



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

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

Weekly Newsletter Friday 22nd November 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

We were delighted to have our worship on Monday morning led by the Bishop of Burnley, Bishop Joe. We were interested to learn about his crozier and how it reflects the role of Jesus as a Good Shepherd. After the service Bishop Joe enjoyed a tour of the school led by two of our year 6 pupils. We have also been thinking about St Andrew in preparation for St Andrews Day next week and this morning Kingfishers led a wonderful worship in Church about the life of this saint.



Special Visitors!

As you all will know we had our Ofsted inspection on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. I just want to share how incredibly proud I was of our whole school family throughout the inspection. Our children were fantastic and showcased their beautiful behaviour and conduct in all lessons and on the playground, and some children took one inspector on a tour of school - he said he particularly enjoyed this part of the day and was incredibly impressed by those children. Parent view comments were overwhelmingly positive and complimentary and I'd like to thank every parent who responded to this survey - it really gave a true impression of how well we are doing in all areas to make sure our children can be the best they can be. Extra thanks also goes to our wonderful staff who relentlessly put children first - their dedication and commitment really shone through, as always.

The final report will not be published until after Christmas.

Finally, an enormous 'Thank you' to our parents for their thoughtful 'Good Luck' messages before inspection, and the treats afterwards!



Christmas Fair



Christmas Fair - 6th December 3:40pm!

Thank you for all the tombola and hamper gifts which you have kindly donated today - such an amazing response from everyone - we are so grateful!!

Next Friday 29th November will be another non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate for the chocolate tombola.

Thank you again everyone...Ho ho ho!!!

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!

Pantomime Trip Payments

We still have a number of parents who haven't yet contributed to the Panto trip. Could you please make payment as soon as possible, alternatively please contact the office to discuss.



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.

Food	Toiletries	Winter clothing
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		



Diary Dates

Autumn 2	
Monday 25th November	4-5.30pm League A football at Edisford
Tuesday 26th November	KS1 Pantomime trip
Thursday 28th November	KS2 Pantomime trip
Friday 29th November	Non Uniform day in exchange for chocolate for the Christmas fair tombola. 3.30pm - 5.15pm Christmas Film Night (further information to follow)
Monday 2nd December	4-5.30pm League B football at Edisford (further information to follow)
Wednesday 4th December	Viral Santa Dash in school
Friday 6th December	150 years of St Leonard's CE School, Victorian Celebration day - Victorian costume please! (further information to follow) Christmas Fair in the school hall - Note change of date - (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	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

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>

| 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



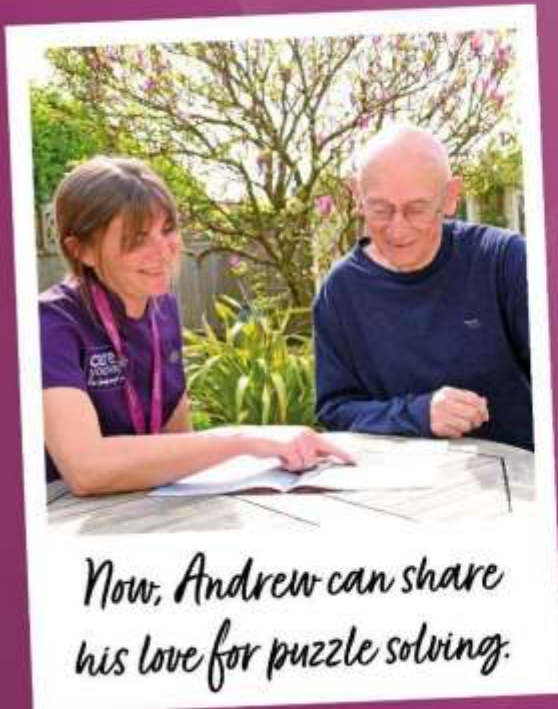
This is a further reminder that the School day begins at 8:55am. The gates are now open from **8:40am and shut at 8:55am**. Please do your best to get children to school for 8.40am, when the gates open. Once the gate is shut, please take your children to the office through the main school entrance.

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.



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.

11th 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



Your invitation to

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH



Christmas FAIR



Saturday 23rd

November 1-4 pm



Enjoy stalls with gifts, crafts, cakes,
hot & cold refreshments, a bumper
raffle, tombola, fun and much more !

Billington & Langho Community Centre
behind St Leonard's Church

Adults £1, Children 50p (includes a visit to Santa and a gift)

Proceeds to St
Leonard's
Church, Langho

Everyone welcome



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The Boulevard Centre, Cathedral Quarter,
45 Railway Road, Blackburn, BB1 1EZ
Tel: 01254 503067
W: www.nightsafe.org
E: info@nightsafe.org

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.