

### Dates for your diary

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October and  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October  
Life Bus in School

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October  
9.30am Governing Body  
meeting – pupil progress

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October  
Year 2 Falconer visit

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
Year 2 Trip to Oxford Castle

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
Year 1 Explorer Dome visit

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
School Finishes normal times

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
Staff Inset Day

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
8.50am – School Reopens

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November  
Year 2 Junkman visiting

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November  
Full Governing Body meeting

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
3.30pm – 6.00pm Parent  
Consultation Meeting

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
5.30pm to 8.30pm Parent  
Consultation Meeting

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November  
Diwali Assembly

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November  
Flu Vaccinations

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December  
Advent Assembly

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Class Christmas Lunch and  
parties

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
1.45pm School Finishes

### School News

#### Fortnite and Online Gaming

We have a growing number of children who are playing Fortnite at home on computers and mobile devices. The age restriction on this game is age 12. This rating only takes into account the content in the game and not the contact element, where players may be exposed to swearing and offensive language from strangers in voice or on-screen text chat.

Younger children often find it difficult to distinguish between fantasy and reality and some of the game content is being continued in play at playtimes and resulting in rough play, which we do not want to encourage.

#### Photographs

Please can you bring in your photograph orders by Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October as the courier will be picking up all photograph orders later that day.

#### Covid News

We are seeing an increase in positive cases nationally, so to continue to keep the school community safe could all parents, who are not exempt, please wear masks whilst dropping off and collecting your children at school.

#### Covid-19 Update from Department of Education

The recent update from the DFE highlights the following:

- From 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020, there is a new legal duty to self isolate if someone tests positive for Covid-19 or if you are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace team.
- There is a Department of Education helpline available to answer questions about the coronavirus relating to education and children's social care. The number is 0800 046 8687 and the hours of opening are Mon – Fri 8am to 6pm, Sat & Sun 10am to 4pm

## Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

### 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, Claire Oakes, Ben Ash, Laura Hooke**

What a lovely week we have had in Little Acorns this week.

We have been busy printing with paint this week, ready to make leaves for or display. We have been practising our numbers from 1-10 with the help of Numberblocks flash cards. The children have been working very hard. Maybe your child could help you to count out some items this weekend- see how high they can count?

The children have enjoyed exploring in the tuff tray with the sand and letters. They have concentrated as they spoon the sand into different containers – trying hard not to spill it! As the children come into nursery they will now see pictures of themselves with their name- this is for our self registration board. The children have made a brilliant start finding their own picture and placing it on the board independently. Well done Little Acorns.

### Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

Well done to the Acorns children for being so kind and caring to their friends in Nursery this week! The children have been learning this week about their families and pets. The children loved the, 'You Choose' story, and have talked about what home and pets they would choose. Next week if you could bring in a photo of the children's home that would be great. Some parents have asked about useful websites - this one is useful for phonics games (Phase 1) - <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/1> and for counting games - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/underwater-counting>

Next week we will be thinking about how we belong in our homes and families as well as the different rooms in our homes and what they are for. See if your child can count how many windows and doors you have in your house. We will also be exploring the book 'Titch'. In Maths we will be practising counting and matching numbers, and comparing heights by tall/short. With the weather becoming more Autumnal, please remember to bring a named coat everyday as we go outside in all weathers, and to wear outdoor clothes on a Wednesday when we have Outdoor Learning

### Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In Maths this week we have been investigating numbers. We had a number hunt then worked together to put them in order. Can you see what numbers you can spot when you are out and about over the weekend? What is your house number? Can you see any road signs that have numbers in them?

We have continued to learn about what makes us special and the children have been sharing their family photographs. It has been lovely to hear a number of children talking confidently about their families and discussing similarities and differences respectfully.

The children have been enjoying gymnastics and have been learning how to use equipment safely. In outdoor PE they have been practising throwing and catching bean bags and tennis balls. They have also been moving around in a large space, changing directions and avoiding bumping into anyone else.

This week in Outdoor learning our focus was leaves. We collected and talked about their shape, size and colour and used them to make pictures. Could we please remind you all that all children need waterproof trousers every week for outdoor learning, our area is very muddy and this will help protect them and our classrooms from getting very muddy.

### Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

The Year Ones have had a great week. In maths we have been busy learning how to use number lines to find one more and one less than a given number. We have also been learning to use the greater than, less than and equals symbols (> < =) when comparing two numbers. English has been really fun this week. We have been writing our own versions of 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' by thinking about what might've happened if the tiger came to school. We looked at lots of photos of the tiger doing naughty things in our school when we weren't here, such as drinking all of the milk and eating all of the snack! We then drew a storyboard of our stories, 'The Tiger Who Came to School,' and have written sentences. We have been practising hard to use finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.

In ICT we have been continuing to practise how to log in onto the computer independently. We have been using 2Paint to draw a picture of a toy and label it. Remember that you should be able to log on to Purple Mash at home so you can practise these skills. In Science we have been exploring the sense of touch. How many things can you find which feel different? e.g. bark, rug, tabletop. In Art we have been continuing to learn how to colour mix, this week learning how to make a colour darker, and in Outdoor Learning we have been listening to sounds outdoors.

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week we have loved trying out different knots to make frames, tripods and even dens! We have been trying hard to learn the names of them too.

In Maths this week we have been working on our problem solving and have begun to look at related facts. This has meant we have been practicing our addition and subtraction strategies to find the correct answers!

In Literacy we have been reading and listening to the story of, 'George and the Dragon' – ask us if we can tell you what happens! We have answered questions about the story and created our own story maps and sentences to write our own version of George and the Dragon.

Thank you for all your recycling! We have begun to build our Castles, working on our fastening and joining techniques. Mrs Nisbet taught us about using clay in art and we have made our own clay castles; learning about joining clay using tools and different shaping techniques.

## Bumblebees News

This week in Bumblebees the children in Reception have enjoyed playing with the animals and making homes for them with wood and sticks.

Year 2 have been learning to use our new Carpet Box. The children pass the box around and then choose a stone. Each stone has a different game to play in a circle on the carpet. The children have enjoyed learning new games.

In Year 1 the children have enjoyed playing 'noughts and crosses' in the playground and practising their bat and ball skills.

This week we have planted some flowers outside the Reception door to remind us to walk up and down the slope.

### Star of the Week



### Friendship Star



### Playtime 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, 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>