

### Dates for your diary

28<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Eye Tests – for Reception  
Children

6<sup>th</sup> February 2019

3.25pm Cake Sale – Willow

8<sup>th</sup> February 2019

9.30am Chinese New Year  
Assembly – Maple Class

8<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Disco Night

3.25 – 4.25pm Reception

4.45 – 5.45pm Years 1 & 2

15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

3.25pm School Finishes

25<sup>th</sup> February 2019

8.50am Spring Term 2 starts

7<sup>th</sup> March 2019

World Book Day

7<sup>th</sup> March 2019

7.00pm PTA Meeting

8<sup>th</sup> March 2019

3.25pm Cake Sale – Hazel  
Class

20<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Year R trip to Discovery Centre

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019

Joint Quiz night with Garland  
Junior School

27<sup>th</sup> March 2019

3.40pm – 6.00pm Parent  
Consultations

28<sup>th</sup> March 2019

5.30pm – 8.00pm Parent  
Consultations

29<sup>th</sup> March 2019

3.25pm Cake Sale – Birch  
Class

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019

Class Photos

4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

9.30pm Easter Assembly –  
Year 1

### School News

#### Garland Junior Open Morning

Garland Junior School are holding an Open Morning on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January from 10am to 12pm. It is open to all Year One and Year Two parents and carers and gives you the opportunity to see the school in action. Please see the attached letter from Miss Dawkins.

#### PTA Events coming up

We are delighted to have a vibrant PTA, who are always looking for help. Meetings apparently end with a trip to the curry house. We have numerous events coming up from cake sales to discos to a quiz. Please check the Calendar and PTA news below for more information.

#### Parental Support Drop-in Sessions

Mrs Hodson is our ELSA providing emotional support to the children in school. We are now pleased to offer drop-in sessions where parents may discuss any emotional concerns they have about their children with Mrs Hodson. Have they become quieter than normal, angry, or just not themselves; or are there changes at home that may be bothering them?

Times available are Mondays 9.00 – 9.30am or 3.00– 3.30pm and  
Thursdays 9.00 – 9.30am

Please sign in at the office as normal

## Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

This week in Little Acorns the children have been listening to the story of 'The Gruffalo's Child'. They have enjoyed using story spoons to act out the story and change their voices for the characters.

We put some coloured water in the garden to see what will happen overnight. We were very happy to see them turn to ice!!

The children have been very good at wrapping up warm to play in the garden and snow. Next week we are taking a break from our topic to celebrate Chinese New Year.

### Acorn (Nursery AM and PM)

In Acorns this week we have been making penguins with bottles.

In Literacy this week we have read 'Betty and the Yeti!' and listened to rhyming words. We have begun to read some tricky words as well as learning most of the alphabet sounds.

In Maths we counted printed snowballs to represent numbers up to ten.

In Science, we felt different types of ice and described how it felt. We also learned about animals which live in hot and cold climates.

We were very lucky to have experienced the snow and enjoyed catching it on our tongues and hands. It was very exciting!

### Maple and Beech News (Reception)

Where did the snow go? The children enjoyed the snow storm that we had on Tuesday afternoon. Will we get more snow before the end of our topic 'Where does snow go? The children have been looking at Nonfiction books this week and what animals live in cold environments. The children loved the story 'Betty the Yeti'. Asked the children what did Betty find? In Maths we have been looking at subtraction. Can you ask your children simple subtraction number sentences to see if they can work out the answer? Use toys to help them if needed.

The children have created some lovely penguin bottles and penguin pictures this week.

Please remember to name all children's clothing including hats and gloves as well as school uniform to help us ensure that all clothes are returned to the correct children.

### Birch and Willow (Year 1)

This week in English we have sequenced the story of Beegu. We are focussing on spelling tricky words within our writing, as well as continuing to use capital letters and full stops correctly. Can your child retell the story to you?

In Maths we have been subtracting one digit/two digit numbers. We started by practically taking away amounts – making sure we counting them correctly. Then we moved on to counting back on a number line. How far can your child count backwards in ones?

In Topic we have learnt about Major Tim Peake and put some of the key events in his life on a time line.

We have also been talking about the properties of different materials; is it soft, hard, transparent, smooth or bumpy. Can you think of any other words to describe the objects in your house?

#### PTA News

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2019**  
**PTA shed Inventory**

**6<sup>th</sup> February 2019**  
**3.25pm Cake Sale – Willow & Second hand uniform sale**

**8<sup>th</sup> February 2019**  
**Disco Night**  
**3.30pm – 4.30pm Reception**  
**4.45 – 5.45pm Years 1 & 2**

**7<sup>th</sup> March 2019**  
**7.00pm PTA Meeting**

**8<sup>th</sup> March 2019**  
**3.25pm Cake Sale – Hazel Class**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019**  
**7.30pm Joint Quiz Night with Garland Junior School**

**29<sup>th</sup> March 2019**  
**3.25pm Cake Sale – Birch Class**

**Get in Touch via –**

**[mrsblandspta@gmail.com](mailto:mrsblandspta@gmail.com)**

**or catch someone on the playground –**

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

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

Another week passed and white flakes fell from the sky to make us all excited about the possibilities of building snowmen and making snow angels.... sadly not this time!

We've continued with our Muck, Mess and Mixtures topic and focused on how to write up a science experiment. Ask your child, which soap created the most bubbles? We've also started to plan some diary writing as if we were George, telling our diary just how horrible that Grandma is and what we'd like to do to her. Antek's George wished for a teleport to whisk the old bag away and Eva's George talked about using the powers of invisibility.

Division has kept us occupied in maths and we created watercolour illustrations in the style of Quentin Blake with Mrs Nisbet.

Next week will be –

**More division and solving worded problems in maths**

**In English it will be diary writing and looking at when to use**

- **they're, their or there**
- **your or you're**

Thank you for your support

### Star of the Week

### Friendship Star



### PTA News

A belated Happy New Year from the PTA to all the staff, students and parents at Mrs Bland's. We thought we would share with you a review of all the PTA events that happened last term before looking ahead to the coming term and seeing what lies in store!

In October we enjoyed a highly successful Race Night that raised almost £800 for the school. For the first time we were able to serve hot food on the evening and many of us enjoyed Pad Thai noodles and spring rolls cooked by Maple parent Som Oxley – thank you Som!

Our Christmas Fair during the first weekend of December was another hugely successful event raising nearly £2,000 for the school. We listened to a festive performance from the school choir whilst enjoying refreshments and cakes baked and donated by Teresa McDougall, thank you so much once again Teresa! Many children enjoyed visiting Father Christmas in his grotto and he also visited the children in their classrooms after their school Christmas dinner towards the end of term. Many parents were lucky enough to win one of numerous raffle prizes available at the Christmas Fair thanks to generous donations from many local businesses. A belated thank you to Ascot Racecourse, Red Kangaroo and Mad Hatters Pottery (Tilehurst) whose donated prizes arrived after we had printed the Christmas Fair program.

Rowan class raised a substantial amount of money from their cake sale in the autumn term and this funded a fantastic Falconry experience for year 2 students.

The PTA funded the transport for the Panto trip in the last week of term, a day out which was enjoyed by many!

So what lies ahead? On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February we are looking forward to a cake sale with cakes provided by Willow class this time – the proceeds from this will fund a special treat for year 1 students this term. We will also be selling second hand uniform at the cake sale; if you have any unwanted uniform you would like to donate please drop it into the school office, in particular summer dresses.

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb we look forward to the annual Valentine's Disco. This will be from 3.30-4.30pm for reception children and 4.45-5.45pm for children in years 1 and 2. We are always in need of parent volunteers for the disco (which can be a fascinating and eye opening event for parents!) – please let us know if you can help. Sign-up sheets for parent volunteers will be with class teachers closer to the time and tickets will be on sale from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March we are pleased to confirm that we will be jointly running a Quiz Night Fundraiser (adults only) at Garland Junior School from 7.30-10.30pm, with proceeds from the evening being split between both schools. This always proves to be great fun, with rounds in previous years having included 'Human Top Trumps' and 'Cheesy Wotsit Face'.

The PTA committee this year are proving to be a sociable bunch with most meeting being followed by a trip to the local curry house! New faces are very welcome; we always struggle to staff larger scale events such as the Christmas Fair so are keen to recruit new members. If you can help in any way please get in touch with one of us; in the playground, via Facebook or via our gmail address.

## **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, the trainline 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>