



Langho and Billington St. Leonard's Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Dawn Lindley B.Sc (Hons) QTS CofEPQH

Fortnightly Newsletter Thursday 6th February 2025

You can also see more information about us on our school website: www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk

Follow us on facebook: [Langho and Billington St Leonards Facebook page](#)

Worship



On Friday last week we were treated to worship led by Eagles class who helped us to know and understand the Parable of the Great Banquet. This week we have reflected on the Parable of the Lost Coin, remembering that every good thought, word and action makes the angels have a party! The children also participated in a live assembly for Children's Mental Health week.

Doves class will be leading our worship in church on Friday 14th February at 9am, all welcome.

Newsletters

Please note that our newsletters will now be sent out fortnightly on a Thursday.

Spring Parent/Carer evening 11th February 2025

Bookings are now open for Parent/Carer evening via the school website. Bookings close tomorrow afternoon! If you need any assistance, please contact the office.

Children's Mental Health Week

We know that acts of kindness can be beneficial to everyone's mental health, therefore children have been given a kindness week challenge plan to complete by Wednesday next week to receive their kindness certificate. Please see the bottom of the newsletter.

Our School Councillors have decided to collect donations towards the paediatric A&E ward in Preston to help poorly children. Please send these in tomorrow, Friday 7th. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 11th February



Children will be learning further about keeping themselves safe online, including how people use avatars.

Our Online Safety Ambassadors are inviting children to **dress up on Tuesday 11th February, in a particular colour of their choosing** to represent an avatar.

Confirmation classes

Year 6 parents should now have received an email regarding confirmation classes. As St Leonard's currently does not have a vicar, we have joined forces with Salesbury Church to offer our children the chance to be confirmed by Bishop Phillip in May.

Confirmation is also open to any adults who may wish to be confirmed.

If you are interested please contact Rev Liz McClean: 01254 782886 or emmclean@hotmail.co.uk



KS1 Imagine That!

Year 1 and 2 had an amazing trip full of Science and Art. The children made slime, snow, magnets and experienced a dry ice show. All the staff were so impressed with their impeccable behaviour. It was great to see the children use their prior knowledge, ask questions, and engage in their learning in this practical way.



Pupil Parliament

We are excited to be starting a Pupil Parliament with our local cluster schools. Some of our children had their first meeting last week. The schools we are working with are Salesbury, Balderstone, St. Mary's Osbaldeston, St. Mary's Mellor, and Samesbury. We look forward to seeing the collaborative projects from our budding young citizens.



Netball News

We are very proud of our amazing Year 6 netball team who competed in a netball friendly with some of our local schools.

The girls played extremely well, managing to score over 30 goals in just one game, and were wonderful representatives of our school.

Well done, team!



Glow Dodgeball

Twelve of our year 6 pupils represented our school at a glow dodgeball event. The event took place at Oakhill College and had a focus on fair play.

The children really enjoyed this event and their conduct was a credit to St Leonards.



RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch 2025!

We have registered to take part in the Big Schools Bird watch ran by the RSPB and would like to ask for your help to attract as many birds to our school grounds as possible. Please help us by sending in any bird feeders or even a bird table you may have and are not using. Or make your own at home with your children and send them in. Please may we request that any bird cakes are made of seeds and not peanuts as we are a 'nut free' school!







26-28 January 2024

Follow the link below if you are interested in taking part in this year's Big Garden Bird watch at home.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>

This Fortnight's Attendance

	Class	% Attendance this week
	Robins	100
	Wrens	97.3
	Kingfishers	97.1

Diary Dates

Spring 1 and 2	
3rd- 9th February	Children's mental Health week - activities in school
Friday 7th February	Y6 Young Voices Concert at Coop Live.
Friday 7th February	12.30-2.30pm Ribble Valley Sportshall athletics - Y5&6.
Tuesday 11th February	Parents' Evening (BOOKING CLOSES TOMORROW - FRIDAY 7TH!)
	Online Safety Day - Children invited to dress in a particular colour to represent an avatar
Friday 14th February	3.30pm School closes for half term
Monday 24th February	8.40am School opens after half term
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day - Children can dress in comfy pyjamas and trainers!
Thursday 28th March	2:45pm Y5 Brass Concert in the Hall
Friday 4th April	1:30pm School Closes for Easter Holiday

| Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices

Information for Parents

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period¹. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Absences can have a lasting effect on learning

Missing a week of school means your child will miss around 25 hours of learning

This creates gaps in their knowledge and could mean they will not meet their full potential

¹ A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once.

Reading and Reading Record Books



From babies to children in their early years and all the way through to early teens, reading brings profound and wide-ranging benefits that can have a lifelong positive impact on children's lives. Children who read: are more likely to overcome disadvantages caused by inequalities; are more likely to be happier, healthier and experience better mental wellbeing and self-esteem; are more likely to do better at school and make more progress across the curriculum and are more likely to develop empathy and creativity.

Shared reading creates opportunities for joint attention and emotional closeness between a child and their parent or carer. It is also a wonderful way to be involved in your child's education and development.

Reading is important to us at St Leonard's and is really important that children read, not only at school but at home as well. With this in mind, please could all parents and carers ensure that children read at home daily. When your child has read at home, please initial their reading record book so that we can see how regularly they are reading at home.

Please ensure that your child's reading book and reading record book are in school with them every day as teachers will be using and checking them regularly.

Parents with Prams

If you are bringing or collecting a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, and you have a pram with you, please wait at the double white doors near the ramp that goes into the hall. In the morning, there will be a member of staff to ensure that your child reaches their classroom and at the end of the school day, staff will bring your child to you as soon as they are able.



Crossing Patrol

Unfortunately there will be no crossing patrol attendant for the foreseeable future. Please take extra care when using pavements and crossing over the road outside school and drive with extra consideration.

If anyone is interested in taking over this position, please contact Mr Simmons on 07831 309599.

If your child uses the crossing after school, please make sure they know that they are able to ask a member of staff in school or the office to assist them crossing the road.

Considerate and careful parking and driving

It has been witnessed by staff and reported to us by other parents that cars are stopping in the middle of the road outside of school to allow parents / carers / children to get out of cars resulting in cars being held up.

We realise that at times the school run and finding a parking space can be stressful - however please can we ask that when parking, dropping off, collecting and driving around school that all drivers are considerate and kind and respectful to each other as role models to our children.

We are very lucky to be able to use the top car park at Mytton Fold - please use this space as we have been asked not to use the community centre car park unless you are accessing Coolkidz.

BELOW IS A MESSAGE FROM LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY REGARDING INCONSIDERATE PARKING. PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS MESSAGE TO ANYONE THAT MAY BE COLLECTING YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL.



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

Dear Parent / Guardian

It has been brought to our attention that a few vehicles are parking adjacent to the solid white lines in the middle of the road near to the Petre Arms pub at both drop off and pick up times.

Parking adjacent to solid white lines in the middle of the road is an offence and carries a penalty of £100 fine and 3 points on your licence.

This is already a busy road and with the school traffic and children being escorted in and around the area it heightens the need for motorists to park legally and sensibly.

I will be monitoring the area at busy times and if your vehicle is seen you may receive a fixed penalty notice

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PARKING ILLEGALLY

Regards

Ribble Valley Neighbourhood Team

Appointments during school hours

Can we please request that routine appointments, i.e. dentist, doctors, opticians etc, be made for outside of school hours where at all possible. Evidence of the appointment, e.g. a letter, appointment card or email, should be provided if this is unavoidable during school hours. Thank you for your support with this.

Holidays in term time

We have had a very large number of holiday requests for holidays to be taken in term time. We would like to stress the importance of not taking children out of school for holidays.

Please note that without at least 2 weeks prior notice and for all absence requests of more than 5 days (10 sessions) in a term or 7 days (14 sessions) over 2 consecutive terms, results in fines being issued from the Local Authority. This fine is currently £120 per child per parent (Including step parents) but is increasing in August 2024 to £160 per child per parent (Including step parents).

Little Lennie's Nursery

If you have a child born in April 2024 onwards and you would like a place in Little Lennie's Pre-school from September 2027 onwards, could you please contact Mrs Bolton in the school office.

Little Lennie's is proving to be extremely popular and we are full with waiting lists for both 2024/25 and 2025/26 intakes. We are already taking bookings for 2026/27 and even 2027/28!



Facebook

Our facebook page includes regular updates - please follow and like!

[Langho and Billington St Leonards Facebook page](#)

Help, Advice and Support

Please see the new page on our school website for links and phone numbers for a variety of sources of help and support such as community groups, housing, domestic abuse, mental health and food banks. <https://www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk/parent-info/help-and-support>

We have also updated our **Health and Wellbeing** page with links to help your child regarding mental health and wellbeing.

<https://www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk/parent-info/health-and-wellbeing>

New links will continue to be added. If you know of any other support sources that we could add, please contact the office staff.

Nut Free School



Please remember to be careful when packing children's lunches and snacks sent into school. Products containing any type of **nuts are not allowed** due to children with nut allergies in school. Kinder Bueno and Nutella snacks contain hazelnuts - please leave these at home.

Many thanks for your cooperation

Named Items PLEASE HELP!

Children take off cardigans and jumpers and leave them around school or the playground, if they are not named then it is almost impossible to reunite them with the correct owner. **Please** ensure that **ALL** items belonging to your child are clearly named **using a ball point pen in the label** (including coats, and lunch bags/boxes) to ensure that any mislaid items can be promptly returned. Thank you.

There is an awful lot of lost property accumulation again - please check under the canopy (KS2) or outside of Eagles classroom (KS1) at the end of each school day if you have lost something.

Absence and Lateness



This is a further reminder that the School day begins at 8:55am. The gates are now open from **8:40am and shut at 8:55am**. Please do your best to get children to school for 8.40am, when the gates open. Once the gate is shut, please take your children to the office through the main school entrance.

To safeguard all of our children effectively, ALL CHILDREN arriving after the gates are shut MUST BE SIGNED IN BY THEIR ADULT at the front office.



FEBRUARY HOLIDAY CLUB



SPORTS COOL HOLIDAY CLUB AT
OAKHILL LEISURE



SPORTS COOL HOLIDAY CLUB AT
OAKHILL LEISURE

Oakhill Leisure Centre, Whalley, BB7 9AF

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February



Full day: £25

08:30-16:30

Half day: £15

08:30-12:30 or 12:30-16:30

Full course discount £110 for the whole week!!



<https://sportscool.schoolipal.co.uk>



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PTO for How To Guide**

All our staff are qualified sports coaches with DBS certificates