Mrs Wolfe's Weekly Update

6th November 2026

Autumn Term Dates

9th Nov - Pudsey Bear & Look North visiting school
11th Nov - Remembrance Day
19th Nov - Children in Need
25th Nov - Year 5/6 Football @ Outwood Academy (TBC)
26th Nov - FOBLS Wreath-making for Grown-ups 7:30@School
2nd Dec - Christmas Crafternoon (funded by FOBLS)
5th Dec - Church Fayre - Children invited to sing @2pm Village Hall
9th Dec - Owl Class Nativity @ Burton Leonard Village Hall
10th Dec - Christmas Lunch
10th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day - Save the Children
11th Dec - Owl Class Postal Museum Workshop
12th Dec - KS2 Royal Hall Christmas Concert
14th Dec - Kite Class Christmas Party
15th Dec - Whole-school Theatre Trip to see Peter Pan at Bradford Alhambra
16th Dec - Merlin Class Christmas Party
17th Dec - Owl Class Christmas Party
18th Dec - End of Term Christmas Service 2pm @ St Leonards Church
21st - 1st Jan - Christmas Break
4th Jan - Teacher Training Day
5th Jan - Children return to school
wb 5th Jan - NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Week!
18th Jan - NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Workshops for Y2 & Y5/6

Weekly Enrichment

Mondays
After-school Times Table Club with Mr Doohan

Tuesdays
PE with Sporting Influence
After-school Sports Club with Miss M
After-school SATS Club with Mr Doohan

Wednesdays
Lunchtime Library Club with our Reading Ambassadors & Library Grannies
After-school Knitting Club with Granny Lesley

Thursdays
Forest School with Outdoor Adventures
Thursday 5th November- Year 3
Thursday 12th November - Reception
Thursday 19th November - Year 1
Thursday 26th November - Year 2
Thursday 3rd December- Year 4
Thursday 10th December - Year 5
Thursday 17th December - Year 6
Mandarin Club with Mrs Cummings

Fridays
Before School Provision from 8am Mon-Fri
After-school Provision from 3:30-6pm Mon-Thurs

Vision & Values

Our Vision - To love our neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world.
'Love your neighbour as yourself'
Luke 10:27 Parable of the Good Samaritan
Our Values - Courage, Love, Resilience & Service
Our 3Rs - Be Ready, Be Responsible & Be Respectful

Attendance

Our average whole school attendance so far this year is 97.9%. A reminder that holidays should not be taken during term time, thank you. Please do read our attendance section further down below on why attendance is so important for every child - everyday of the school year.
Well done to Reception for 100% attendance (23rd Oct-5th Nov)

This Week's News

Pudsey Bear is coming to Burton Leonard!

This week, in our worship sessions, the children have been learning about BBC Children in Need and the important difference it makes to the lives of children and young people across the UK. Through discussions and activities in class, pupils have explored how fundraising helps others and how acts of kindness, no matter how small, can have a big impact.

We are looking forward to continuing our Children in Need celebrations next week with two special days of activities on Monday and Friday. We are particularly excited that Pudsey Bear will be visiting school on Monday, giving children a wonderful opportunity to meet the much-loved Children in Need mascot and be part of a memorable occasion.

Children are invited to wear Pudsey-themed clothing, yellow outfits, spots, or Pudsey accessories should they wish, helping us to create a colourful and cheerful atmosphere. Many pupils have also been busy creating signs and messages of encouragement for Amy and Lindsey as they take on their challenge.

We are sure that Pudsey's visit on Monday, alongside our wider Children in Need activities on Friday, will be a fantastic way to celebrate the values of kindness, generosity and community spirit. Thank you for your continued support as we come together to help make a difference for children and young people across the country.

Please note, chilldren can only be filmed for Look North if we have consent from parents.

School Council & Eco-Champions Climate Change Event

Earlier this week, our Eco Champions and School Council representatives enjoyed a fantastic trip to RHS Harlow Carr, where they took part in a series of engaging workshops focused on climate change and environmental sustainability.

Throughout the day, the children explored a range of important environmental topics and discovered practical ways that everyone can help to protect our planet. They investigated the importance of healthy soil and learned about the vital role that creatures such as worms play in maintaining thriving ecosystems. One of the highlights of the day was taking part in a fun and memorable 'worm dance', helping the children understand how worms move through the soil and contribute to its health!

The workshops also focused on how we can all become more environmentally responsible. Children learned how to conserve water, explored simple ways to become an Energy Hero by reducing energy use at home and school, and discovered the importance of recycling correctly. They also considered ways to reduce food waste and discussed how small changes in our daily habits can make a big difference to the environment.

The children represented Burton Leonard brilliantly throughout the visit, showing enthusiasm, excellent teamwork and thoughtful responses during each activity. They returned to school inspired and full of ideas about how we can continue to make our school community more environmentally friendly.

I have been particularly impressed with Alice F. who has taken their learning even further by creating her very own Climate Change Folder. Filled with additional facts, research and practical ideas, the folder demonstrates a genuine passion for making a difference and helping others understand how they can play their part in protecting the environment. It has been wonderful to see such dedication and initiative, and Alice's work has already inspired others to think more carefully about the positive changes we can make both at school and at home.

Secret Storyteller

A huge thank you to Mrs Keely for being this week's Secret Storyteller in Owl Class! The children were delighted to welcome Mrs Keely into school and thoroughly enjoyed sharing a story together.

Our Secret Storyteller sessions are always a highlight of the week, helping to foster a love of reading and bringing stories to life in a special way. Thank you, Mrs Keely, for giving up your time to support reading and for making the experience so enjoyable for the children.

We wonder who our next Secret Storyteller will be...

Library Update

We are pleased to share that our new library has now moved into the new building, and the children have begun enjoying this fantastic new space this week. It has been wonderful to see pupils exploring the shelves, settling into a book and making the most of such an inspiring environment.

We are looking forward to holding an official opening very soon and inviting parents in to see first-hand what the generous contributions from FOBLS have helped to create. The new library is a space that will benefit children for many years to come, and we cannot wait to share it with our school community.

Our Reading Ambassadors would still like to invite every child and family to contribute to the library by donating a new book of their choice. This could be a favourite fiction book, non-fiction text or poetry collection. To recognise each donation, the Reading Ambassadors will create a special bookplate featuring the donating family's name, which will be placed inside the front cover. These books will become a lasting part of our library collection for future generations of Burton Leonard children to enjoy.

A huge thank you to the families who have already donated books. Miss Newton is currently busy designing personalised bookplates which will be inserted into each donated book, ensuring that families can remember their contribution for years to come.

Finally, we are on the lookout for any new or nearly-new furnishings that may be suitable for our library. In particular, we would love to create a cosy reading corner and are searching for a comfortable two-seater sofa. If you think you may be able to help, please let me know.

Thank you for helping us create a vibrant, welcoming and inspiring reading space where all of our children can develop a lifelong love of reading. We are incredibly grateful for the support of our families and FOBLS in helping bring this wonderful project to life.

Singers Needed for the Church Fayre

We are delighted to support the Christmas Church Fayre on Saturday 5th December at the Village Hall. Children from Burton Leonard CE Primary School are warmly invited to come along and sing at 2:00pm as part of the festivities.

We would love to see as many children as possible joining us for this special community event. Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the afternoon.

As well as enjoying the opportunity to perform, families will be able to browse the variety of stalls on offer and, of course, there may even be the chance to meet a very important Christmas visitor!

If you are interested in running a stall at the fayre, please speak to Granny Lesley, who will be happy to provide further information.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be a wonderful afternoon of festive fun and community spirit.

Forest School Update

As shared in our welcome back email on Monday, Forest School will be running this half term, thanks to the voluntary contributions received from families. We were also incredibly fortunate to receive a very generous donation from one of our families, which enabled us to bridge the funding shortfall and ensure that these valuable sessions could go ahead for our children.

We received 50% of voluntary donations this half term. As a result, we will not be requesting voluntary contributions for Forest School next term. Instead, we will be exploring alternative ways to raise funds and reviewing different options for our Forest School provision moving forward.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who made a voluntary contribution this term. Your support is greatly appreciated and has helped us to provide this outdoor learning experience for our children. We would also like to give a very special thank you to the family who made such a significant donation. Their generosity has made a real difference and ensured that all children can continue to benefit from Forest School this half term.

We will keep families updated as we explore sustainable ways to support outdoor learning opportunities in the future.

Guinea Pig Adventures

Enzo and Milo had a lovely Autumn half term in school and were ready for the holiday! Milo had a fabulous break at Gracie's house over the half term break – a huge thank you to Gracie and her family for offering to look after Milo. As the weather is turning colder the guinea pigs have now retreated to their holiday home, but will be back in school once the warmer weather returns.

Looking to the Week Ahead...

Poppies on sale all week in school - children are welcome to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal by bringing in money to buy poppies and other items.

Monday

- Pudsey Bear & Look North visiting school! (Remember to give consent via Arbor if you are happy for your child to be filmed)

Wednesday

- School Act of Remembrance

Thursday

- Forest School - Reception

Friday

- Children in Need - children are invited to wear their Pudsey-themed attire again! This time for £1. in order to fundraise for Children in Need. Children can also bring in other donations to spend throughout the day on playtime challenges and activities.
- Celebration Service 9:15am @ St Leonards Church
- Swimming @ Ashville will take place for Y2 and selected swimmers until further notice. Please ensure swimming kits are brought into school every Friday.

Learning Across the School This Week

Well done Lucy!

A big thank you to Lucy O. who played the piano and welcomed us all into Church this morning. Lucy, you played beautifully!

A Busy and Exciting Week Across School

Our children have been busy with some fantastic learning this week!

In Owl Class, Reception have been learning all about firework safety, exploring how to stay safe during Bonfire Night celebrations. Alongside this, they have created some beautiful artwork inspired by fireworks, using a range of colours and techniques to produce stunning displays.

Year 1 have begun their exciting Curious Quest with Professor Clunk. The children were thrilled to receive a special note from the Professor and have worked hard to write thoughtful replies. We look forward to seeing where their adventure takes them next!

In Merlin Class, the children have been developing their understanding of prepositions through a fun dragon-themed challenge. They have been hunting for dragons around school and using positional language to describe where the dragons were hiding.

Meanwhile, in Kite Class, pupils have been producing some fabulous diary writing linked to their learning about the Mayan civilisation. Their work has demonstrated excellent historical understanding and creativity. We were particularly impressed by the diary extracts shared during church celebration this week, which were read with great confidence and expression. The quality of the writing was truly outstanding and a credit to all of the children.

Well done to everyone for another week of wonderful learning and achievement!

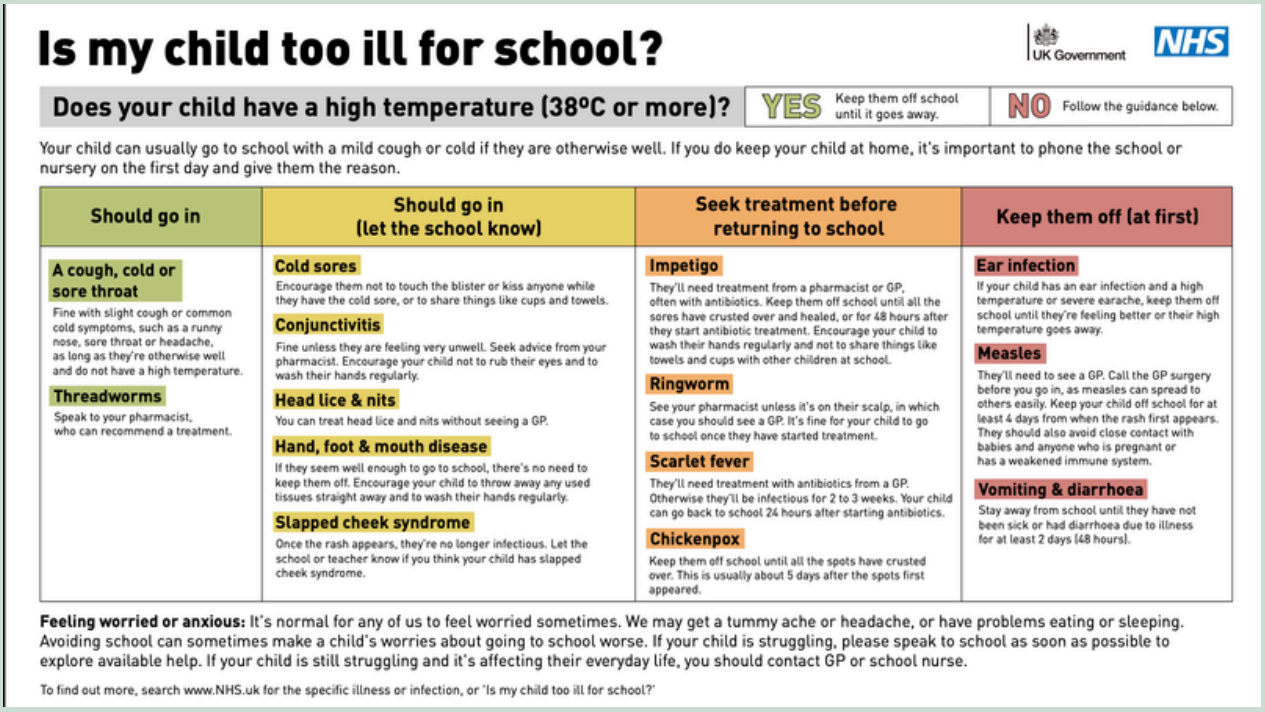
As we look ahead to next week, it will be Assessment Week across school. These assessments give children an opportunity to demonstrate just how much they have learned and remembered this term. We are looking forward to seeing the knowledge, skills and understanding they can recall from their recent learning, and celebrating the progress they have made. We know that the children will approach the week with confidence and determination, and we wish them all the very best.

Attendance, Safeguarding & Health & Safety Updates & Reminders

Winter Illness Reminder (typically October-March in the UK)

As we move into the winter months, we would like to remind families that, in line with NHS guidance, children can usually continue to attend school if they have common cold symptoms such as a sore throat, runny nose or cough. Children should stay at home if they have a high temperature and can return to school once they no longer have a fever and are well enough to take part in normal activities. If you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend, please check the NHS page here and let us know as soon as possible if your child needs to remain at home. Working together helps us to support both children's learning and wellbeing.

We understand that on occasions medical and other important appointments cannot be avoided during school hours. If you have to request time out of school hours, it's important your child attends school before and after the appointment.



Is my child too ill for school?

UK Government NHS

Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)? YES Keep them off school until it goes away. NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.	**Cold sores** Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.	**Impetigo** They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.	**Ear infection** If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.
Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	**Conjunctivitis** Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.	**Ringworm** See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.	**Measles** They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.
	Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	**Scarlet fever** They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.	**Vomiting & diarrhoea** Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).
	Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.	**Chickenpox** Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	
	Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.		

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

A Prompt Start to the School Day

We encourage all children to make the most of our Early Bird activities, which begin when school opens at 8:45am. Children should arrive and be ready to start learning by 8:55am at the latest.

With Collective Worship now taking place in the afternoon, our mornings begin straight away with important learning opportunities. Arriving on time ensures that children are present for key instructions, lesson introductions and the chance to settle positively into the day alongside their classmates. Thank you for your continued support in helping children arrive promptly, prepared and ready to make the most of every learning opportunity.

Supporting Children with School Drop-Offs

It is not unusual for children to go through periods where they feel worried or upset about coming to school. If your child is finding mornings difficult, try to keep routines calm and consistent, talk positively about the school day ahead, and maintain a confident and reassuring farewell. Although it can be hard, a brief goodbye is often more helpful than a prolonged one. If your child is experiencing ongoing difficulties, please do speak to us. We are here to work in partnership with families and can provide support to help children feel happy, safe and ready to learn.

Attendance Matters

At Burton Leonard, we know that excellent attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children to achieve their very best. Every lesson counts, and regular attendance helps children to build confidence, maintain friendships, develop positive routines and make strong academic progress.

A child who attends school every day has access to the full range of learning experiences, whilst missing just a few days each term can quickly add up and create gaps in learning that can be difficult to bridge. Arriving on time is equally important, ensuring that children begin the day calmly and are ready to learn alongside their peers.

We understand that children will occasionally be unwell and, of course, should remain at home when they are genuinely too poorly to attend school. However, wherever possible, we encourage families to support regular attendance and to book routine appointments and holidays outside of term time.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high attendance across the school. By working together, we can ensure that every child has the best possible opportunity to thrive, achieve and enjoy all that school has to offer.

Every day really does count!

Online Safety Support

This month's theme is Digital Wellbeing. Please click to watch a video providing a quick overview on how to help children build healthier tech habits. October 2026: Digital Wellbeing.

Staying Safe Online

At Burton Leonard, we recognise that technology plays an important role in our children's lives and offers many exciting opportunities for learning, creativity and communication. We also know that helping children to stay safe online is a shared responsibility between school and home.

Throughout the year, children are regularly reminded about how to stay safe online, how to protect their personal information and what to do if they encounter something online that worries them. As new apps, games and technologies continue to emerge, it is important that we all stay informed.

We encourage parents and carers to visit the Online Safety section of our school website, where you will find a wealth of guidance and resources on parental controls, social media, gaming, online communication and keeping children safe in the digital world.

By working together, we can help our children develop the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to enjoy technology safely and responsibly.

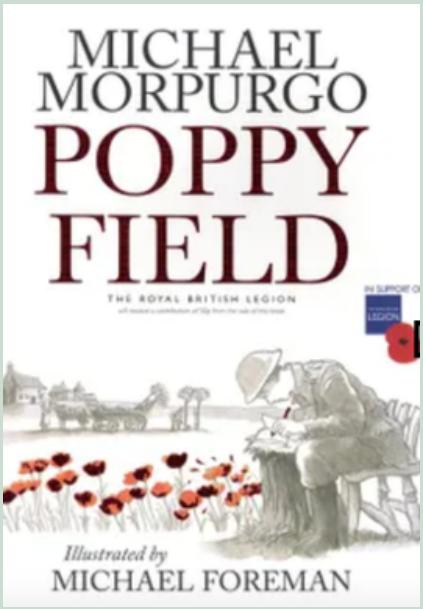
Visit the Online Safety page on our website for the latest advice, support and resources for families.

This Week's Team Cup Winners...

Stephenson Greens



Mrs Wolfe's Recommended Picture Book Read of the Week...



Mrs Wolfe's Recommended Chapter Book Read of the Half Term...



My chapter book recommnedation for this half term is one of my all-time favourites. Wonder. by R J Palacio.This heartwarming story follows August Pullman. a young boy who was born with a facial difference and is starting school for the first time. Through Auggie's journey, readers learn powerful lessons about friendship. courage. acceptance and empathy.

What makes Wonder so special is its simple but important message: always choose kind. The book reminds us that we never truly know what someone else may be going through and that even the smallest acts of kindness can have a lasting impact.

I would highly recommend Wonder to children and adults alike. It is a book that makes you laugh. think and reflect on the way we treat others. Long after you have finished reading. its message stays with you. encouraging everyone to be a little more understanding. compassionate and kind.

As the book famously reminds us:

"When given the choice between being right or being kind. choose kind."

A truly unforgettable read and one that deserves a place on every bookshelf.



School, FOBLS, Community & National News



