



## Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

### Newsletter 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017

#### Dates for your diary

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May  
Beech Cake Sale  
3.25pm Yr 1 & 2 Playground

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May  
Class Photos being taken

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May  
Outdoor Classroom Day

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May  
Sports Day  
PTA providing refreshments

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May  
Nursery Sports Day  
Morning and Afternoon

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
End of Term 3.25pm

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
Return to School

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June  
Non-uniform day for Summer  
Fete

#### School News

We've had a busy week this week with Y1 and Y2 out on educational visits. Both visits were excellent in making their current learning more real and hands on. On Thursday the governors joined us for the morning. They spent time talking to parents at drop off, visiting classes to see how the children learn and their attitudes to learning and they ate lunch with the children in the hall. They were very impressed with the behaviour of the children both in the classroom and as they moved around the school for playtime, phonics and assembly.

#### School Lottery

Please click on the link below to access the new school lottery where you can win money and prizes whilst supporting the school. Please share this link with your friends and family. The more people that buy tickets, the better the prizes and the more money we raise. Our first draw is scheduled for Saturday

13th May

Thank you for your support and good luck everyone!  
The PTA

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/mrs-blands-infant-and-nursery-school>

#### Burghfield May Fayre

The Burghfield May Fayre is on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 10am – 4pm. Come along and support the school by buying plants and 'picking a lolly' at our stall. Year 2 children will also be doing some Country Dancing (11.30am – 11.45am) in the main arena. Please can the Year 2 children sign up if they are coming. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### Cake Sale 10<sup>th</sup> May 3.25pm

This term it's Beech Class' turn to host the cake sale to raise funds for the school. The sale takes place after school in the Year 1 & 2 Playground.

#### Mrs Bland's Summer Fete & Scootathon

Save the date of Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017 as Mrs Bland's school host the annual Scootathon and Summer Fete. The Scootathon starts at 2pm and the Fete will follow on from 3.30pm till 5.30pm. Come along and join the fun.

## Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

This week we have enjoyed singing "5 Little Speckled Frogs". We explored frogs in water outside as well as planting some courgette seeds. We squished play dough and were fascinated by seeing garden snails!

### PTA News

Burghfield May Fayre  
7<sup>th</sup> May 10am – 4pm

**Plant Sale and Pick a lolly stall. Help is required during the day, just turn up at the stall when you can make it.**

### CAKE SALE

**10<sup>th</sup> May 2017**  
**Beech Class**

Scotathon & Summer Fete

**16<sup>th</sup> June 2pm – 5.30pm**

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.**

## Acorn (Nursery AM and PM)

In nursery this week we began our new topic, 'Am I the Fastest?' We read the story Snail Trail and wrote a story map together to re-tell the tale. We have played positional language games and have weighed wooden blocks using balance scales; using the language of heavier and lighter to describe their weights. We have also used the computer to find information about garden snails and have made our own snails using egg boxes, pipe-cleaners and googly eyes. We practised our scissor skills to cut out a leaf for our snail and have played turn taking games. Please remember that we start Forest school on Monday 8th May next week. The Caterpillars will be going in the morning and the Butterflies in the afternoon.

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week our learning has been focused upon fast and slow modes of transport. We have read 'The Train Ride' and 'Faster, Faster, Little Red Train' and compared the speed at which the trains moved in the story. We also read 'The Boat Race' which introduced the topic of floating and sinking. Following on from reading the story, we investigated to find out which objects in the classroom floated and which sank. We talked about the reasons for this happening, such as the material the objects were made from. Can your child tell you an object that floated and an object that sank? In maths, we have been continuing to use everyday language to talk about and to compare quantities and objects. This week we have been focusing on distance, time and money. If you are available to help with Forest School or with hearing readers in school, please speak to your child's teacher. Your help and support is greatly appreciated!

## Birch and Willow (Year 1)

A short week, but a lot was done. The children have really engaged with our dinosaur topic, with new dinosaur models, pictures and books arriving every day. In English, we have been researching individual dinosaurs using non-fiction books, ipads and computers. The children have recorded their research as posters and fact files in their books. In Maths, we have continued to look at place value and have been counting forwards and backwards using two digit numbers. Our science this week is taking place at the Natural History Museum in Oxford and all the children are very excited. In history, we have learnt about the different periods when dinosaurs were on Earth and in Art the children have done some beautiful work finishing half completed pictures of dinosaurs and colouring or painting them. Can we repeat our request for parent helpers to come to the Milestone Museum, Basingstoke visit on 6th July. In addition we are always on the lookout for Forest School helpers and parent readers. Thank you.

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week, after a long and relaxing weekend, Rowan and Hazel class children went on an amazing nature discovery day to Thatcham Discovery Centre. We were very lucky to have such lovely weather and we were able to enjoy all of the activities. In the pond, we discovered newts and nymphs. One of the nymphs changed into a May Fly in Kahler's bug hunting pot! We watched it fly away. In Hazel class, Connor caught a fish! The pond dipping was very exciting and I am sure that the children could have stayed there all day. The children also went on a habitat safari to discover which kinds of mini beasts are found in which areas. We got to hold some mealworms and saw the darkling beetles that they would eventually become. On our own hunts we found horseflies, ladybirds, a centipede and a millipede. In school we have been learning about the life cycle of insects in non-fiction texts and writing our own fact files. In maths we have been practising addition and subtraction. Rowan class were trying to calculate how many legs 3 woodlice had. We have worked hard on our country dancing and hope to see many of you at Burghfield May Fayre at 11am on Sunday.



**Forest School**



### Wednesday 3 May - Hazel (Outdoor Learning)

Hazel started their session by listening to a bit more of the "Yucky Worm" book. They told me everything they could remember from last week about worms, which was a lot. The children were then given a challenge to find and identify at least 10 different minibeasts/pond creatures. The group was split into 2, with one group showing me their pond dipping skills and the other doing some bug hunting with Mrs Marshall. The pond dippers were lucky to find a newt, a backswimmer and lots of hog lice. Back at the log cabin we counted how many minibeasts had been discovered. We had at ten, which meant the children had earned a drink and biscuit. The next task was to find some worms to put into the class wormery. We borrowed some worms from the wormery in the Reception playground and put them into their new home. Within a few minutes, the children were able to observe the worms at work, digging tunnels in the soil.

### Wednesday – Beech Woodpeckers

The woodpeckers were very pleased to have Harrison's Mum to come and play in the woods this week. We played some instruments and hunted for bugs. We found lots of spiders and talked about what they ate.

### Thursday 4 May - Willow Class (Forest School)

We stopped on the way to Forest School to observe some creatures on the leaves of a tree, Gareth also took a leaf so the children could help to identify the name of the tree when we got to the woods. Once in the woods, after a reminder of the Forest School rules, the children were given a selection of Wildflowers books, tree identification books, minibeast identification sheets and were told they had to find and identify 10 different minibeasts and trees to earn their biscuits. All the children got involved, with Mrs Smith looking for leaves and Mrs Fox helping with some bug hunting. We had a head start with Eleanor finding a worm before we'd even got to the woods. I think the most interesting find was the jumping spider! While eating their well earned biscuit and having fruit and hot chocolate we had a little sing-song. We started learning "I Love the Flowers" song, which might become our Forest School song with a few word changes.

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

### Wednesday 3 May - WoodWork Club (Reception)

The Woodwork club children are doing fantastically well. They have only been coming for 2 weeks and have already had a go at hammering, drilling and sawing. This week they practised sawing and hammering to make and decorate an aeroplane. Some of the children were a bit nervous to begin with but have been extremely brave in overcoming some of their fears.

## Forest Fun Holiday Club

We are now taking bookings for Forest Fun during the May half term so please contact the office now for details as spaces book up fast!

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Den Delights! Use a variety of equipment to build your own shelter and eat your picnic lunch inside! Swing in a hammock or on a woodland swing.

Wed 31<sup>st</sup> May – Wet Wednesday! Water fun in the woods! Terrific tools, use a saw, mallet or hammer.

Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> June – Cookathon! Help cook mini pizzas or cheese toasties on an open fire. Toast marshmallows.

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Fire Friday! Can you light a fire with one match? Can you light a fire using a metal striker? Help collect “snappy sticks” for the fire.

### 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



### Friendship Star



**We are looking for a toy till and ride on tractor for Little Acorns if anyone has one spare.**

## **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.