



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

15th December 2017

Dates for your diary

18th December 2017

2.00pm Joint Carol Service
with Garland Junior School

19th December 2017

KS1 Theatre Trip – The
Borrowers

20th December 2017

EYFS The Gingerbread Man
Theatre Production (in school)

20th December 2017

End of Term –
Main School finish 1.45pm
Nursery finish 3.30pm

Spring Term 1

Starts on Thursday 4th January



Special Visitors to School

We were very fortunate to receive a visit from Father Christmas on Tuesday. He reminded the children about being good and going to bed early on Christmas Eve. He also gave presents out to each class. Nursery received a visit from Santa's Elf which was very exciting indeed. The Elf had a gift for Nursery too.

Whole School Christmas Lunch

The children and staff all ate lunch together on Wednesday and we would like to thank Marina Ditch and her staff for a wonderful Christmas meal. The children dressed in their party clothes, wore their Christmas hats and sang Christmas songs.

The Borrowers Trip – KS1

Children will eat their packed lunch before we depart at 1.00pm on Tuesday 19th December. We expect to return to Bland's for 6.00pm depending on traffic.

If your child is not going on the trip, they are still expected in school that day. As this is an enrichment experience, unless you have paid in full (or agreed a payment plan with the school office) your child will not be able to go.

The Gingerbread Man

Aesops Touring Theatre Company will be performing The Gingerbread Man for all Nursery and Reception children. The PTA is supporting the school with this however we still ask each parent to contribute £1 for their child. In fairness to the parents who have paid, please could you ensure you drop £1 into the school office. Thank you.

Season's Greetings

We would like to send all our Parents and Carers very warm Festive wishes for a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year. In addition, we would like to thank the Staff, Governors and PTA for all their hard work throughout the year in supporting the School.

**We look forward to see the children back in school for
the spring term on Thursday 4th January 2018**



Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

PTA Dates

11th January 2018
8.00pm PTA meeting

Get in Touch via –

mrsblandspta@gmail.com

**or catch someone in the
playground –**

**Rachel James, Gareth
Bowen, Lizi Hawkins,
Beki Streeter**

This week Little Acorns have learnt a lot about celebrating Christmas! We have read a story about 'Spot the Dog' at Christmas time, made cards and calendars and sang our Christmas songs.

In addition to singing to parents/family members we also went to visit Mrs Dolding in Acorns nursery and sang to her. Outside we have experienced ice and mud and rain!

Acorn Nursery

This week in Nursery we continued learning about Christmas through the story of, 'The Gingerbread Man.' We learnt to join in with repeated refrains and have looked at the similarities and differences between stories including characters, settings and endings. We have also thought about how we could create a different story ending of our own. We had a fantastic nursery Christmas party on Wednesday where we had a visit from Father Christmas' very own Elf on a trip from the North Pole. She brought us a present from Santa for nursery and was very pleased that we had all been good this year! We have been practising 1 to 1 counting and our phonic sounds this week were, 'ck' and 'e'. Please have a look at the phonic songs that have been sent out and have a go at singing them with your child over the holidays. Have a fantastic Christmas break and enjoy the festivities. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the New Year!

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

We have had a busy week in Beech and Maple classes this week! We have continued reading and learning about the story of, 'The Gingerbread Man'. We have retold the story and drawn story maps to show the events. Some of us have also made zig-zag books to show important parts of the story and have had a go at writing sentences or words to go with each page.

In Maths we have learnt about money. We have learnt the names of the coins and have put them in order from the one worth the least to the one worth the most. We enjoyed dressing up for our Christmas lunch, and playing party games and dancing at our Christmas party on Wednesday.

This week we have also discussed Christmas around the world. We have talked about how people in different countries celebrate Christmas, and how it is similar or different to the way in which we celebrate. We have also listened to and discussed several Christmas stories during literacy.

We had a tag rugby session with Danny, in which we played games using the tag belts, and practiced moving into a space and moving around with the ball. We have one more PE lesson with Danny, on Tuesday, Please don't forget PE Kits.

We look forward to another busy week next week, and then having a restful Christmas break.

Birch and Willow (Year 1)

This week the excitement of Christmas is really starting to build in school. On Tuesday Santa visited our classrooms and brought each class a lovely gift. On Wednesday we enjoyed a super Christmas lunch prepared by our talented lunchtime staff and served by the teachers. In the afternoon we had our class Christmas party which was great fun. All week we have been rehearsing for the carol service next week at St Oswald's church. This is always a lovely occasion as we get together with Garland school.

In English this week we have been writing our own fairy story based on the story map that we created last week. We have continued our work with Hansel and Gretel. We produced this work collaboratively in pairs, helping each other to produce our best work. In Maths, we have used Christmas themed activities to reinforce our learning and check our understanding of everything we have learnt so far this term. In DT we have been making Christmas party hats and 2018 calendars.

We are looking forward to going to The Watermill Theatre in Newbury next week to see The Borrowers. We have heard really good reviews!

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

In writing this week, Rowan and Hazel classes have been busy writing their version of the Christmas story. They have tried hard to use adjectives and expanded noun phrases to make their writing more interesting, as well as conjunctions to join sentences and time connectives. The children are also working very hard to improve to their hand-writing and presentation.

In maths, Year 2 have been solving different kinds of reasoning and worded problems involving money. They have shown their workings out, using number sentences, number lines or objects, and are being encouraged to explain their reasoning when solving a problem. An ICT game that the children have enjoyed playing is Toy Shop on www.topmarks.com.

Year 2 had an enjoyable time playing party games and eating their Christmas dinner. It has also been a busy week making Christmas cards and calendars.

Thank you to everyone for all your contributions to our successful cake sale on Wednesday.

Fun Zone Holiday Club

FunZone will be running during the Christmas break on the following dates (8am-6pm) and we are offering the following themed days.

20th December – (1.45-6pm) – Christmas Movie afternoon
21st December (8-6pm)– Sports theme
22nd December (8-6pm)– Christmas theme
2nd January – 2018 (8-6pm) Great British Bland's and Garland Bake Off
3rd January (8-6pm)– Dance and Drama

More details to follow. If you would like to book children in, please contact the school office for an application form. Children who are not booked and paid for in advance cannot be brought in on the day.

Star of the Week



Friendship Star



Clubs for Spring Term 1 2018

There are still a few places for Street Dance Club, Football and Tag Rugby (Years 1 & 2 only) Speak to the office for information.

Please ensure you have paid for your child before the end of this term so we can prepare the registers for the classes.

We have a few places left for Choir (Year 2 only) which is run by the school and is free.

FOREST SCHOOL IN JANUARY: PLEASE CAN PARENTS SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AS WHOLE CLASSES WILL BE GOING EACH WEEK. WE NEED TWO PARENTS TO ATTEND EACH SESSION. COME AND EXPLORE OUR NEW WOODLAND AREA WITH US!

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. Thank you for your support and good luck everyone!

The PTA

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