



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

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

Weekly Newsletter Friday 13th December 2024

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

Our worships this week have continued to focus on the season of Advent and our preparations for Jesus' birth. We have reflected on the themes of love, hope and joy as we light our Advent wreath. This morning, Mrs Harris reminded us that Advent is a time to look back to the events of Jesus' birth, as well as looking forward to Christmas and the return of our saviour.



Cathedral Carol Concert

This lunchtime Year 6 and the school choir presented a lunchtime concert at Blackburn Cathedral. We were very proud of all of our children, who behaved impeccably and sang like angels! Well done to you all.



Nine Lessons and Carols



We would like to warmly invite you all to the Nine Lessons and Carols Service at St Leonard's Church on Monday 16th December. The service begins at 6pm and will be led by Rev. Sam Cheesman accompanied by members of our wonderful school choir. Family, friends, supporters and children are all very welcome.

Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair last Friday, either by attending or by donating gifts.

We were delighted to raise an amazing £1406.67 for our school fund!



Headlice!

We've had a few cases of headlice in school this week. Please could you check your child's hair and treat if needed. Many thanks!

KS1 Kurling



On Thursday evening, some of our KS1 children attended the annual Kurling event at St Augustines. The children all did really well and loved trying this new sport.



Care your Way Launch

On Wednesday, some of our KS1 Children attended the launch of 'Care your Way' at Brownhill and entertained the staff and guests with songs from their upcoming nativity play. Well done Children - you were a credit to St Leonard's.



Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch





On Wednesday 18th December, we will be having our annual Christmas Jumper day and Christmas lunch. Mandy in the kitchen is very excited to be preparing roast turkey with all the trimmings ready for our children to enjoy with Christmas crackers and music! There will also be a vegetarian option (quorn).

Children who usually have packed lunches are invited to have a Christmas Lunch as a 'one off' if you would like them to have one. If not, bringing packed lunch as usual is fine. This is at a cost of £2.65 which will appear on Parentpay.

Children can wear anything Christmassy on that day or own clothes - it does not matter whether they have uniform underneath or not. We are not fussy and just want all children to have a nice day.



This Week's Attendance

	Class	% Attendance this week
	Falcons	100
	Hérons	99.2
	Robins	98.1

Diary Dates

Autumn 2	
Monday 16th December	KS2 - 9 lessons and Carol Service in Church with parishioners at 6pm - Letter sent out
Tuesday 17th December	KS1 Nativity in Church 2.30pm and 5.30pm (further information from class teachers to follow)
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day
Thursday 19th December	Charity Committee children to visit Nightsafe and drop of our donations - letters already sent
Friday 20th December	School closes at 1.30pm
Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve	Crib Service and Christingle at 4pm in St. Leonard's Church
Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day	Christmas Day Service at 10.30am in St. Leonard's Church led by Reverend Mike Kirby
Monday 6th January	School opens for everyone 8.40am

Admissions Arrangements Consultation for September 2026

Our Proposed Admissions Arrangements for September 2026 are now out for consultation for the next 6 weeks (Thursday 7th November until Friday 20th December 2024) Should you wish to comment, please contact the school office via email office@langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk within the six week period.

The document is available to read by following the link below:

<https://www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk/our-school/admissions/consultation-proposed-admissions-arrangements-for-2026>

ST LEONARDS' PROUD TO SUPPORT NIGHTSAFE

2024-2025



DEAR

SANTA:

WE ARE WRITING A WISH LIST ON BEHALF OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16 TO 25 WHO ARE HOMELESS OR AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS THIS CHRISTMAS:

- SELECTION BOXES
- MUG & HOT CHOCOLATE
- HATS & GLOVES
- CHOCOLATES
- QUIZ BOOKS
- PENS/ PENCILS
- MINDFUL BOOKS
- TOILETRY SETS
- GIFT SETS
- SLIPPERS
- PYJAMAS
- PAMPER SETS
- DRESSING GOWNS
- MAKE UP SETS
- MAKE UP BRUSH SETS
- UNDERWEAR
- SOCKS
- VOUCHERS

FROM **Nightsafe**

To donate please contact
info@nightsafe.org or call 01254 503 067





LANCASHIRE YOUTH BRASS
BAND



CHRISTMAS



CONCERT



Saturday 14 December 2024

7:30 pm

Doors Open 7pm

St Leonard's Church,
Langho,
BB6 8AB

Adults £7

Children £3



Help us *change lives* this December.

CareYourWay East Lancashire is excited to be bringing our Present for a Pensioner initiative to our local area, dedicated to combatting loneliness in our community this Christmas.

Since 2016, Present for a Pensioner has delivered thousands of luxury hampers to those who may be facing the season alone, and are in need of a little extra happiness through the Christmas period.

Each hamper costs £35 to make and will change a life this Christmas.



care
yourway 
Our family caring for yours

 **01254 845555**

Call us for more information and how you can get involved.



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.



SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY

EAST

Do you have a child starting
primary school in September 2025
and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 15 January 2025

You **must** apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is linked to your child's nursery. Please read the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website, or get a copy from them.

Apply for a school place now by scanning
the QR code or visit [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools)



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference,
please check the guidance on our website, or call 01254 220747.

**HAVE
YOUR SAY**

*Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with
you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs.
To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces
and click 'school admission policies'.*

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.

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.