



## Newsletter 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

### Dates for your diary

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  
Messy Hair Day

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

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

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June  
Yr 2 Trip to Englefield Estate

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
Scootathon and Summer Fete  
2pm – 5.00pm

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June  
Reception Enrichment trip to  
Legoland

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
Move up day

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
Year One Trip to Milestones  
Museum, Basingstoke

### School News

We were extremely lucky with the weather on Thursday when we celebrated 'Empty Classroom Day' and took our learning outside! It was lovely to see the children totally focussed on their outdoor activities. The teachers planned some very creative activities which linked brilliantly to maths and literacy but all outside and through practical, 'hands on' experiences. We even had assembly outside!

The Newbury Weekly News came to visit and photograph the official opening of our Log Cabin. Staff from Tesco (who we won the Bags of Help award from to pay for the Cabin), Rachel James (Chair of PTA), some Y2 pupils and Governors also joined us to cut the ribbon. Gareth Evans was leading a Forest School fire session with some of Willow class, so our visitors were able to see the outdoor learning opportunities the cabin will help to facilitate (the fire was outside the cabin on the Willink field)!

Thank you to the PTA for all their help painting the log cabin.

We're really looking forward to running our outdoor learning and Forest School sessions from the cabin now.

### 30 Hours 3 Year Old Funding

Mrs Bland's Nursery has registered to offer the 30 hour provision from September. If you would like to register your child or would like more information, please contact the school office.

### Sports day

Our sports day will take place next Wednesday (24.5.17) from 9.30-11.30am. Parents/Carers may also bring a picnic to eat with their child from 11.30-12.30. Please drop your children off to school as normal (dressed in their PE kit, with correct coloured T-shirt) and then make your way to the front reception where you can sign in and be shown to the spectator's area.

Nursery sports day will take place on 25.5.17 at 9am and 1pm.

Should the Sports Day need to be cancelled due to inclement weather, we will notify parents as soon as possible via Parentmail.

# Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

Little Acorns had great fun singing "Row, row, row your boat" this week.

We have had lots of water play in the garden and looked after our plants. Inside we made model boats, did some potato printing and played with play dough. Our caterpillars are getting ready to go into their cocoons which we are very excited about.

## Acorn (Nursery AM and PM)

In nursery this week we have been thinking about things that are fast. We read the story of, 'Faster, Faster Little Red Train and wrote a story map to sequence the passengers getting on the train. We used our action story telling words 'first', 'next', 'after that' and 'finally'. We have been learning the names of 2D shapes and using mathematical terms to describe the shapes. We also made a train using shapes which are now on display in the nursery. We have been practising writing our names using the correct letter formation and a Beaky Bird grip. It would be lovely to have some support at home to help everyone get ready for moving up to Reception class next year. A laminated name card will be coming home to help support each child shortly.

A reminder that the Nursery Sports Day is planned for Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Children will need to wear a pair of shorts/joggers, a t-shirt and trainers/pumps. Any colour is fine!

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In literacy, we have been reading stories related to Sports Day. We talked about the different races and events that took place within the stories and then linked this to our own personal experience of preparing for Sports Day in our weekly outdoor PE sessions. This has also led on to some discussions in our PSHE sessions about winning and losing and that it is the taking part that counts!

Our maths this week linked to our topic of 'Am I the Fastest?' We started off by learning about ordinal numbers. We looked at how these are represented and talked about ways in which ordinal numbers may be used. We then applied our understanding of this by watching an animated snail race and identifying the snail that came 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> etc. Later on in the week, we measured short periods of time by participating in various 1 minute challenges.

The creative activities set up in the classroom this week have ranged from designing flags to creating our very own trophies!

## Birch and Willow (Year 1)

We pretended to be paleontologists by uncovering fossils and reconstituting the bones to make a full dinosaur fossilised skeleton. We used different materials to make the fossils and named the parts of a dinosaur's anatomy. We measured the dinosaur bones and used different sized fossils to make our 3D fossil pictures.

Math was very tasty this week as we make fairy cakes and fruit punch. We were thinking about measuring weight, capacity and length. We learnt lots of new language, like grams and kilograms, litres and millilitres and meters and centimeters. It was fun measuring the ingredients and even better to have the treats.

In English, we listened to the story of 'Harry and the Dinosaurs Go To School.' We looked at the features of a story and planned our own version of the story.

Our outdoor learning day was very fun and we did most of our learning outside. We made ice fossils, clay and salt dough fossils, dinosaur footprints, rubbings and we also planted seeds.

### PTA News

**Bad Hair Day**  
26<sup>th</sup> May come with messy hair for £1 donation

**Scootathon & Summer Fete**

16<sup>th</sup> June 2pm – 5.00pm

**Get in Touch via –**

[mrsblandspata@gmail.com](mailto:mrsblandspata@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 in year 2, the children have been completing assessments. They have all behaved beautifully and we are very proud of how hard they are trying. Thank you for your support for spellings, reading and times tables. We will be writing interesting riddles and other texts next week.

In PE, the children have been practising their sports day events and putting effort into reaching their goals. They are all looking forward to sports day next week.

This Thursday, we enjoyed our empty classroom day. We have looked for bugs, made bug shelters and pretended to be presenters. Our outdoor maths involved counting and ordering numbers and sorting objects into tables and diagrams.



**Forest School**



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

### Forest Fun Holiday Club

**Please ensure you have booked by Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Availability: 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.**

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

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

**Availability: 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



### 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.

## 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>