



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

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

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 26th November 2021

Please follow us on Twitter **@LanghoStLeonard** – for regular updates, news and notices. You can also see more information about us on our school website:
www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week's Christian Values...



We started our week in Worship learning about protected characteristics and the importance of treating each other with dignity and respect. The incredibly harmful effect of discrimination across society in our country and the wider world, is often in the news. Teaching our children at St Leonard's about diversity, equality and justice is central to our Christian vision and mission so our children learn to show love and care towards everyone, whilst embracing and celebrating our differences.

Each week it is such a joy to celebrate our Stars of the Week and to welcome in their families to support them. There are so many star moments every day and children are enjoying earning their Star cards!

As we move towards December, we are getting busy with rehearsals for Nativities and Carol Services and it is wonderful to hear the children's beautiful singing. This week we have continued to have lots of children representing our school in sports competitions – there were some nail-biting penalty shootouts on Wednesday! Well done to all our children for making us so proud by continuing to shine their lights so brightly.

Please see below for important information, our weekly class updates and of course our Stars of the Week!

Kind regards and have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Lindley

Start of the School day

From 8.45am, children are provided with a 'Start of Day' activity in their classroom. Getting your child to school at this time enables them 10-15 minutes extra learning time per day. These few minutes amount to around an hour's extra learning time per week. Every minute counts, so please try to bring your child to school for 8.45am (when the gates will be opened) if at all possible so they don't miss out!

Data Sheets and Permissions

If you haven't already done so, please return your child's data sheet and photograph permission forms as soon as possible.

Winter Weather

Now that the weather has turned and it is getting colder, please remember to take extra care in case roads or pavements are slippery. Please also remember to label gloves, scarves and hats as well as coats with your child's name so that they can be returned promptly if they get misplaced.

In the unlikely event of unavoidable school closure due to bad weather, we will send a text and email via Schoolcomms, it will be announced on the school website front page and on twitter as well as the Lancashire County Council website <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/unexpected-school-closures/> and local radio stations. **Home learning will be provided for children in the event of unavoidable school closures.**

Reading Shed

Our reading shed at the front of school has been restocked – take a look and choose a book ☺



Whalley Library – Christmas Stories

Tomorrow, Saturday 27th November, Whalley Library are hosting a Christmas Storytime. Take a look at their events page, there are lots of other events to join in with as well.

<https://events.lancashire.gov.uk/search/index.asp?q=&area=allVenue&venue=Whalley>



Calling all Christmas Elves

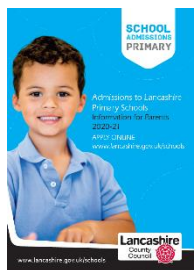
We have had an appeal from Father Christmas to help with some present wrapping of gifts for the children. If there are any parents or carers who would be able to help wrap some gifts on Tuesday 14th December at 9am, please let the office know info@langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk Mince pies and cuppa supplied ☺ Thank you in advance!

Christmas Dinner

If your child usually has a packed lunch, they are invited to have a Christmas dinner with the rest of school on Thursday 16th December at a cost of £2.30. Please let the office know by **3rd December** if your child would like one.

Pantomime

A reminder that the KS2 trip to the Panto to watch Aladdin will be on Tuesday 14th December - please send your contribution of £13 via Parent Pay by **Monday 29th November**. Many thanks !



September 2022

If you know of any parents of pre-school children who are considering school places for next September, then please direct them to our website and encourage them to ring the school office. I am currently conducting small group tours in school, where parents may see what goes on during a school day, and ask questions.

EU Settlement Scheme

Check what you need to do to stay in the UK if you or your family are from the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland. <https://www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus>

Extra Funding for School (Pupil Premium Grant)

All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals irrespective of household income, however, if you in receipt of any of the following benefits, school can receive extra funding called Pupil Premium Grant – currently £1345 per year. Even if you would prefer your child to eat packed lunches, if you think your child (in any year group) could be eligible for Free School Meals, we would be extremely grateful if you could please register via this link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> so that school can then be in receipt of extra Pupil Premium grant funding.

Eligibility criteria Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Parking

Please remember that the church car park is not to be used for pick up and drop off except in the case of blue badge holders, by prior arrangement. Also, it is not permissible nor safe to pull in on the yellow zig zag lines outside the front of school. Please continue to be respectful of parking arrangements and mindful of others. Mytton Fold kindly offer the use of their back car park for drop off and pick up.

Holidays in Term Time

Please do all that you can to avoid taking your children out of school in term time – lost learning has a detrimental effect on your child's progress and attainment. Any absence must be requested on a Leave of Absence form (available from the school office), and these will only be granted as authorised absences if the circumstances are considered 'exceptional', meaning unavoidable. Family holidays cannot be authorised, however, please ensure you inform us using the absence request form, of any intended absence, even when these will be unauthorised. This is for safeguarding to ensure that school are aware of the whereabouts of your child when they are not in school. Many thanks for your continued support.

COVID-19 Update

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19, (high temperature, new continuous cough or loss of taste/smell) please don't send them to school and **get a PCR test**. They should return to school immediately if they test negative. If the test is positive, self-isolation at home is required for 10 days and other household members need to have a PCR. Siblings who have tested negative should then attend school as normal.

NHS Test and trace are now responsible for informing about close contacts. Should your child be advised by Test and Trace to take a PCR test due to being a close contact or someone else who has tested positive for COVID-19, they must still attend school whilst waiting for their result if they are asymptomatic.

Close contacts will not be required to isolate if they fall into the following categories:

Close contacts or household members of a positive case are exempt from self-isolating if any of the following applies:

- They're fully vaccinated
- They're below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- They've taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- They're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Staff in school continue to help to reduce the spread of Coronavirus within school, by adhering to the following control measures as part of our risk assessment and as advised by the DfE.

- Ensuring good hygiene for everyone

-Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes.

-Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.

-Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Schools are required to have an 'Outbreak management/contingency plan' to outline how operational systems and processes may change in response to positive cases reaching a certain threshold considered to be an 'outbreak'.

Parents and carers will of course be kept updated should any restrictive measures need to be temporarily put back in place at school.

Communication with school – procedures for parents/carers to follow

Please remember that teachers and school leaders may not see nor be able to respond to direct emails due to the nature of their work, and **therefore there may be a delay in resolving an issue**, especially if there is a need for leaders and teachers to forward emails on to the most appropriate person to deal with enquiries. We would really appreciate your patience and understanding with this, and your trust that your enquiries are not being ignored if there is a delay in response. We **always** do our best to get back to messages as quickly as possible.

Reason	Contact method
Sickness Absence including reporting COVID-19 - contact the office	<p>Sickness/Absence Contact form on the website https://www.langho-stleonards.lancs.sch.uk/contact-us</p> <p>or</p> <p>Office email address info@langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk</p> <p>or</p> <p>Phone the office – 01254 247156</p>
Informing the teacher of something about your child that doesn't require a discussion (Eg lost clothing, if they're likely to be tired that day, lost reading books/homework etc...)	<p>Contact form on the website https://www.langho-stleonards.lancs.sch.uk/contact-us</p> <p>or</p> <p>Office email address info@langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk</p> <p>or</p> <p>Phone – 01254 247156 (Please leave a message on the answer phone if your call is not picked up straight away).</p>
Request for a discussion/phonecall/meeting with a teacher about your child's learning or other queries/issues that need to be discussed.	
Request for a discussion or meeting with the Headteacher if issues have not been resolved with the teacher and you wish to escalate your query or if the query is about something of a serious nature such as safeguarding. Please note: this may be delegated to the Deputy Headteacher if the Headteacher is not available.	
<p>Any emails sent on an evening or weekend will not be responded to out of working hours.</p> <p>Thank you for your understanding.</p>	

Diary Dates

December

Friday 3rd – Non-Uniform Day for Chocolate Tombola

Wednesday 8th – Carol Service in Church for all 7pm-8pm

Friday 10th – Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children

Friday 10th – Christmas Fair for Church and School – School Hall (children will be able to visit during the afternoon, parents, carers and community welcome from 3:30-4:30pm)

Monday 13th Christingle Worship – 9am in Church

Monday 13th 6:00pm – KS2 Carol Service (Year 3,4,5&6)

Tuesday 14th 9:00am – Christmas Elves present wrapping session

Tuesday 14th KS2 Panto trip to watch Aladdin at Blackpool Pleasure Beach

Tuesday 14th 2:30pm & 5:30pm – Early Years Nativity Performance (Little Lennies & Blackbirds)

Wednesday 15th – Year 6 and the Year 5 Choir Performing at Blackburn Cathedral

Wednesday 15th 2:30pm & 5:30pm – KS1 Nativity Performance (Year 1 form the choir and Year 2 are acting)

Thursday 16th Non-Uniform Day and Party Day

Friday 17th 1:30pm – School closes for Christmas Holidays

2022 !

Thursday 6th January 8:45am – School Re-opens for Spring Term

Tuesday 18th January – Early Years and KS1 Visiting Panto in school.

Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th January – Blackbirds Balance Bikes (more details to follow)

Blackbirds Stay and Play will be in Spring 1 – (more details to follow)

Class Updates

Little Lennie's



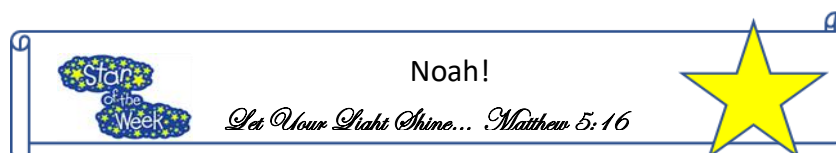
What a fun week we have had in Little Lennie's this week. The children enjoyed making Playdoh from scratch, mixing all the ingredients themselves. It turned out really well! Our book this week has been 'Percy the Park Keeper - The Rescue Party'. The children are learning about people who help us, to continue the theme of "rescue" and have been playing with emergency services people and vehicles in their small world play. In Maths the children have been thinking about the sizes of the animals in the story and ordering animals from smallest to biggest. The children have also enjoyed practising our Nativity Songs this week - they have been amazing and are so excited to perform their first Nativity! Another wonderful week in Little Lennie's.



Blackbirds



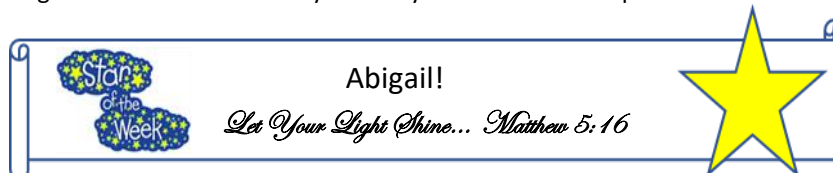
This week in Blackbirds we have been learning all about Percy the Park Keeper. We have focused on the friendships that Percy and the animals have and thought carefully about how we can be a good friend. We have enjoyed model making and continued building our own bridges outside. We have even extended these, so we had to walk and move even further! We have been trying hard to earn Star Cards and shown lots of good manners and helpfulness throughout the week. Well done everyone! 😊



Doves



This week in Doves we have been comparing the similarities and differences between materials in Science using key vocabulary. We have been continuing our learning of the Great Fire of London and identifying why the fire spread so quickly. We have also been deepening our learning of the Christmas Nativity and why Christmas is so important to Christians.



Eagles



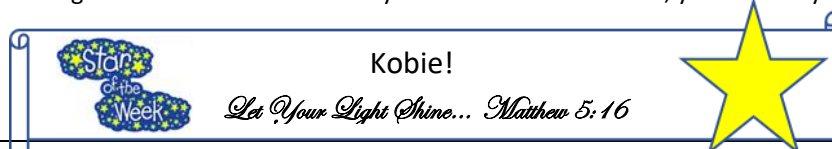
It has been another busy week for all our Eagles! We have worked so hard this week and produced some amazing work. We had a super art lesson creating colour wheels and worked carefully to create new colours by mixing paint together. In Science, we had a challenge to find the best material to mop up a spill. It was lovely to see all the children working well in their teams. Another amazing week, well done Eagles!



Falcons



What another busy week! Falcons have enjoyed investigating the suitability of different materials and worked in pairs to make a boat which could float! Their teamwork was superb and many of the boats were successful. Falcons have also enjoyed looking at different objects and linking them to the Christmas Story in RE. Well done Falcons, you are all flying high!



Herons



This week, we have focussed on the Neolithic period of the Stone Age by learning from the remains of Skara Brae. We have compared and contrasted village layout, housing layout and interiors to those of houses in our area today. I was then impressed when reading the children's independent writing, with the authentic detail that had been used from our History learning. We continued with our Stone Age dance in PE and added our own moves. We have some super dancers! In Science we sorted animal skeletons into groups, discussing patterns, similarities, and differences and in PSHE we looked at being safety conscious with medicines. Well done Heron Class!



Sienna!

Let Your Light Shine... Matthew 5:16



Kingfishers



Kingfishers have had a fantastic week this week. The children have worked incredibly hard and have produced some super pieces of work. In History we explored the Neolithic period of the Stone Age and the children had a virtual visit to Skara Brae, allowing us to write some wonderful diary entries as children living in this period. In PSHE, we have continued to learn all about safety, thinking about and exploring the difference between minor injuries and emergencies. In Science, the children have continued to explore the human skeleton and they have conducted their own scientific investigations. Brilliant work again, Kingfishers!



Isabelle!

Let Your Light Shine... Matthew 5:16



Owls



Owls Class have worked hard on a range of learning this week. They are continuing to be creative in PE to work in groups to create a range of dance movements and actions to represent interesting places around the world. In History, the children reflected on the changes in society from the Stone Age to the modern day. They also enjoyed analysing and learning about animal skeletons in science and the important functions they provide. The children have also reflected on what brings them and others joy and happiness. Well done Owls!



Faizah!

Let Your Light Shine... Matthew 5:16



Robins



This week, Robins tried a slightly more technical dance called the Lindy Hop. In RE, they looked at the role of John the Baptist as part of Advent preparation. Science work involved finding out about Isaac Newton's light investigations that showed that, although light looks white, light is made up of all the colours of the rainbow. They had a go at making colour spectrum spinners to see if they could merge all the colours back into white again. They enjoyed their computer work, as always, and compared the foods they eat to the foods available during World War Two in a lesson about rationing.



Kai!

Let Your Light Shine... Matthew 5:16



Swifts



This week Swifts have been exploring how the role of women changed during Ww2 and have been researching and finding out about some of the duties they carried out. We enjoyed some practical science around the colour spectrum and this afternoon we have enjoyed constructing our Anderson shelter model, thank you to all the families who have sent in resources. Have a lovely weekend.



Oliver!

Let Your Light Shine... Matthew 5:16



Wrens



Wrens have worked very hard this week across all areas of the curriculum. The children have been investigating the refraction of light in science and were amazed at what happened to the images when they looked through the water. We learned about the Battle of Britain in History and then in PE, the children began planning a Battle of Britain interpretive dance. In RE we have thought about John the Baptist and what his messages to people today would be. What a busy week - well done Wrens Class !



Gabrielle!

Let Your Light Shine... Matthew 5:16

