

### Dates for your diary

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Year R –  
Height/Weight/Hearing

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

12.15pm Birch Class Parents  
invited to lunch

23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Jungle Book Week

26<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Magic Theatre “Jungle Book”  
in school

27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

12.15pm Cherry Class Parents  
invited to lunch  
3.25pm Cake Sale – Cherry

31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

3.40pm – 5.30pm Parent  
Consultations

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

5.30pm – 8.00pm Parent  
Consultations

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

9.30am Easter Assembly –  
Year 1 parents invited  
End of Term – School Finish  
1.45pm

20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Inset Day – school closed to  
pupils

21<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Start of Term 5

28<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Year 2 to Thatcham Discovery  
Centre

5<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Year 1 Fossil Workshop

8<sup>th</sup> May 2020

VE Bank holiday

### School News

It has been lovely to stand on the gate this week and see the children so happily walking, or in some cases, skipping into school! Understandably, I have been asked by many of you about a potential school closure due to the Coronavirus. We are hoping this will not be the case; however, our desire to continue with business as usual will obviously need to run alongside the need to protect staff, pupils and visitors.

Public Health England is providing daily advice to schools which we will continue to follow, such as regular hand washing at set times of the day. PHE have a dedicated webpage which has been set up containing all relevant information in one place. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

### Parent Consultation Evenings

Parent Consultation Evenings are taking place on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March between 3.30pm – 6.00pm and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April between 5.30pm – 8.00pm. Bookings can be made through Parentmail.

**Please remember that children are not to attend with you.**

### St Mary's Church, Burghfield

St Mary's Church in Burghfield have the following events they would like to invite you to:

**Community Work Party- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 10am** - in an effort to both help and support the Parish Council who are now responsible for the maintenance of the churchyard, we have agreed to host 3 work parties though the year at particular times to assist their budget. The first will be in spring as the growing season begins and will take place this Saturday. You may have read the article about this in the 'Burghfield Newsletter' which was recently delivered to every household in Burghfield. There is much to clear up from winter and 'many hands do make light work'. So come along and join in as we work together to clear up the churchyard as it has very much been the community churchyard for literally hundreds of years. Bring your wellies, wheelbarrows, gloves, rakes, clippers, petrol strimmer's or whatever equipment will be useful. Spread the word and bring your neighbours and friends, young and old, as we all come together to make the churchyard look loved and cared for. Refreshments will be available.

**Church4U – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 4pm** – our next monthly afternoon All Age service takes place this Sunday with the theme 'Living Water'. Come along and join in as we worship together and have a light Tea afterwards.

## **PTA News**

To see what you may have missed out on please visit the PTA on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MrsBlandsPTA>

## **Get in Touch via –**

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

or catch someone on the playground –

**Loic Manneville, Jo Nuckley, Claire Oakes, Gareth Bowen**

## **Little Acorns Pre-Nursery**

This week in Little Acorns we have certainly enjoyed the break in the weather and making the most of our garden area. We have been enjoying our outdoor shop in the role play area and had a great time exploring in the messy play tray with the frogs!

Inside we have been busy learning about a chicken's life cycle and making our very own baby chicks for our display.

Lots of little ones are becoming independent with their toileting - which is fantastic! Please can we ask that they come to school with a spare change of clothes just in case of any little accidents that may happen? Thank you

## **Acorn (Nursery am and pm)**

This week in Acorns the children have been reading the story of 'Farmer Duck.' We have been playing with farm animals and role playing in our farm shop with real vegetables. We enjoyed our woodland Wednesday walk where we looked for worms and spiders, some of us even picked them up! In science we did an experiment to see how we could protect an egg. We used water, mud, cotton, wool and tissue. Ask your children how it went!

## **Maple and Beech News (Reception)**

This week we have been looking at growing and looking at the books 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle and 'Oliver's Vegetables.' We have also been busy writing lists! Can you write a list at home, maybe for some shopping or of your favourite toys?

In maths we have been focussing on collecting data. We have been making bar charts, pictograms and even tally charts too! This week we have collected information about our favourite animals, fruits or colours. We have also been learning the days of the week. Can you remember all the 7 days of the week? Try and sing the song to remember them all.

We have been doing lots of planting this week in our garden area. By working together we have cleared all the old plants and we are ready to replace it with some new seeds and bulbs. If you have any you would like to donate, we would be extremely grateful as we have a large area to fill. We have also had lots of fun caring for our sunflowers in class and watching them grow their first shoots.

## **Birch and Cherry (Year 1)**

In Maths this week we have continued learning about 2D shapes. We have been using our camera skills to help us find 2D shapes around the school and have been using 2D shape to make pictures. We are learning to describe the shapes and recognise them even when they are turned in different orientations.

In English we have begun to make non-fiction leaflets about animals. We have been learning about the features of non-fiction texts and using this to write our own sentences.

In Design technology (DT) we are continuing to learn about healthy foods. This week we looked at the 'Eatwell' plate and why we should eat our 5 a day. Linked to our DT, we have begun to tend to the vegetable garden outside. We have now cleared it of weeds and are ready to plant some vegetables. We are planning to grow our own potatoes, carrots, peas and broad beans, as well as a range of herbs. If you have any gardening expertise we would welcome help with our garden!

In Science we are learning about how animals have different features to help them survive in different climates. We looked at the cold climates of the Arctic and Antarctic in Geography and used our videoing skills to record each other making David Attenborough style nature videos about animals that might live in those locations.

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

In English, the children have been researching and writing fact files for their chosen flowers. They have been thinking carefully about the key features of the test type and making sure they include these in their writing.

In Maths, the children have played guess my 3D shape – using the term vertices, edges and faces to describe their shape to a partner. Can they tell you how many faces a cuboid has? How about a triangular prism? We have also recapped the properties of 2D shapes thinking about the number of sides and also investigating how many lines of symmetry regular 2D shapes have. Can the children tell you the name of a 10 sided shape?

In Science this week, the children have dissected daffodils, studying and labelling each part of the plant. Hazel class have also been carefully creating their own still life drawings of the flowers. Rowan have been learning all about the Royal family and its members, working in pairs to work out where everybody fits on the family tree!

Many thanks for your offers of help with reading and Forest School - we really appreciate any extra parent support! If you are interested in coming in to help with planting or general gardening, please pop in to let us know!

## Breakfast Bees and Bland's Bumblebees (Before and After School Club)

This week in Bumblebees the children have been making their own banana bread. We enjoyed an extra pudding which was delicious! The children have been very creative this week and have made lovely paper flowers and some children designed their own paper aeroplanes.

Can we once again thank those that have donated dressing up costumes to us. The children really do benefit from this and are always so happy to see new things in Bumblebees.

## Friday Funday Cafe

This week's children who have shown lovely table manners at lunchtimes, kindness to friends and have kept the dining hall tidy and will visit the Friday Funday Cafe are:

Maple: James & Anna  
Birch: Freddie & Chloe  
Hazel: Rihanna & Alice

Beech: Chloe & Preston  
Cherry: Austin & Era  
Rowan: Oliver & Annabel

## 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, 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>