



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

31st March 2017

Dates for your diary

Friday 31st March

PTA Quiz Night

7.30pm

Wednesday 5th April 3.25pm

Birch Cake Sale + teas & coffees

Friday 7th April

9.30am

Hazel Class
Easter Assembly

Term ends Friday 7th

April at 2.15pm

Monday 10th April to Thursday

13th April

Forest School Holiday Club
Thursday (1 space)

Monday 24th April

Inset Day

Tuesday 25th April

School re-opens for Children
for the Summer Term

Tuesday 2nd May

Year 2 Trip Thatcham
Discovery Centre

Friday 5th May

Year 1 Trip Oxford University
Natural History Museum

Wednesday 10th May

Beech Cake Sale

Tuesday 16th May

Class Photos being taken

Wednesday 24th May

Sports Day

PTA providing refreshments

School News

Clubs

We still have spaces in all our clubs except Woodwork. Please fill in the surveys below if your child would like to attend. If you have already registered your child please can you drop of payments as soon as possible to the school office.

For Years 1 & 2

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CricketSummer1>

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FootballSummer1>

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/StreetDanceSummer1>

For All Years

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FamGardSum1>

For Year 2 Only

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BallSkillsSummer1>

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ChoirSummer1>

Forest School Volunteer and Observation Workshops

The next Forest School Volunteer and Observation Workshops is on Tuesday 4th April. If you help at Forest School, or would like to volunteer, this short workshop will give an overview of how we observe and assess the children in their outdoor learning sessions and how you can help with this.

<http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/FSWshop>

KS1 Playground

Children who are not pupils at Mrs Bland's are not permitted to use the new Playground Equipment. The school insurance only covers school pupils using the equipment under the direct supervision of school staff. The equipment has been designed with Infant age children in mind and is therefore not suitable for children outside of the ages of 4-7. Thank you for your support.

Forest School Survey

We are running a short online survey to give your views on Forest School

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VolSurveyFS>

Thank you to those of you who have already commented.

Scarlet Fever and Chicken Pox

We have had further confirmed cases of Scarlet Fever in school. If your child is unwell, we would advise you take them to their GP and inform them of the outbreak. A throat swab will confirm the condition. We also have further confirmed cases of Chicken Pox.

Theatre Visit

We were lucky to have a free, impromptu theatre visit today by M & M Theatrical Productions. The company performed a version of, 'The Little Princess' by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The children were engaged and entertained throughout.

Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

This week our story was 'The Rainbow Fish' which talks about friendship and sharing. We enjoyed painting, drawing and sticking pictures of sea creatures. We had great fun building with large wooden blocks and then balancing on them. We continued to look after our plants by watering them and inside we played with fire engines and a fire station. We had lots of fun doing our yoga stretches and singing nursery rhymes.

Acorn (Nursery AM and PM)

In nursery this week we continued our learning about colours through the story of Rainbow Fish. We discussed the different feelings we may have; including being happy, sad, worried and angry. We talked about the reasons why we have those feelings and the times when we have felt happy and sad. We have focussed on rhyme this week, singing nursery rhymes, reading rhyming stories and playing rhyming games in small groups. We have been practising recognising numbers 1- 10 and then 11-20 by finding numbered pirates in the nursery garden and matching them to their ships. We have also been practising sound blending short words and writing the words using a Beaky Bird pencil grip. Please could we continue to support the children in writing their names at home using correct letter formation and reminding the children to use a Beaky Bird grip. Thankyou!

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in Beech and Maple classes our learning has been focussed around the story of 'The Rainbow Fish' by Marcus Pfister. We have thought of words to describe the Rainbow Fish and labelled pictures of him, saying and sounding out words carefully and making sure we write down all of the sounds we could hear. We have also thought about the things we enjoy doing in and out of school and written a letter to the Rainbow Fish, telling him of some games that he might like to play with his new friends. In the story, the Rainbow Fish shares his scales with the other fish, so we have discussed what makes a good friend and given examples of the things that we might share in school and why. In maths we have continued with our work on addition, and then moved on to subtraction. We have used objects to introduce taking away and explore number sentences using a minus sign. We look forward to next week when we will be learning about and exploring activities based around Easter. We would also like to give a reminder to parents that children should not be using school equipment (e.g. bikes, slides, climbing frames) after school. Thank you.

Birch and Willow (Year 1)

Our highlight this week was the trip to Marwell Zoo. We travelled there in a double decker bus. When we arrived, we rode the road train to the African animal area and saw giraffes, zebras, tigers, leopards, cheetahs, pigmy hippos and many more. We found out a lot of information on these animals. After lunch, we explored the tropical house with varied insects and reptiles. We had a workshop on classification of animals and felt different animal skins. In the afternoon, we visited the penguins and even saw them swimming under water from a special viewing window. It was a very fun day. We related all we saw to our topic learning. We thought about where the zoo animals can be found in their natural habitat and the continents where they live. We also thought about classifying the animals, we saw mammals, birds and reptiles. We saw endangered and vulnerable animals and read about why they are becoming endangered. We identified some warm blooded and cold blooded animals. In maths, we continued to work on fractions, halves and quarters. We found a fraction of objects and started reading and solving word problems involving fractions. In English we wrote animal fact files on zoo animals. We researched information on the internet and read comprehension passages to learn about zoo animals. We also wrote a recount of our trip to Marwell Zoo.

PTA News

CAKE SALE

**Birch Class Wednesday
5th April 3.25pm**

We need your help!

**To paint the Forest
School Cabin,
Thursday 6th May at
1pm
Please let Rachel
James or Emma
Shumsky know.**

Get in Touch via –

mrsblandspta@gmail.com

**or catch someone on the
playground –**

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

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week, Hazel and Rowan class have been writing. Hazel class children have been writing information texts about houses and Rowan class have been writing an adventure story that takes place in a forest. In maths, both classes have been looking at the properties of 2D shapes. We have been drawing, problem solving and finding patterns. As Easter approaches we have been learning about the reasons why some people celebrate and what other things people celebrate. We have made cards and discussed what our families do each year. A letter about our next school trip will be coming to you soon. We would really like five adult helpers from both classes. Please speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

We aim to hear the children read 3 times a week within school. Please could you support your child with their reading at home, daily where possible.



Forest School



Wednesday – Beech Cuckoos

We unfortunately did not have a parent this week and so we needed to remain onsite. Despite this we had a wonderful time in the Year one playground. We sat in our fire circle and practised our safety rules. We talked about what type of sticks we needed to collect and then collected dry, snappy sticks for our fire next week. We talked about Easter and nests and then worked as a team to build a large nest from sticks, grass etc. During our drink and snack we talked about the animals that live in our woods. Some children were able to think about how we would know animals had been there (talking about holes, footprints and ... poo!). We had some free play on the climbing frames and several children were brave attempting the firefighters pole. A special well done goes to Riley Farmer for his bravery!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT WEEK - COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR FIRE!

Monday – Maple Wagtails

More lovely Spring sunshine for the Wagtails on Monday afternoon. We showed Mrs Williams some "signs of Spring" as we walked to the woods and then had a hunt for Easter eggs! Inside the eggs we found were baby chicks. The children then had to look after them and many built them a nest (some were large and some were small!). We talked about the importance of keeping the eggs warm. Children also played games and helped collect "snappy" sticks for the fire next week.

Wednesday - Hazel Pheasants

The Pheasants were joined in the woods by Mrs Jackson and Mrs Reeves today. The children started by having to earn their biscuit, answering some true or false questions all about birds. They had some amazing knowledge and also learnt some new facts; they definitely earned their biscuits! The children then had to go on a hunt to look for 'eggs' around the woods that had fallen out of nests. We then had a challenge to see who could build a nest in a tree strong enough to hold a real egg. Shaun made 3 nests, some of the girls made a nest complete with ladders, bedrooms and a swimming pool! Emily and her Mum played a game of catch the egg, which resulted in egg on Emily's welly! We had a talk about the fire safety rules for next week. Thank you to Emily's Mum for your support.

If you haven't completed an induction for Forest School then please ensure you book one in through the office before you attend.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The Eco School committee spent some of the lunch hour digging, raking and sieving soil in the KS1 playground. They also made a start at clearing some of the duckweed in the pond to try and encourage a greater diversity of creatures to the pond.

Woodwork Club then worked hard to create some stunning signs to show people where things are growing in the beds (these will be in place by next week).

Forest School Cabin



Thank you to the members of the PTA who gave up their time to paint the first coat of paint on the Forest School Cabin, which is to the benefit of all the children. The next painting session is Thursday 6th April at 1pm. Please speak to Rachel James or Emma Shumsky if you can help.

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. You need to register and pay in advance for your child's place.

Star of the Week

Max - Acorns am
Teddy - Acorns pm
Olivia - Maple
Millie - Beech
Summer - Birch
Benjamin - Willow
Abigail - Hazel
Alfie - Rowan

Friendship Star

Lexsi May - Acorns am
Bradley - Acorns pm
Megan - Maple
Isaac - Beech
Imogen - Birch
Macie - Willow
Olivia - Hazel
Toby - Rowan

Help us to Raise Funds for the School:

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/>

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

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.