



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter 27th April 2018

Dates for your diary

4th May 2018

9.10am Celebration Assembly
with Poem Recital by Beech
Class - Beech Parents
Welcome

11th May 2018

9.10am Celebration Assembly
with Poem Recital by Maple
Class – Maple Parents
welcome

13th May 2018

Burghfield May Fair

16th May 2018

3.25pm Cake Sale – Beech
Class

17th May 2018

Outdoor Classroom Day

23rd May 2018

9.30am – 11.30am Sports Day
(main school) – refreshments
available from PTA
1.30pm – Nursery Sports Day

25th May 2018

Bad Hair Day – in support of
the PTA

25th May 2018

End of Summer Term 1 –
school finishes normal time
3.25pm

School News

Outdoor Classroom Day – 17th May 2018

We will be leaving the classrooms on 17th May and going outside to do all of our learning. We would like to invite parents to come and support various activities throughout the day. If you can spend an hour or so, please let your child's class teacher know. The children love having visitors in school so if you have the time, you'd be very welcome.

Next Friday 4th May – Beech class poem recital at 9.10am during our Celebration Assembly.

Late Collection of Children from School, Clubs and Funzone

Thank you to parents/carers who are always prompt collecting children from school or clubs. We do appreciate that extremely occasionally there may be an emergency where you get held up and if you contact the office we will always support you with making alternative collection arrangements.

However, there are a small minority of children who are regularly collected late. Staff work very hard during the day and legally their responsibility for the children ends at 3.25pm unless you have made arrangements for children to attend clubs or Funzone, in advance.

The process of Late Collections is being formalised with immediate effect. Please note that prior to any late collection, parents/carers will need to complete a form at the office or in Funzone prior to taking their child.

May we remind you that staff are paid for and contracted to work until the end of school, the club or Funzone and our legal responsibility ends at that time. Late collections (after 6pm) from Funzone incur a £5 fine. (please see Funzone terms and conditions). Please consider that staff have their own families to get home to. It is also upsetting for the children concerned if they are always the last left waiting.

Vacancies

We are currently looking for a play worker to help at Funzone on Monday and Tuesday mornings from 7.30-8.45am term time only. If you are interested, please speak to the office staff.

We are also advertising for a caretaker; please see the back page of the newsletter for more details.

Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

PTA Dates

13th May 2018

PTA at the May Fair
Help needed

23rd May 2018

9.30am – 11.30am
providing refreshments at
Sports Day

25th May 2018

Bad Hair Day

15th June 2018

Scotathlon and Summer
Fair!

Get in Touch via –

mrsblandspta@gmail.com

or catch someone in the
playground –

Rachel James, Gareth
Bowen, Lizi Hawkins,
Beki Streeter

This week we have been learning about slugs and snails! We have found several of them in the garden and have watched Gary our giant land snail in his tank. We have created some wonderful snail art work and listened to a story about a slug! We have counted slugs and snails and have explored slime in our water tray outside! Our potatoes are growing well and we helped cover them with more soil.

Acorn Nursery

This week we have been learning to recite the story of, 'The Very Busy Spider' by Eric Carle. See if the children can recall the animal characters and actions that we learnt. We have also met Gary the giant snail that was kindly brought in by Kirah-Leigh. We have learnt what food he eats and how to take care of him.

Since the start of our new topic, lots of children have been eager to show us the bugs they have found in the Nursery garden. If your children do any exploring of bugs at home, we would love them to bring in some photos to put on our 'Mini-beast moments' display board.

Please remember Forest School clothes for Monday (bar a few exceptions, Blue Whales are going in the mornings and Green Turtles in the afternoon). There will be a change of groups for Forest School after the half term holiday.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have been reading, 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson. He is a very nice worm who saves the mini-beasts, until an evil Lizard comes along. Can you re-tell the story at home? We all have really enjoyed the story and the children have done some fantastic writing about Superworm.

On Monday it was St. George's Day and we read all about St. George and the dragon. We have also enjoyed showing our books in show and tell to the class. Everyone was very confident and stood up to share their book.

Please can you continue to sign up for Forest school for Maple and Beech. Also if there is anyone that could volunteer to listen to readers we would be very grateful. Thank you!

Birch and Willow (Year 1)

Year 1 have continued to be superheroes and learn about them too! We've written film reviews and discussed our favourite characters in 'The Incredibles'. Math has seen us focusing on our 100 Squares – counting in 2s and learning about odd and even numbers. Some support at home with this would be fab!

Roy Lichtenstein inspired pop art in the 50's and 60's and our sketch books are filling up with decorative words such as 'pow' and 'wham'. The weather has been fairly kind to us at Forest School, but the children must have a hat for this spring weather! Volunteers are always needed and very, very welcome. Please sign up!!

Thank you for all your support and Ms Sawyer says she's had a great time with her new class.

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week the children have been working very hard. In maths we have been continuing with measuring length, capacity and mass using different equipment such as metre sticks, weighing scales and measuring cylinders. Have a look at home and see what different things you can measure. We have also been recapping how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s and solving problems involving this. Please practice your 2, 5 and 10 times tables at home.

In English we have been reading lots of different stories which have mini-beasts in them such as 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar,' 'The Bad-Tempered Ladybird' and 'The Very Busy Spider.' We have been practising reading with expression to show meaning. It has been lovely for us to see how their fluency has improved over the year. We have collected lots of ideas and have worked imaginatively to plan our own mini-beast story which we will be writing next week.

This week in science we have been learning about the lifecycles of different animals such as butterflies, chickens, frogs and even humans! Can your child explain what a lifecycle is?

Please remember to bring in a stone, if you haven't done so already, as we will be painting them as soon as we have enough!

Spellings for next week:

List 1- put, could, house, old, too, have

List 2- morning, queen, each, book, it's, green, different



Forest School



Last Thursday Beech Class managed to have their fire in the woods! The children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience but especially the eating part! They followed safety rules and talked about how the fire burns. Sadly we did not have any parents join us for this lovely experience. Please do volunteer to come and play with us, the children really benefit from having extra adults with them.

What a wonderful Forest School session Maple had on Monday. Every single child was happy and engaged hunting for mini beasts in the woods. We used little pots, spoons, trowels and paint brushes. We found spiders, ants, beetles, millipedes and lots more! Children used ID sheets to check what they had found and Oliver's Mummy even had to look up on Google for one beetle we found! The children shared resources wonderfully and were able to report back to the group about what they had found at the end of the session. THANK YOU TO OLIVER AND JESSIE'S MUM FOR COMING AND JOINING IN THE FUN.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE NEXT FOREST FUN IN MAY/JUNE HALF TERM

Stars of the Week



Dylan - Acorns
Thomas - Beech
Sianna - Maple
Brielle - Birch
Millie - Willow
Lily - Hazel
Ruby - Rowan

Friendship Stars



Owen - Acorns
Casey - Beech
Benedict - Maple
Elizabeth - Birch
Amelia - Willow
Harry - Hazel
Benjamin - Rowan

Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

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Email: office@mrsblands.w-berks.sch.uk



School Caretaker

Pay: £18,870 FTE (actual £13,986)

Start date: June 2018

Permanent Post, 32.5 hours per week, split shift, term time
+ 5 weeks during the school holidays

*(3 bedroom accommodation may be available with this post subject
to a 12.5% accommodation charge of gross annual salary)*

Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery school are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, skilled and dedicated person to take on the extremely important role of caretaker within the school.

Key aspects of the role include:

- Working a split shift 7.00-9.30am 3.00-7.00pm
- Some additional hours maybe required for school events outside of contracted hours for which overtime will be paid, including unlocking/locking the school for agreed evening lettings
- Responsibility for opening and locking the school and site security
- Experience of DIY and ability to carry out minor repairs, general maintenance and painting
- General cleaning
- Operation of site services, including central heating, security, portorage, relocation of furniture and equipment and cyclical maintenance

We are seeking to appoint a resourceful, reliable caretaker with initiative and a broad range of DIY skills necessary for the effective and efficient operation of site services. The position involves general day-to-day site duties including key holding, site security and supervision of cleaning staff, small scale building works, repairs and painting.

The successful candidate must be able to work on his/her own initiative, have excellent organisation skills, be extremely flexible, trustworthy and reliable with a positive approach to work and a sense of pride in the environment. The caretaker is responsible for ensuring the school buildings and premises are maintained to a high standard. A key part of the role is ensuring the site is health and safety compliant and keeping appropriate records.

You will work with the Office Manager and Finance Manager to ensure the safety of the site at all times. It is a varied and busy role requiring flexibility, adaptability and a 'can do' approach to all tasks and you will enjoy building upon existing relationships to ensure the school has a strong bank of skilled contractors available; be able to prioritise tasks and to be able to positively contribute to ideas and solutions to problems that arise.

For an informal conversation with the Office Manager, please contact Mrs Pauline Hudson on 0118 983 2332. A full recruitment pack can be downloaded from our website www.mrsblandsinfants.co.uk or contact the Office for a copy.

Closing date for applications: Monday 14th May
Interviews: Week Commencing: Monday 21st May

Mrs Bland's is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to pre-employment checks, references will be sought and successful candidates will need to undertake an enhanced DBS check.