



# Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

## School News

### Newsletter

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

#### Dates for your diary

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March - 7pm  
Governors Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March  
Governor Visit Day  
(Governors in classes)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
3.45-4.45pm  
Family Felt making workshop

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March- 7pm  
Governing Board Meeting

Wednesday 29.03.17  
Year 1 visit to Marwell Zoo

Friday 31.03.2017  
PTA Quiz Night

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April – 9.30am  
Hazel Class  
Easter Assembly

Term ends Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 2.15pm

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Forest School Holiday Club

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April  
Inset Day

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
School re-opens for Children

[www.mrsblandsinfants.co.uk](http://www.mrsblandsinfants.co.uk)

On Monday a storyteller visited to start our book week off! After a whole school assembly, the storyteller led workshops with each class. The children were actively involved in the workshops through retelling stories and taking on the roles of different characters.

In assembly on Tuesday we learnt about the origins of Shrove Tuesday, how to make pancakes and had a pancake tossing competition.



On Thursday the school dressed up for World Book Day. Thank you to parents for all your support making and sourcing costumes!

Willow class led an informative assembly where we learnt all about books and reading.

### PE Kit



Outdoor PE Kit



Indoor PE kit

We need parent support to provide the correct PE kit for children to ensure they can all take part in PE lessons for both outdoor PE and indoor gymnastic sessions. Both lessons take place **every week** for each class. Children need shorts and T-shirt and socks and plimsolls for indoor PE and in addition to the above, a track suit for outdoor PE. Many children do not have all their kit in school. Please do check your children have this in school every day and that they are named. Thank you.

Family felt making workshop – We still have places left for the felt workshop. Come along with primary age children to make a piece of felt art work. £1 per person. Please contact the school office.

Thank you for your support.  
Mrs Nisbet

# Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

## PTA News

**Our next event is the  
March Quiz  
Friday 31<sup>th</sup> March  
7.30pm for a 8pm start.**

**Get a team of 6  
together or come along  
and we can join you up.**

**Tickets are on sale at  
the School Office from  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March at £3  
per head in advance or  
£5 on the door**

**A licensed bar is  
available, you are  
welcome to bring your  
own snacks.**

**Come and have some  
fun whilst raising  
money for a good  
cause.**

**We need your help!**

**To paint the Forest  
School Cabin**

**Get in Touch via –**

**[mrsblandspta@gmail.com](mailto:mrsblandspta@gmail.com)**

**or catch someone on the  
playground –**

**Rachel James, Claire  
Oakes, Lizi Hawkins,  
Beki Streeter or Emma  
in the office.**

We have been looking at the colour pink this week. We had lots of pink items out on our interest table and the children helped make a pig collage. We have thoroughly enjoyed reading "Polar Bear Polar Bear What do You Hear?" and talking about all the different animals in the story. In the garden we did lots of balancing and had a truly wonderful time playing with water (although despite waterproofs AND aprons the children still got VERY wet!). We planted some seeds and "painted" the shed with water. We have continued to enjoy a healthy snack and on Tuesday we had a special snack of pancakes! We welcomed a new starter to Little Acorns: Blnd had his visit on Wednesday and he had a lovely time playing in our garden and doing a painting. We did a little bit of dressing up for world book day and made some animal masks.

## Acorn (Nursery AM and PM)

This week in nursery we continued our colour topic through the stories of Eric Carle; our special author for Book Week. We read the story of, 'The Hungry Caterpillar', and listened carefully so we could recall the order that he ate the fruit to make a sequencing caterpillar. We learnt that fruit and vegetables are good for us but if we eat too many sweets, cakes, biscuits and fatty foods we will be ill and get a tummy ache like the greedy caterpillar. We have practised counting using 1-1 correspondence and have used our finger to point and count slowly and carefully. We also read the story of, 'The Tiny Seed,' and discovered what seeds need to grow. We found out we are now in the season of Spring and that as the weather gets warmer and it rains the seeds and plants will begin to grow. We planted our very own sunflower seeds and are looking forward to seeing them grow soon. We have investigated cooked spaghetti and thought of words we could use to describe the feel. We also painted Hungry Caterpillars using the correct colours and shapes and made caterpillars using play dough, straws and googly eyes. We all looked amazing dressing up on Thursday as Eric Carle characters for Book Day and had fun listening to lots of stories through the day. We have been reviewing all the phase 2 phonic sounds so it would be helpful to continue supporting the learning at home through singing the songs. Thank you.

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week is World Book Week and in Beech and Maple classes we have shared a variety of stories by the author and illustrator Eric Carle. To continue and further our learning on colour we have shared stories such as 'The Hungry Caterpillar', 'The Mixed Up Chameleon' and 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What can You See?' We were able to join in with many of the stories we shared due to the rhyming couplets which Eric Carle uses in many of his stories. In maths this week we have learnt about time. We sequenced the days of the week from the Hungry Caterpillar story and have talked about the different seasons and when our birthdays fall during the year. We have also used the clocks to practise telling the time to the nearest hour and we learnt to use the word o'clock whilst doing this. On Thursday we also had fun dressing up for World Book Day dressing up as a character from one of the Eric Carle stories.

## Birch and Willow (Year 1)

We have been continuing this week with our topic this half term which is 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers'. This week we have been looking at a wider range of animals. The children have been investigating animals from all over the world. In science they have identified and sorted animals into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. In geography we have deepened our knowledge of continents, learning where they are and some of their distinctive features. In Maths, we have been investigating the place value of numbers, sequencing them, learning number bonds to 20 and counting forwards and backwards in 10s. In ICT we have been learning about online safety and what to do if they are unhappy with what they are seeing online. In Art we have been looking at the work of the French artist Henri Matisse and in DT we been making animals using recycled materials. We have really enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and really enjoyed our workshop with a storyteller earlier in the week. In English we have used Dr Seuss stories to explore rhyming.

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week we have enjoyed a story telling session with our visiting teacher. We thought about the ways that we can change our voices to engage our audience with expression. We used this to read and recite poetry from Revolting Rhymes in class. We have been learning about rhyme and wrote our own version of a revolting nursery rhyme. In maths we have been using length and capacity to extend our addition and subtraction skills. We have been using the outdoor area to measure capacities. In Science we have been thinking about the kind of materials that are used to make household furniture. We will be investigating which materials are most suited to making chairs. Please can we ask that you check your children's PE kits to make sure that they are complete and that they still fit. We are finding that the children have grown so much and a few of the things are getting a little snug! We have lots of gaps on our Forest School sign up sheets for both Rowan and Hazel class. If we don't have parent helpers, the children need to stay in the school grounds rather than going to the forest. The sign up sheets can be found on the window at the Key stage one entrance.



Forest School



We have recently introduced "**feedback**" forms for our parent volunteers to complete after helping out at Forest School. These enable us to gain opinions which can help us to improve our practice and therefore benefit the children.

### **We have had lots of positive comments:**

"I thought the way the children worked together was very good ... by working as a team ... I also like the way the children are encouraged to use their imaginations and ideas to complete tasks".

"Every child was involved".

"Very well organised, fire was great and all safe and children loved it!".

"I don't think anything can be added. Children work on independence, imagination, own ideas and outdoor skills as well as road confidence walking to the woods. I think it is a fantastic learning tool".

"Children understood rules to get there and back safely".

Lots of parents also mentioned how much fun the children had and the high level of engagement and enjoyment.

Forest School is a special time where children get a choice of what and how they learn in a less structured environment than a classroom.

We have had some wonderful suggestions for possible activities and will be using those to plan future sessions such as introducing some "fun facts" or learning to ID plants/trees etc.

Thank you to all those who took the time to fill out a form and we look forward to hearing more of your opinions in the future. As always, we are in need of volunteers to support our sessions so parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, friends and neighbours are very welcome

## Monday – Year R – Maple Wagtails

On Monday the Maple group could not go to the woods due to a parent helper being unwell at short notice. Instead of visiting the Forest I took small groups out into the school grounds. We looked at the school gardening area where Gareth has planted some new raspberry bushes and we saw our log cabin. We planted some bulbs and seeds in the EYFS growing area and talked about Spring. We also had great fun splashing in huge puddles until a torrent of hailstones came down and we came rushing in to shelter!

**NEXT WEEK WE ARE GOING TO LIGHT A SMALL FIRE TO WARM WATER IN A SPECIAL KETTLE!**

Please sign up to support your child and their group at Forest School.

## Wednesday – Year 2 – Hazel Pheasants

Hazel Pheasants had a great session in the woods today. The children drew some great pictures for the new class Forest School scrapbook. Emily and Shaun built some lovely dens using the branches of a fallen tree. Several children worked really well together to design and build a rope course. Thank you Emily's Mum for your support.

## Wednesday – Year R - Beech Cuckoos

The Cuckoos had a wonderful time using mallets to hammer in large pieces of wood (which we then wove willow into). Jack and Alex then took the mallets and did some hammering of their own. Alex created a sculpture using wood and string and a pinecone! Several children enjoyed imaginative play including Davina who as part of the "purple group" (?!) lived in a "castle" (a tree!). Some children wrote in our forest school diary and some played with our toy birds and looked at my bird books; especially one which plays bird songs!

We had lots of parent helpers this week which really helped to make our session run so well. **THANK YOU SO MUCH** to Eddie's Dad, Alex's Mum and Zoe's Mum and we hope you will join us again soon!

NEXT WEEK: I will bring some more hammering activities as this was so popular and also light my special outdoor kettle to warm up water.

## Outdoor/Additional Learning



The Family Gardening Club got off to a great start on Friday. It was fantastic to see everyone involved and engaged in clearing a bed outside the Year 2 classrooms...you all did an amazing job. The children all joined in and got to sow a mystery seed. Hopefully in the coming weeks the seed will grow and we can try and work out what it will eventually grow into! Next week the families will be set challenges. These may include bug hotel making, bulb planting, weeding, and watering at various locations around the school.

## Forest Fun Holiday Club

**Don't forget to sign your child up to Forest Fun Holiday Club**

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April from 9.00am – 4.00pm.**

**Contact the school office for details or look on the school website!**

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is now held in the Fun zone building from 7.30am every morning. For £4.00 you can drop your child off and they will be given a healthy breakfast and the opportunity to chat and play with their friends. Please contact the office if you would like to book your child a place.

Heidi Evans.

### Star of the Week

### Friendship Star



### Help us to Raise Funds for the School: Fundraising 1

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3 and it's free! Go to...

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/mrsblandsinfantandnurseryschool/>

2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.

3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever! There are no catches or hidden charges and Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School will be really grateful for your donations.

If you have a tablet or smart phone you can download the 'easyfundraising' app which is easy to access.

### Fundraising 2

Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running! Go to <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/mrs-blands-rg7> to browse the latest books and order online. For every £1 you spend on this Book Club, our school will earn 20p in Scholastic Rewards.

Please note that you can redeem your child's World Book Day voucher via the online booking system. During the checkout process there is an option to redeem the voucher. Please bring your voucher to the school office, once your order is placed, so that we can send the vouchers onto Scholastic.

**Please place your order online by March 24th, 2017.**