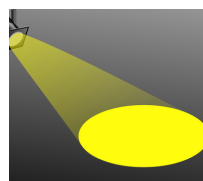




# BALSHAW LANE NEWSLETTER



## Spotlight this week on our Curriculum Connectors

**Reception:** This term reception have been looking at seasonal change from autumn to winter, learning facts about owls and their habitat, linked to our autumn days and nights.

**Year 1:** Our connector has been Animal Antics. We have studied animals and humans, looked at how we have changed since birth and asked ourselves "What is around our school? We have also studied the artist Steven Brown.

**Year 2:** This term our connector has been Fire, Fire. We have learnt so much information about the Great Fire of London and loved this topic.

**Year 3:** Over the autumn term year 3's curriculum connector was Rock On. We learned about rocks and soils, volcanoes and earthquakes and the Stone Age. We wrote adventure stories and folk tales.

**Year 4:** Our connector has been Bright Sparks. We have been looking at electricity and making circuits. We used this knowledge to make torches in design technology.

**Year 5:** Over the autumn term our connector has been Legends. We have studied the Viking and Anglo-Saxon periods in Britain and shared Viking myths and legends. We created Anglo-Saxon patterns and images in art using batik.

**Year 6:** This term we have been focussing on freedom, linked to our Black history topic. We have looked at how slaves were treated and answered the question 'Why is Black History an important part of British History?'

## Assembly this week...

In assembly this week we focused on the Christmas story and we had a special candlelight assembly which some of our year 6 children led, retelling the Christmas story. The whole school sang Christmas songs together which was lovely.

We wish all our school community a very peaceful Christmas and a happy new year.



## Messages

### Parking reminder

Please ensure our neighbours can easily get into and out of their drives as a few have been blocked in over the last couple of weeks.

### Named items

Please ensure all school clothes and coats are named. This does include footwear too. Thank you. If new items are bought over the holiday period please make sure they are named.

### Lost property

We have lots again. This will be put out at the end of the day today. Please take whatever you need as it all needs a good home. Anything with names on will be handed out today.

### School uniform

Just a reminder that all children should be wearing the correct school uniform. Recently we have noticed children have worn a few different items. Let's have everyone looking really smart on their return in January.

### IDL

This is all being delivered in school time now so children don't need to come into school early.

## Team Points

This week our team point winners were:  
DRAGONS.



## Music appreciation in assembly

This week we have been listening to Christmas music.



## Gold stars!



We love rewarding our super behaved children who have followed our 3 golden rules of ready, respectful and safe. Today the children who just needed one extra gold star received their reward. Well done everyone!

## Well-being

This week we have focused on:

### Wellbeing Wednesday

Learn: share your learning at home.

What have you learnt this week/half term that you could share at home?  
How might sharing your learning make you and your family feel?



We were delighted to welcome Mrs Carlin, our well-being governor, into school this week to share the well-being activities we take part in each Wednesday with our children.

## Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to all the children who received a Headteacher Award in assembly last week:

RA Lucy	RH Jedidiah
1A Ellie	1T Max
2HP Adam	2M Robyn
3B Edie	3J Ariadne
4G Arthur	4W Arthur
5B Ellie	5H Jack
6C Lucas	6S Layla



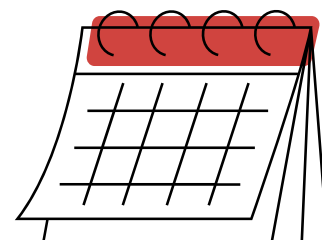
## Attendance and Punctuality

Whole School Attendance for this academic year is: 95.2%. The figures below are for this week.  
Well done to 1T, 1A, 2HP, 4G, 4W, 5H and 6C who were all on time every day this week. This is fantastic!

	<b>R A</b>	<b>R H</b>	<b>1T</b>	<b>1A</b>	<b>2 H P</b>	<b>2 M</b>	<b>3 B</b>	<b>3J</b>	<b>4 G</b>	<b>4 W</b>	<b>5 B</b>	<b>5 H</b>	<b>6 C</b>	<b>6 S</b>
Attendance for last week	98 %	90 %	95 %	93 %	88 %	96 %	96 %	96 %	92 %	98 %	95 %	89 %	96 %	98 %
Punctuality - how many lates?	2	2	0	0	0	2	3	5	0	0	3	0	0	5

## Dates for your diary

Monday 5th January - children return to school  
 Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan - Height and weight check for reception and year 6.  
 Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January - Y3/4 SportsHall Athletics competition  
 Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January - non-uniform day for Dragons (won this half term's knowledge quiz)  
 Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January - Dentist check for reception  
 Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January - Reception local walk  
 Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January - Languages Day for the whole school  
 Week of Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January - Balance bikes for reception  
 Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 5:30pm - Y6 SATS meeting for parents  
 Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Reception local walk  
 Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - KS1 Boccia Festival  
 Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January - Eco Team trip  
 Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February - Y1 assembly at 9:15am  
 Week of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Mental Health Awareness Week  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - 4G trip to Helmshore Mill  
 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - 4W trip to Helmshore Mill  
 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February - PTFA Silent Disco  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Young Voices; children break up for half term break; showcase of work from Mental Health Awareness week



## COMMUNITY NEWS

Balshaw Lane Primary School

Come and join us for a fun filled session

Open to children aged 4 and under with their parents / carers.



Creative activities

Free



Stories and songs

Refreshments

Friday 30th January 9:30-10:30am

Friday 27th February 9:30-10:30am

Friday 27th March 9:30-10:30am

Friday 24th April 9:30-10:30am

Friday 22nd May 9:30-10:30am

Friday 26th June 9:30-10:30am

Friday 17th July 9:30-10:30am

To book please contact the office on 01257 278722 or email [office@balshawlane.co.uk](mailto:office@balshawlane.co.uk)

[WWW.BALSHAWLANE.CO.UK](http://WWW.BALSHAWLANE.CO.UK)

01257 278722

### Traditional Fiddle Class

Eaves Green Community Centre, Chorley

2nd & 4th Saturdays

Beginners 12-12.40pm / Improvers 12.40-1.20pm



Working with traditional Irish tunes including polkas and jigs

Learning both from music and by ear

Progressive class for beginners and improvers

Absolute beginners must join by 24th January 2026

Written music and recordings provided

Supervised children welcome

You need to bring your own violin

Contact 07903 440640 for further details

**Winter Wonderland in Chorley**

**13 December to 4 January**  
Cleveland Street car park - opposite Chorley Town Hall  
\*except Christmas Day

**ICE SKATING £8pp**

**REAL ICE RINK**

**CHILDREN'S RIDES**

**FESTIVE BAR**

For more information, including prices and session times, visit:  
[checkoutchorley.com/winterwonderland](http://checkoutchorley.com/winterwonderland)

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The best of events

CHECK OUT CHORLEY

Chorley Council

Our **ukulele club and drum circle** will be special guests at The Chorley Cakes' annual Christmas Ceilidh on Saturday 27th December at 7.30pm. Please come and join us for an evening of festive fun, music and dancing - everybody welcome! Adults £3, children under 16 are free.

Location: St. Mary's Community Centre, Broadfield Drive, Leyland, PR25 1PD.

**Chester Zoo** have an offer on for tickets for £1 over the holidays for families on Universal Credit. See link.

<https://www.chesterzoo.org/explore-chester-zoo/universal-credit-tickets>

## PTFA News



A massive thank you to our wonderful PTFA for all their hard work and energy this term. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful team. Thank you to our parents and carers for supporting all the fundraising.

## KS2 Lunch Choices

Please could we ask parents to choose their child's lunch with their child as we have a number of children not wanting what their parent has chosen! Thank you!

## Christmas Performances

Congratulations to year 3 and 4 who sang so beautifully at their Christmas Carol Concert this week. They also entertained our senior citizens who were really impressed with their performance. Well done everyone.

Thank you to Mr Warburton for our Christmas tree, decorations and props for the Y3/4 Carol Service. You are so kind.



Thank you to all our parents and carers for your support this term. I wish all our families a lovely Christmas and a very happy new year.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Hodgson