

Mrs Wolfe's Weekly Update

9th October 2026

Autumn Term Dates

wb 12th Oct - Parent Consultation Meetings (Teachers will inform parents of which days these will be held)

14th Oct - Year 5/6 Netball Tournament @ Outwood Academy (TBC)

16th Oct - Roll Up & Read

21st Oct - Y3/4 Dodgeball Tournament @ Outwood Academy

21st Oct - FOBLS Movie Night

22nd Oct - FOBLS Pumpkin Decorating Competition

23rd Oct - FOBLS Pumpkin Winners announced at Celebration

26th-30th October - Half Term Break

2nd Nov - Teacher Training Day

3rd Nov - Children to return to school

4th Nov - Climate Change Pupil Event for Ambassadors & School Council @ RHS Harlow Carr

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

Weekly Enrichment

Mondays

After-school Times Table Club with Mr Doohan

Tuesdays

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

Y1 - 10th Sept

Y2 - 17th Sept

Y3 - 1st Oct

Y4 - 8th Oct

Y5 - 15th Oct

Reception & Y6 - 22nd Oct

Mandarin Club with Mrs Cummings

Friday

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 98.3% We've dropped slightly this week - please do read our attendance section further down below on why attendance is so important for every child.

Well done to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 for achieving 100% attendance this week!

This Week's News

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

This week, we have been exploring the proposed government changes to school food and lunches that are expected to come into effect from next September. As part of our learning, the children discussed what makes a healthy, balanced meal and why it is important to make positive choices that help our bodies and minds to thrive.

We talked about the different food groups, the importance of balance, and how treats can be enjoyed in moderation as part of a healthy lifestyle. The children also considered how food, exercise, rest and positive relationships all contribute to both our physical health and our mental wellbeing.

Our discussions linked beautifully with the story of Ruth, where acts of kindness, care and provision for others are central themes. We reflected on how Ruth showed love, service, courage and resilience in the way she cared for Naomi and put the needs of others before her own. Just as Ruth gathered food to support her family, we thought about the importance of making choices that help us care for ourselves and those around us.

This learning links closely to our school vision of "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world." By looking after our own health and wellbeing, and encouraging others to do the same, we are better able to learn, grow and serve our community. Through our Christian values of Love, Courage, Service and Resilience, we are helping children develop lifelong habits that support them in becoming healthy, confident and responsible individuals.

Little Wandle Parent Information Session

A huge thank you to all the parents who joined Mrs Heys for yesterday's Little Wandle parent information session. It was wonderful to see so many families engaging with our approach to early reading and phonics and learning more about how they can support reading development at home.

At Burton Leonard, we are committed to developing confident, fluent readers and, most importantly, fostering a lifelong love of reading. Through our reading curriculum, high-quality texts and daily opportunities to share and enjoy books, we aim to nurture children who read for both purpose and pleasure. Working together with families is a vital part of this journey, and we are grateful for your continued support in helping every child to flourish as a reader. As part of our vision to "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world," we believe that reading opens doors, broadens horizons and empowers children to reach their full potential.

Parent Enrichment Activities Feedback

At the end of the Summer Term, we invited parents to share their views on the enrichment opportunities we provide at Burton Leonard. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey and provide valuable feedback. We received many positive responses, with many families highlighting the impact that enrichment activities have on children's enjoyment of school, wellbeing and personal development. Parents particularly valued opportunities such as sporting events, educational visits, themed learning days and extra-curricular experiences that enhance learning beyond the classroom.

Yesterday, an email was shared with parents outlining the key findings and the next steps we will be taking in response to your feedback. This included information about the continuation of some popular activities, plans for future enrichment opportunities and how parents can support us in sustaining aspects of our wider provision. We are grateful for the thoughtful suggestions shared and for the constructive partnership between home and school. Your feedback continues to help shape our decision-making, ensuring that we provide experiences that align with our vision of "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world." Through opportunities that foster Love, Courage, Service and Resilience, we remain committed to enabling every child to flourish, discover new interests and develop the confidence to shine. Thank you for your continued support.

Pupil Voice

Eco Champions Update

I met with our Eco Champions today to share ideas about how we can make our school and community even greener. The children came up with some fantastic suggestions, including creating bug hotels, installing bird feeders, growing vegetables, introducing a compost bin and encouraging everyone to think about ways to reduce their carbon footprint around school (turning off lights, improving re-cycling).

The team are also keen to support local wildlife and will be writing to the council to explore the possibility of introducing animal crossings in Burton Leonard. They have begun planning a Climate Change Book of Promises, where children can make pledges to help protect our planet, as well as creating posters and signs to encourage everyone to make environmentally friendly choices.

How Our Families Can Help

We would be very grateful for support from our school community with some of our upcoming projects:

- Donations of bird feed for our bird feeders.
- Volunteers who may be able to help build wooden planters for growing vegetables.
- Any suitable materials or expertise to support our plans for bug hotels and planting areas (including helping us build new planters and compost areas).
- Any volunteers to support a lunchtime or after-school gardening club in school (DBS will be required)

If you are able to help with any of these projects, please let us know. Thank you for supporting our Eco Champions as they work hard to make a positive difference to our school environment and the wider world.

Exciting Developments for Our New School Library

We are delighted to share that work continues on our exciting new school library. Over the next few weeks, we will be moving furniture and resources from the current library space into the new building in preparation for its official opening.

We are looking forward to launching the library next half term and celebrating this wonderful new space for reading with our school community. FOBLs are hoping to support the opening event with refreshments, including teas and coffees, and we will share further details soon.

Our Reading Ambassadors would like to invite every child and family to contribute to the new 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.

We would be very grateful to receive any book donations by the first week back after the Autumn Half Term break. FOBLs have also organised an exciting Readathon, which will help raise funds for new library furnishings and resources. Thank you in advance for supporting this initiative.

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 area and are searching for a comfortable two-seater sofa. If you think you may be able to help, please get in touch with the school office.

Thank you for helping us create a vibrant and inspiring reading space where all of our children can develop a lifelong love of reading.

Learning Across the School This Week

It has been another busy and exciting week across school, with wonderful learning taking place in all of our classes.

Owls Class have been learning about the Creation Story, exploring the Christian belief that God created the world. I also had the opportunity to observe some of their phonics lessons this week and was incredibly impressed by the engagement and enthusiasm shown by the children as they work through our new Little Wandle scheme. It was fantastic to see our Reception children listening so carefully, joining in confidently and responding with such excitement as they encountered and practised new sounds.

Merlin Class have been busy retelling the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and they shared some amazing pieces of writing during our church service. Our Year 3 children have also been working hard in maths, developing their understanding of crossing boundaries to 100 and using known number facts to calculate efficiently. I have also noticed some truly beautiful handwriting from Year 3 this week. The pride they are taking in their presentation is really beginning to show.

In Year 4, pupils have been writing diary entries imagining their first sight of Antarctica as part of the crew aboard the Endurance. They have produced some fantastic writing, bringing the experience vividly to life. In guided reading, the children have continued developing their Point, Evidence, Explain (PEE) skills, using evidence from the text to justify their thinking. They have also been working hard on their times tables, practising recall, exploring commutativity and identifying patterns within multiplication facts.

Kites Class have been busy completing their alternative Three Little Pigs writing tasks and shared some fantastic reports in church today. I was also delighted to observe some excellent vocabulary work this week, with children demonstrating impressive problem-solving skills as they tackled Wordles and explored the meanings of unfamiliar words. Their resilience and determination were wonderful to see.

Well done to all of our children for their hard work, enthusiasm and positive attitudes to learning this week. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved.

Attendance, Safeguarding & Health & Safety Updates & Reminders

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](#).

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?



Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)?

YESKeep them off school until it goes away.

NOFollow 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. Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	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. 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. Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP. 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. 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.	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. 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. 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. Chickenpox Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	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. 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. 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).

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 believe that every school day is an opportunity for children to learn, grow and flourish. Regular attendance plays a vital role in children's academic achievement, wellbeing and social development. Being in school each day helps children build strong relationships, develop confidence and fully engage in the rich experiences and opportunities that make school life so rewarding.

Our vision, "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world," encourages us to recognise the value of every member of our school community. When children attend school consistently, they are able to participate fully in class life, contribute to their learning community and make the most of every chance to develop their knowledge, skills and character.

We appreciate that there will be occasions when children are unable to attend due to illness or other exceptional circumstances. However, we ask families to support good attendance wherever possible and to avoid arranging holidays during term time. In line with national guidance, requests for leave during term time can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

One of our key teaching principles at Burton Leonard is "Keep Up, Not Catch Up." Learning is carefully sequenced, and children make the best progress when they take part in lessons alongside their classmates every day. Even short absences can mean that important learning is missed. Where absence does occur, staff will do all they can to help children reconnect with key learning and continue to move forward with confidence.

If a child's attendance or absence begins to have an impact on their learning, their class teacher may invite parents to meet and discuss how best to provide support. By working together, we can identify any challenges, put the right help in place and ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive, achieve and shine.

Looking to the Week Ahead...

Monday -Thursday

- Parent Consultation Meetings

Wednesday

- Y5/6 Netball @Outwood Academy

Thursday

- Year 5 Forest School with Outdoor Adventures

Friday

- We invite you to join us for a special Roll Up and Read session on Friday 16th October. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to come into school, share a book with their child and celebrate our love of reading together. Reading plays such an important role in children's learning and development and we look forward to welcoming you into school to enjoy some reading time with us. Please note that there will be no Celebration Worship in church on this occasion. Instead, we will be using this time to enjoy books and reading together in school. We hope as many parents and carers as possible will be able to join us and help inspire a lifelong love of reading. We look forward to seeing you there!
- Swimming will take place for Y2 and selected swimmers until further notice. Please ensure swimming kits are brought into school.



House Cup

This week's team with the
most house points is
Pankhurst Blues



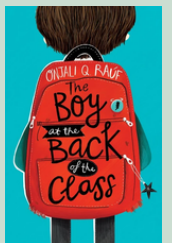
Mrs Wolfe's RECOMMENDED PICTURE BOOK READ OF THE WEEK...

Little Acorn is a charming autumn story that follows a tiny acorn on a journey through the changing seasons. With beautiful illustrations and a simple, engaging storyline, it helps children explore the wonders of nature while learning about growth, change and new beginnings.

As Acorn navigates challenges and discovers its place in the world, the story highlights themes of resilience, hope and belonging, linking closely to our school values of Love, Courage, Service and Resilience. It reminds us that even the smallest beginnings can grow into something wonderful with patience and perseverance.

This story also connects beautifully to our school vision of "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world." Just as Acorn grows and flourishes with the support of the world around it, we encourage our children to nurture one another, celebrate differences and develop the confidence to shine.

Mrs Wolfe's RECOMMENDED CHAPTER BOOK READ OF THE HALF TERM...



My chapter book recommendation this half term is *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Rauf. This powerful and heartwarming story follows a group of children who befriend a new classmate, Ahmet, a refugee who has experienced many challenges in his journey to safety. The book beautifully reflects our school vision of "Love your neighbour, enabling everyone to shine and make a difference in the world." Through themes of kindness, empathy, courage and friendship, it encourages children to think about how their actions can positively impact others and reminds us of the importance of welcoming, supporting and standing up for those around us. A thoughtful and inspiring read for children and adults alike, it provides many opportunities for discussion about compassion, inclusion and what it truly means to make a difference in the world.



School, FOBLs, Community & National News

Our aims:

- We encourage our siblings to be independent, confident and unapologetically themselves.
- Experience the outside world via group trips by public transport.
- To create friendships with those of similar age and circumstance, and develop a community.

To sign up your child contact us

The sibling group

Contact info
hannah@thesiblinggroup.org
www.thesiblinggroup.org

Find us on facebook and Instagram too



About us:

The Sibling Group was founded by our CEO Grace. Grace who was born in Harrogate, North Yorkshire had two siblings an elder sister and younger brother Oscar. Oscar was diagnosed with severe learning disabilities and Autism at the age of 3. At this time like many others, Grace's family were unsure what this meant for their future. Grace and her elder sister struggled with the many challenges of having a sibling with SEN and felt isolated and misunderstood by the world around them. They felt lucky to have each other to talk to but wished they could have known others in similar positions as them, as they didn't want to burden their parents with their concerns and feelings surrounding their brother's needs. Grace and her sister feel that siblings of SEN children are often overlooked or discredited as they are not the ones with the needs so therefore are expected to be fine. Often children take on the worries or concerns surrounding the welfare of their SEN sibling which can lead to their own mental health issues.

Grace went on to gain a first degree in Special Education and a distinction in her PGCE & qualified teaching status and worked as a SEN teacher in London. She is currently studying her masters in Autism and Inclusion. Whilst writing her dissertation she based it on the affect a child with special needs has on their sibling, to which she found herself interviewing her sister and revisiting their shared experience growing up with a sibling with special needs and the emotional effects this had on them. Reminding her of their lack of support.

These events inspired the creation of The Sibling Group Charity.

What we do

We run groups for children aged 5-11 years old who have a sibling with additional needs but do not have these needs themselves. Our groups allow children to meet others of similar age and circumstance encouraging them to create friendships and build support networks to last a life time. Our groups take place in Harrogate.

Some things we do at our groups:

- Games
- Crafts
- Cooking/baking
- Themed days
- Trips
- Lots of fun!

See for your self!



North Yorkshire families: Build everyday emotional resilience!

Your free online learning. Big feelings, how the brain works, and relationship ideas for happier lives.

North Yorkshire Council

gives families free access to Togetherness resources to support wellbeing. For parents, carers, grandparents, and young people.

Learn from NHS clinical psychologists, practitioners, and other parents. The pathways will help you and your family understand and manage emotions in everyday life.

Browse pathways

Use the exclusive access code:

NYFAMILIES



Pathways library

Home > Learn > Pathway library Emotional health learning
Big feelings, how the brain works, and relationship ideas for happier lives. Togetherness pathways for parents, carers,...

Togetherness