



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

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

### **Weekly Newsletter Friday 29th November 2024**

You can also see more information about us on our school website: [www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk)

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

### **Worship**

On Monday, we welcomed Mrs Tinker into school to lead our worship on the theme of the Christmas Story. Mrs Tinker also kindly donated a set of 'Bible Eggsplorers' to school. This week, we have also thought about the story of Ruth, who won the love and protection of Boaz through the kindness she showed.



### **150 years of Langho and Billington St Leonard's CE School!**

We are holding a celebration day on **Friday 6th December 2024 (note change of date)** to commemorate **150 years** since our school opened its doors to the children of Langho and Billington. **Children are invited to come to school dressed in Victorian costume**, and there will be learning activities as there would have been in Victorian times ... and no technology!



If you know anyone who attended our school in the past, and has old photographs or would like to share their memories with us, please let the school office know!

### **Christmas Fair - 6th December 3:40pm**



Thank you for the delicious chocolate which you have kindly sent in today -another wonderful response. Thank you so much.

**All children** will have the opportunity to visit the Christmas Fair during the afternoon with their class. During the afternoon the stalls will not accept cash. Please use PARENTPAY if you would like to purchase tokens for your child to spend. £3 will buy three tokens for cakes, games and treats.

Parents and supporters are warmly invited to visit the Christmas Fair with their children in the school hall from 3.40pm.

### **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!

### **Parent Governor Election**

Please remember to post your envelope into the election box in the school entrance. Election closes at 12pm on Monday 2nd December.

### **Cathedral Concert**

On Friday 13th December year 6 and our school choir will be performing a lunchtime Carol Service at Blackburn Cathedral. The concert begins at 1pm and everyone is warmly invited to join us.



### **Football News**

On Monday, our A team was in action again in the Ribble Valley League. It was a freezing cold evening but our players did not let that deter them, claiming two more victories and suffering only one loss. Well done boys!







### **Fun at the panto!**



Two of our children were invited on stage to help Jack's mum, Tilly!

## This Week's Attendance

	<b>Class</b>	<b>% Attendance this week</b>
	Doves	99
	Hérons	98.5
	Owls	98.4

## Nightsafe Christmas Appeal

This half term we are collecting donations of warm clothes, food and toiletries. Please leave items in our trolley, kindly provided by TESCO.



Please see a thank you letter from Nightsafe at the end of the newsletter.



### AUTUMN TERM 2 DONATIONS FOR NIGHTSAFE




As a school we have partnered with a local charity, Nightsafe. We would love your support if you are in the position to donate towards those less fortunate than ourselves. There is a collection box at the top of school near the main entrance.

Thank you.

<b>Food</b>	<b>Toiletries</b>	<b>Winter clothing</b>
Biscuits	Toilet roll	Hat
Noodles	Soap	Scarf
Packet pasta meals	Body Wash	Gloves
Pot noodles	Tooth brush	Coat
Tinned fish	Tooth paste	Fluffy socks
Tinned meat	Body wash	
Soup	Baby wipes	
Cereal	Sanitary towels	
Sauces		
Rice		
Tinned fruit		
Custard		
Rice Pudding		
Jam		





# **FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS FOR UGANDA**

**Our Charity Ambassadors would like to invite anyone who would like to make a friendship bracelet to be sent to the children in Uganda at Kishunju Primary School.**

**Please hand into our ambassadors before Friday 13th December 2024.**

**Thank you**

## Diary Dates

Autumn 2	
Monday 2nd December	4-5.30pm League B football at Edisford
Wednesday 4th December	Viral Santa Dash in school
Friday 6th December	150 years of St Leonard's CE School, Victorian Celebration day - <b>Victorian costume please!</b> (further information to follow)  Christmas Fair in the school hall - <b>Note change of date</b> - (children will be able to visit from 2.00pm with their classes - parents and carers welcome from 3.40pm - 5pm)
Wednesday 11th December	10:30am and 2:30pm Early Years (Reception and Little Lennies) Nativities in the hall
Thursday 12th December	4-5:30pm - KS1 Kurling at St Augustines (Letters to be sent to children participating)
Friday 13th December	Year 6 Christmas Carols at Blackburn Cathedral 1.00pm
Monday 16th December	KS2 - 9 lessons and Carol Service in Church with parishioners at 6pm
Tuesday 17th December	KS1 Nativity in Church 2.30pm and 5.30pm (further information to follow)
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day (further information to follow)
Friday 20th December	<b>School closes at 1.30pm</b>
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

### 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](mailto: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>

## **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 period<sup>1</sup>. 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

<sup>1</sup> 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](https://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



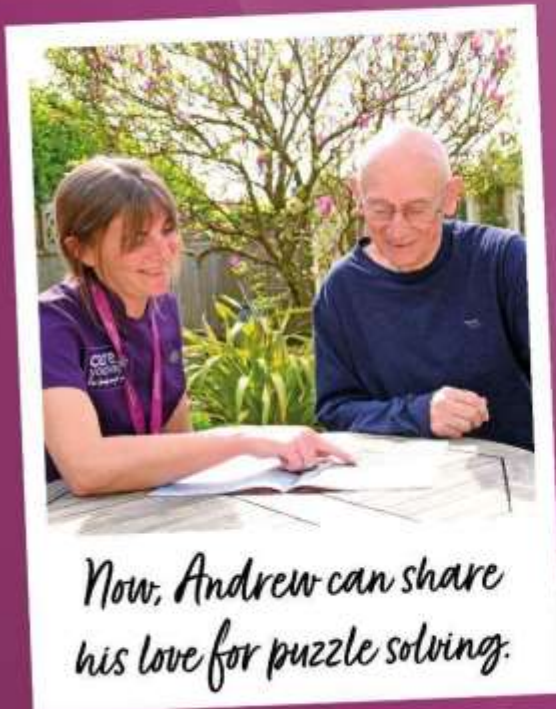
This is a further reminder that the School day begins at 8:55am. The gates are now open from **8:40am and shut at 8:55am**. Please do your best to get children to school for 8.40am, when the gates open. Once the gate is shut, please take your children to the office through the main school entrance.

**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.**



# Join us for the *launch of* CareYourWay in East Lancashire!

Help us celebrate the launch of CareYourWay's award-winning home care services in East Lancashire, with an inspiring afternoon of community spirit, with special guests and a fun tombola!



*Now, Andrew can share his love for puzzle solving.*

**11<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**from 12pm - 2pm**

Join our team at our offices:  
CareYourWay East Lancashire  
285 Brownhill Dr,  
Blackburn BB1 9SB

**☎ 01254 845 555**

**careyourway**   
*Our family caring for yours*



The Boulevard Centre, Cathedral Quarter,  
45 Railway Road, Blackburn, BB1 1EZ  
Tel: 01254 503067  
W: [www.nightsafe.org](http://www.nightsafe.org)  
E: [info@nightsafe.org](mailto:info@nightsafe.org)

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Dear Saint Leonards School,

Nightsafe would like to send a huge thank you to all the children, parents & teachers for the amazing donations you collected for us.

These products of food, cleaning products & toiletries help all the young people we support.

Without this kindness of the community supporting Nightsafe, it wouldn't exist.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity,

From all the staff, young people & volunteers at Nightsafe.



<https://flavourscookeryschool.co.uk/event/christmas-bakes-treats-at-st-leonards-church/>