	Friday EYFS in rainbow colours dress up for Rainbow Fish book.
1 st May	9.00am Tempest class photo day
	Youth games 19 children from Year ¼ @ Accrington Cricket club during school day
2 nd May	Juniors Cross Country event after school St Michael & St John
Week Beginning 7 th May	Bank Holiday Monday
7 th May	Animal Olympics – Y1 and 2 whole class during school day.
10 th May	Y5 and 6 parent lunch
	Pirate day EYFS and Parent stay and play
11 th May	Walking Day 2.15pm meet at Community centre
Week beginning 13 th May	SATS week in school for Year 6
13 th May	9.15am Paper 1 Grammar paper
	10.30am Paper 2 – spelling test
14 th May	English Reading paper
15 th May	Maths Paper 1 9.15am
	Maths Paper 2 10.30am
16 th May	Maths Paper 3 9.15am (40 minutes)
22 nd May	York trip Owls. 7.30 – 7.30pm
24 th May	INSET day – no pupils in school
HALF TERM WEEK	
3 rd June	INSET day – no pupils in school
6 th June	Parent Lunch Year ¼
Week beginning 10 th June	Phonics screen week
	Multiplication tables test week
10 th June	Year 5/6 boys' football tournament
11 th June	Phonics screen test day, New Reception lunch and parent information session (12.30 – 2.30pm)
12 th June	Netball tournament CRGS
14 th June	Orienteering whole class Year 5/6 during school day
15 th June	Church summer tea party
Week beginning 17 th June	Sports Day (dependent on weather)
21 st June	Year ½ parent lunch
22 nd June	Mellor Brook Bicentenary celebration
23 rd June	Confirmations 3pm Mellor St Mary's
Week beginning 24 th June	Themed lunch week
27 th June	Ribblesdale transition (evening)
29 th June	FOBS summer fun day
1 st July	Ribblesdale transition days
2 nd July	Ribblesdale transition days
	Day to Create Year 3/4
3 rd July	Aladdin Arts trip
5 th July	Coffee Creative 2pm
Week beginning 8 th	Transition week in school
	Euros dinners week
9 th July	Move up morning
	School garden open after school
10 th July	Move up morning
11 th July	Move up morning
	Year 6 moving up session pm
15 th July	Dress rehearsal for school play
16 th July	Performance day 1.30pm and 6pm (all children involved in the show to attend both performances please)
17 th July	Talent show
19 th July	Year 6 parent/leavers' lunch
	Leavers' service 10.30am in church
	Leavers' lunch 11.45am
	School finishes at 1.30pm

Contact Us



**A small school
with a big heart**

**We are currently accepting
applications.**

Join us for our Open Week 31st
October – 4th November. Ring
school to book a tour.



For more information visit
 **www.balderstoneschool.co.uk** 
or contact **01254 769150**

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

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