

Dates for your diary

9th November 2018

9.30am Remembrance
Assembly – Rowan Class

9th November 2018

7.30pm Race Night

Parent Consultation Meetings

Tuesday 20th November
3.30pm – 6.00pm

Thursday 22nd November
5.30pm – 8.00pm

30th November 2018

9.30am Advent Assembly –
Beech Class

1st December 2018

12pm – 2pm Christmas Fair

3rd December 2018

2.00pm Christmas

Performance Dress Rehearsal
– siblings welcome

4th December 2018

2.00pm Christmas

Performance – adults only

5th December 2018

2.00pm Christmas

Performance – adults only

6th December 2018

9.30am Christmas

Performance – adults only

14th December 2018

3.25pm Cake Sale – Hazel

17th December 2018

2.00pm Joint Garland and Mrs
Blands Carol Service

18th December 2018

Snow White @ the Anvil

19th December 2018

Christmas Lunch

20th December 2018

1.45pm School Finishes

School News

I hope you all had a good half term? The school ran another very successful Forest Fun holiday Club. Thank you to all the staff who made the week so much fun for the children attending. Our next Forest Fun will be during the Easter break.

When dropping children off and collecting them, please do not smoke outside the school gates as other children and families will be entering and exiting the grounds. Thank you for your co-operation.

It is lovely to see that silicone water bottles have finally been invented! However, we are struggling to manage the storage of these as they do not like to stand up unaided and so far, leak more often than traditional bottles. This has meant staff have had to spend a lot of time clearing up spillages. Could we ask that these are kept at home and children continue to bring in the traditional plastic or metals bottles? Whilst on the subject of water bottles, please ensure they are named and only contain water as part of our Healthy Schools Policy. Many thanks.

Snow White at the Anvil

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for the Pantomime trip to the Anvil. If you haven't already done so please can you sign up via surveymonkey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SnowWhite>.

Payment may be made by cash/cheque or via parentpay. Please speak to the office if you need any help with this.

Race Night

The PTA are excited to be holding our first adult social and fundraiser of the school year; Race Night on Friday 9th November from 7.30pm. Please see below in the PTA news for more information.

Parent Consultation Meetings

Tuesday 20th November 3.30pm – 6.00pm
Thursday 22nd November 5.30pm – 8.00pm

You will have the opportunity to book a ten minute appointment with the class teacher which will take place in the hall. These appointments will be **strictly for parents/carers only**. Appointments will be available to book online via the Parentmail portal after half term.

Your child will be settled into their new class and we will be able to discuss progress and achievement. The appointment booking will open automatically on the 29th October.

Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

PTA News

9th November 2018
7.30pm Race Night

1st December 2018
Christmas Fair

Get in Touch via –

mrsblandspta@gmail.com

**or catch someone on the
playground –**

**Aaron White, Clare
Desai, Jo Nuckley, Claire
Oakes, Gareth Bowen,**

Welcome back. We are very excited to have our new toilets which were installed in the half term.

We have had an exciting week back. The nursery has been taken over with pumpkins and we had fun painting and rolling them. Some of the children enjoyed scooping out the seeds. We have recreated a bonfire scene in nursery and talked about fire safety and the fireworks we might see soon.

We have enjoyed making leaf mobiles that are now hanging in nursery.

Acorn (Nursery AM and PM)

In literacy we have been reading a book called, 'Daniel's First Fireworks!'

We have been learning the sounds s,a,t,i,n this week.

We have been writing our names.

We have been making firework pictures with silhouettes.

We have talked about firework safety.

This week in maths we have been learning to count out objects for a number up to ten.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In Reception this week we have introduced our new topic: 'What is a Shadow?' We have lots of light and dark themed activities planned for the coming weeks.

In literacy, we read and discussed the features of some firework poems, emphasising the use of noisy 'onomatopoeic' words. We have also enjoyed using glitter to create colourful firework art to decorate our classrooms and outdoor 'bonfire night' area.

In anticipation of bonfire night, we have learnt about its origins from the story of 'Guy Fawkes' and discussed how we can ensure our safety around fire and fireworks. In maths, we have worked on consolidating our knowledge of 2D shapes and used these shapes to make repeating patterns. See if your child can name and describe shapes around the house or on their way to school.

Birch and Willow (Year 1)

Welcome back after the holidays, we hope you had a restful week. Thank you to all the children who completed the tricky words spellings over the holidays. New spellings will come home next Tuesday, to be completed by the following Tuesday. Thank you for all the parents who came to our spelling café this morning. If you couldn't make it we will email out the presentation which has some good ideas on how to support your child with spellings in Year 1.

We started our new topic this week – Rio de Vida. The children have listened to carnival music, made head-dresses and located Brazil on a world map.

In English we have learnt an acrostic firework poem and performed it to the class. Then used what we learnt from these to write our own poems, focusing on using describing words.

In Maths we have been comparing measures using the language shorter, longer, heavier and lighter. Maybe over the weekend you could see if you could practise using these words.

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week in English, Year 2 have been learning about adjectives, what these are, and they add interest and excitement to descriptions. When writing their own dragon poems and dragon descriptions, the children used adjectives well and produced some lovely work.

In maths, both classes have been working out, recalling and using the addition and subtraction facts for 10, 20 and 100. All the children still need to practise their number bonds for 10 and 20 though, to consolidate them and to aid fluency. To help with this, we will be sending home a rainbow sheet with these number bonds on.

In art, which Mrs Nisbet has led, the children have enjoyed sketching and painting a detailed picture of a dragon, using other dragon pictures to help. They also had fun using their imaginations, moving to music and a story about hunting for a dragon.



Beech class had a damp forest school this week and we needed to wear our waterproof trousers and welly boots. The children enjoyed finding little puddles to go in. We talked about Guy Fawkes and why we have fireworks on November 5th. Some of the children made their own fireworks using pens, ribbon and wood. Some attempted to make their own Guy Fawkes and some children built their own bonfire. The clay soil was very wet this week which was great fun for them to explore! THANK YOU TO TOBY'S DAD FOR COMING ALONG TO ENJOY THE FUN.

Forest Fun Holiday Club

We had a wonderful week in the woods and the children thoroughly enjoyed a wide range of experiences. We cooked on the fire every day. We made clay models, built dens, peeled carrots, played in the mud kitchen, we used a hammer, we made owls, we had our faces painted and we went on a swing! At school we cooked a little treat every day and enjoyed arts and crafts, games, construction and playing outside. Children from several schools made friends and had great fun :-)



Maple Class Fireworks



New Toilets for Little Acorns



Forest Fun Holiday Club

Star of the Week

Friendship Star



PTA News

The PTA are excited to invite you to our first adult social and fundraiser of the school year; Race Night!

This will take place next Friday 9th November in the school Hall; doors open from 7.30pm and the first 'race' is at 8.00pm. To book a place or reserve a table, please visit the school office and pay £5 cash or cheque per person (made payable to Mrs Bland's School Association). This is a BYO drinks and nibbles event and delicious authentic Thai food will be available to buy, prepared by Maple parent Som Oxley.

There will be 9 horse 'races' on the night (all sponsored by local companies) and bets will be 50p per horse. A race program will be published early next week so if you are unable to attend the fundraiser but would still like to place some bets, these can be made in advance and any winnings collected the following week.

If you have any questions about the Race Night, please don't hesitate to email the PTA (mrsblandspta@gmail.com) or catch any of them in the playground at drop off and pick up. Alternatively visit the Mrs Bland's PTA Facebook page and post your comments there.

So why not get some friends together and reserve a table, this event is always great fun and a good way to get to know other parents.

The PTA are delighted to have been awarded £500 by Reading based company Huntswood, a specialist resourcing and consultancy company. Maple parent Charmaine Kelly works for Huntswood and nominated the Mrs Bland's School Association (PTA) for their monthly charity tombola. Amazingly they won first attempt! Please get in touch with the PTA if you work for a company who support local schools and youth groups in a similar way, or offer 'Match Funding' of events such as our forthcoming Race Night and Christmas Fair.

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-blinds-infant-and-nursery-school>