



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

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

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 3rd December 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...



This week the children have worked exceedingly hard showing all that they have learnt this term in their assessments. We are so proud of how every child has worked diligently and persevered. We have continued to learn about respect and dignity for everyone. We have begun Advent by reflecting on Mary and Joseph's long journey to Bethlehem. We talked about being hopeful, not like the grumpy donkey who Blackbirds sang about for us 😊 Congratulations to our winners of the Advent Calendar competition. Well done to everyone who created an entry - your beautiful pictures will be

flooding and filling the displays in school to look like Christmas wrapping paper! We have closed this week with a non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate – thank you so much for all of the donations. They will be used for prizes at our Christmas Fair next Friday.

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

Parking

Staff at school are receiving confrontational complaints from our surrounding neighbours regarding the way in which parents are choosing to park. We respectfully ask that you **do not** use the lane behind church as per the photographs below.



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. Mytton Fold have kindly offered the use of their back car park for drop off and pick up and school are awaiting permission from the brewery to reopen the Petre Arms carpark. We appreciate your support with this matter.

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!



Friday 10th – Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform (A Christmas jumper or t-shirt if you have one) in exchange for a suggested £1 donation to the Save the Children Charity.

Friday 10th December Christmas Fair

Children are invited to bring money in to spend at the Christmas Fair next Friday afternoon in the school hall. Each class will get a turn at the stalls, which have been organised by School Council. Parents and Carers are then very welcome to come to the fair at 3:30pm after you have collected your children. There will be a variety of stalls including games. There will also be a cake stall – please bring cake donations to school on Friday morning. Thank you in advance!



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.**

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.

Reading Shed

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



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!

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/eusettdstatus>

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)

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	Sickness/Absence Contact form on the website https://www.langho-stleonards.lancs.sch.uk/contact-us or Office email address info@langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk or Phone the office – 01254 247156
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...)	Contact form on the website https://www.langho-stleonards.lancs.sch.uk/contact-us or
Request for a discussion/phonecall/meeting with a teacher about your child's learning or other queries/issues that need to be discussed.	Office email address info@langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk or

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.

[Phone – 01254 247156](tel:01254247156) (Please leave a message on the answer phone if your call is not picked up straight away).

Any emails sent on an evening or weekend will not be responded to out of working hours.

Thank you for your understanding.

Diary Dates

December

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, Spring 1 – (more details to follow)

Class Updates

Little Lennie's



Our story of the week is a book called 'Leaf Man' about the journey of an Autumn leaf. The children enjoyed looking at the pictures you could make using just different leaves that had fallen from the trees. We have also enjoyed PE this week where the children performed different dance moves to music. With Christmas fast approaching we have been doing lots of Christmas crafting activities and have also introduced the Nativity Story. The children have been amazing at practicing our Nativity Story (A Bundle of Joy) - we think you will all be amazed at our performance in a couple of weeks. Another fun, busy week in Little Lennies has been had by all.



Blackbirds



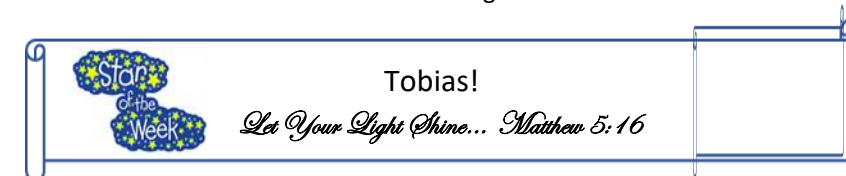
This week has been an exciting one for us in Blackbirds! Within each of our play spaces, we have been looking at the different choices we can make for our own independent learning. Our story of 'Fletcher and the falling leaves' has allowed us to explore falling leaves to enhance counting and subtraction and to also to think about how kind and caring the main character was. We found some small tiles for our outside classroom this week, and had such an extended play time with them, slotting and making patterns. We have enjoyed making a large advent calendar, using our artistic talents and bringing together our ideas and learning about the very first Christmas. We are working very hard to remember our lines for our Nativity performance and as always, our singing is delightful. Well done everyone! 😊



Doves



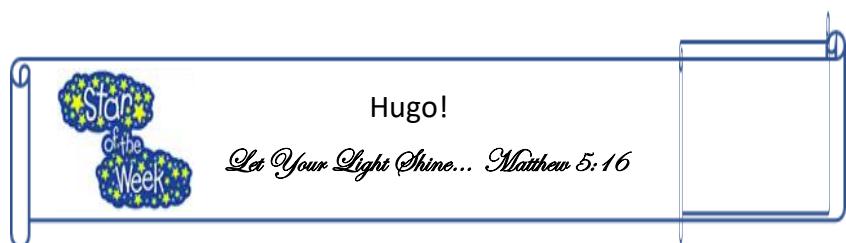
This week in Doves we created a picture depicting the Great Fire of London using soft pastels. This was very messy but a lot of fun! We created some beautiful pictures. We have also been reading Grandad's Island, which is a wonderful story about love, family and loss. We have also met Ellie the Elf in Doves who has been causing lots of mischief!



Eagles



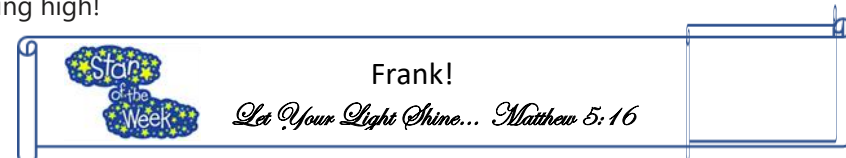
We have all worked so hard this week in Eagles! The week has gone so fast because we have had so much fun. We enjoyed learning all about Samuel Pepys in History and collected lots of interesting facts. In Science we had great fun investigating whether materials float or sink. As part of our learning in RE this week, we remembered a gift we had been given and thought about how we felt when we opened it. Well done for having a super week!



Falcons



What another busy week! Falcons have enjoyed a Science experiment investigating different materials to see if they are waterproof or not. They worked in threes, each testing a different material and seeing if the gingerbread man got wet! Falcons have also enjoyed learning more about the Christmas Story in RE. Well done Falcons, you are all flying high!



Hérons



This week the Heron Class children have learned about the societal changes from the Stone Age, through the Bronze Age to the Iron Age. They compared life for hunter-gatherers and farmers, and then the transition to Celt influenced society with hillforts ruled by Kings. In Science, the children looked at functions and the names of parts of the human skeleton. Our RE focus was to make connections by knowing that Jesus is present through us, and people see him through our words and actions. Additionally, the children worked extremely hard during assessment week and finished off by making decorations for the classroom.



Kingfishers



Kingfishers have worked extremely hard this week. In History, the children have discussed the meaning of 'power' and how this can be used both positively and negatively. This was followed by our learning focusing on the changes in society from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. In Music, the children continued to play the glockenspiel. As a class, they worked brilliantly as a team to perform an incredible piece of music! In PSHE, we continued to think about safety. The children explored the meaning of online safety and discussed some different scenarios, thinking about how they would respond to keep themselves and others safe. Amazing work, Kingfishers!



Owls



Owls Class have worked hard on their learning this week. In art, they enjoyed creating their own cave drawings and have also enjoyed creating our classroom door ready for Christmas. In PE, the children worked well to perform dances, which explained the life of a person living in the Stone Age. The children also thought carefully about what to do if an accident or emergency was to take place – I have thoroughly enjoyed our discussions this week. Well done Owls!



Robins



This week, as we have been doing assessments, the week has been a little different to usual. We still managed to find out more about the Second World War, looking at the role of women during the war and finding out what happened at St. Leonard's when they received some evacuees. In Science, we also looked at filters and why we see different colours and then in music we looked at the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 song, thinking about counting beats and rests.



Swifts



This week in Swifts we looked at Mary and her importance to the Christmas story. The children thought carefully and wrote some lovely diary entries. In Science, we continued our work looking at light and conducted some investigations exploring how shadows are formed. In PE they created some interpretative dances based on WW2, they have also worked hard this week creating some nativity characters to decorate our door to match our chosen carol 'O Holy Night'. Thank you for another lovely week you have worked really hard.



Wrens



This week in Wrens class the children have been concentrating hard and have completed their assessments with resilience and good humour - I am very proud of them. The children were delighted by the Christmas decorations in our class and around school and have been practising hard for our Christmas carol concerts, which will be taking place over the next couple of weeks. The children have also enjoyed investigating the different colours of light this week and made a colour wheel as well as researching rationing in Word War 2. Well done Wrens !



Muhammad-Talha !

Let Your Light Shine... Matthew 5:16

