



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

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



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 16th December 2021

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www.langho-st-leonards.lancs.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week's Christian Value...



What an exciting and busy week we have all had! The children have certainly been spreading joy (and lots of glitter!) Monday began with a beautiful, joyful Christingle Service, with donations in aid of the Children's Society. We have also been treated to an Early Years Nativity and a Key Stage 1 Nativity which were so well-performed by our amazing children. A huge thank you goes to all the adults involved in preparing these, including all the line learning and song practising at home. Our upper KS2 children had the opportunity to perform in the Carol Service in our Church on Monday night

and then again on Wednesday at Blackburn Cathedral- they all absolutely shone and made us all incredibly proud. A special well-done goes to our wonderful Year 6 soloists and readers. Our KS2 were excellent ambassadors for St Leonard's when then visited Blackpool for the Pantomime on Tuesday. The children were amazed by the acrobatic performers and all had a fantastic time – oh yes they did! This very busy week continued with party day and a delicious Christmas lunch prepared by Mandy and her kitchen team, and our term ended with one final celebration in Church of all that has been achieved this term and a beautiful blessing from Rev. Tracy.

Thank you so much to everyone in the school community for your very warm welcome from September and your continued support through these first months in post. It is such privilege to be Headteacher of St. Leonard's and to be able to serve our children and families.

From all the staff team, we hope that you have a peaceful, joyful Christmas and a very Happy New Year! Please take extra care and remember to stay safe over the holidays.

Very best wishes,

Mrs Lindley

Goodbyes and Hellos!

We say a sad farewell to three members of staff this term. Firstly, Mrs Kenworthy, our SENCO, who has done so much for St. Leonard's children and families over her time here, is retiring. We will also miss Mrs Easton, our Computing whizz and HTLA who has done so much to develop our ICT infrastructure and Computing curriculum whilst she has been at St Leonard's. Last but not least, we say goodbye to Miss McKee, our School Business Manager, who has done so much behind the scenes making sure the finance and HR side of school runs smoothly. Thank you all for your wonderful service to the school and we wish you the very best on your next adventure.

We welcome Mrs Bolton as our new Office Manager, who will be ably supported by Mrs Watson (new to the school office from November).

Mrs Town is very excited to be moving into Little Lennies in place of Mrs Bolton, and we know she will do a fantastic job!



Baby News!

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Murphy has welcomed her new baby daughter, Martha Elizabeth! Mum and baby are doing well. Congratulations to the whole family 😊



Christmas Fair

Thank you once again for all your generous contributions to our Christmas Fair. Together we raised a total of £1157.50, which will be apportioned between the donations set aside for the Children's Society, and then Church and School. Thank you also for the donation envelopes for the Children's Society which are in addition to this total.

Art Competition



Calling all our budding artists. We would like some new bird pictures to be used in all our school communications (newsletter, website, twitter etc.) We are asking children to create a picture (e.g. drawing, painting, collage...) of their class' bird. The winners will have their picture as the 'official' picture for the class! If your child would like to enter, they need to complete their entry on an A4 piece of paper with their name and class and then return to school by Friday 7th January ready for the winners to be chosen. Have fun and get creating!

After-School Clubs and PE Days

We are glad to be able to offer extra-curricular sports in January and specialist PE coaching as well as swimming for Year 5 (starting with Robins). We will write to you with more details before term starts in the new year. Please note that some PE days may be altered.

Covid Guidance

Please see the attached letter from Dr. Karunanithi, Director of Public Health for Lancashire about guidance and advice regarding Covid over the Christmas break.

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.



Stay Safe online!

The following links have useful information about how to keep your child safe online and monitor what they are seeing and doing.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/keep-children-safe-online-this-christmas-top-tips>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/top-tips-for-staying-safe-online-at-christmas>

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/online-world-this-christmas>



Diary Dates

January

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






Monday 10th January 6pm – Little Wandle Phonics for Parents Zoom information evening – an introduction to our new approach to the teaching of early reading (Reception and Y1 parents) Zoom link to follow.







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 	Wow! What an amazing week we have had in Little Lennies. It was so lovely to see the children perform in our Nativity and what an absolutely fantastic job they did. We are so proud of them, we are sure you are too! This week in our classroom has been very busy indeed. We have been finishing off Christmas crafts and playing lots of games....pass the parcel, musical bumps, musical statues among a few. The children (and staff) are starting to slow down now and we are all looking forward to our Christmas break. The staff in Little Lennies would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, stay safe and we will see you all in the New Year.
Blackbirds 	Well we finished our autumn term brilliantly this week! All our hard work and efforts paid off as we performed our Nativity to our school family, friends and our own families. Everyone was very proud of us! We have used our cutting and design skills to create some beautiful Christmas cards and calendars for the new year. Our Christmas party day was such fun and we are definitely ready for a well-earned rest. Happy Christmas everyone and see you again in the new year. 😊
Doves 	I'm so proud of all the things Doves have achieved this term. We have adapted to changes and flourished when given new learning opportunities. We have already grown up so much in a very short space of time, I can't wait to see how much you grow over the next year! This week we have had lots of Christmas merriment, including making our Christingle (all thanks to Reverend Tracey's kind Christingle packs.) Our two performances of The Big Little Nativity were spectacular and our loved ones were a brilliant audience. We have enjoyed our Christmas party games and Christmas dinner. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a bright new year!
Eagles 	We have had a fun-filled week in Eagles as we have prepared for our Christmas celebrations. We were excited to prepare our nativity for our families and we all had lots of performing on the day. We enjoyed an afternoon of Christmas craft this week, making cards, calendars and tree decorations. Our Christmas party day was lots of fun and we enjoyed lots of games, dancing and a film afternoon. It has been a busy half term and I hope all our Eagles have a good rest during the Christmas break.
Falcons 	Wow! What a wonderful, festive week we have had in Falcons. The children dazzled in their KS1 Nativity and it was so lovely to see how much they enjoyed it too. We have been getting creative with lots of Christmas crafts and enjoyed many party games. Merry Christmas!

Hérons 	<p>This week, the Heron Class children have enjoyed finishing off our Science topic to learn about how our skeleton and muscles work together to create movement. We had a fabulous time at the Pantomime and the children's behaviour was fabulous! We watched the EYFS and KS1 Nativities in church, which were fabulous, and the Christingle Service was topped off by making our own in class. Thank you, Reverend Tracy, for all your effort and preparation. Christmas Party Day was fun with lots of party games, a Christmas Quiz, colouring and movies. The children looked gorgeous in the Christmas party clothes and there was lots of laughter. Thank you to parents for your support this year and have a wonderful Christmas and New Year Celebration.</p>
Kingfishers 	<p>We have had another super week in Kingfishers! In History, the children enjoyed learning all about Stonehenge and investigating how it may have been used, exploring evidence from a range of sources. In Art, the children sketched Stonehenge and produced some outstanding pieces of work. They were very proud of their drawings! The children also performed their dances in PE that they have been working on this half term, sharing their skills and incredible creativity with each other. We have enjoyed lots of Christmas festivities this week and have had a brilliant end to the half term. Fantastic work, Kingfishers! See you in the new year.</p>
Owls 	<p>The children have had a busy week of fun-filled activities. They enjoyed their trip to the pantomime and behaved impeccably. They have enjoyed taking part in our Christmas activities and have demonstrated their creative skills once again. It has been an enjoyable end to the term. I wish you all a lovely Christmas break. Stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all in 2022. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!</p>
Robins 	<p>In the final few days of term, Robins have been feeling festive. After the Christingle, they were wowed by the KS1 nativity plays. The Panto, Aladdin, was a real hit and they have been doing Christmas related activities alongside preparations for two amazing performances by the choir. Thursday was party day, which, hopefully, helped everyone to celebrate the end of term and wrapped up all the hard work they have done, so far, in Year Five. Enjoy the break - Peace and Joy</p>
Swifts 	<p>Well what a busy week we have had in Swifts! I've had lots of proud teacher moments this week which have been amazing. Lots of children came back to school on Monday evening for our KS2 Carol service which they sang beautifully in. Most of the class then visited the magnificent Blackburn Cathedral and delivered the most beautiful lunchtime concert. We have also enjoyed a fantastic trip to the pantomime as well as a great class party and film day yesterday. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break.</p>
Wrens 	<p>What a busy week we have had in Wrens. On Monday some of the children performed at church in the KS2 carol concert and sang beautifully. Tuesday saw us enjoying the pantomime where the children's behaviour was excellent. On Wednesday, the children led the lunchtime concert at Blackburn Cathedral which was quite simply amazing - their voices soared and echoed in the wonderful surroundings. The children have also enjoyed their party day and have had great fun and made some lovely memories this week. I hope you all have a peaceful Christmas with your families and look forward to continuing our learning adventures together in 2022. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !</p>

