

Dates for your diary

Friday 23rd October
Staff Inset Day

Monday 2nd November
8.50am – School Reopens

Tuesday 3rd November
3.30pm – 4.30pm
Reception Halloween Disco

Friday 6th November
3.30pm – 4.30pm Year 2
Halloween Disco

Tuesday 10th November
3.30pm – 4.30pm Year 1
Halloween Disco

Wednesday 11th November
Full Governing Body meeting

Thursday 12th November
Year 2 Junkman visit

Friday 13th November
Year 1 Explorer Dome visiting

Tuesday 17th November
3.30pm – 6.00pm Parent
Consultation Meeting

Thursday 19th November
5.30pm to 8.30pm Parent
Consultation Meeting

Friday 20th November
Diwali Assembly

Tuesday 24th November
Flu Vaccinations

Friday 4th December
Advent Assembly

Wednesday 16th December
Class Christmas Lunch and
parties

Friday 18th December
1.45pm School Finishes

Monday 4th January 2021
8.50am School Re-opens

School News

Year 2 had a wonderful visit to Oxford Castle and have been busy writing about their visit. Some of the children enjoyed reading their recounts to me.

We have shown several prospective parents around school, via Zoom, and they have all been very impressed with all the work the children were doing. This is something new for us, but so far has worked well and some children have been confident to share their work and answer questions as part of our 'virtual' tour.

Outdoor learning in Autumn 2

The children have been enjoying a wide range of activities on-site for outdoor learning in Autumn 1. In Autumn 2, Years 1 and 2 will be returning to the woods as well as continuing to develop their outdoor skills on-site. In weeks 2, 4 and 6 we will be looking for parent volunteers in Years 1 and 2 to accompany them to the woods. If you have not helped before you will need to contact the office to complete an induction. If you have helped before, you will still need to contact the office to be updated with the COVID procedures.

Year 1 Birch – Friday afternoon (13/11, 27/11, 11/12) – leaving at 1.00, returning for home time at 3.

Year 1 Cherry – Monday afternoon (9/11, 23/11, 7/12) – leaving at 1.00, returning for home time at 3.10.

Year 2 Hazel – Thursday afternoon (12/11, 26/11, 10/12) - leaving at 1.30, returning for home-time at 3.10

Year 2 Rowan – Tuesday afternoon (10/11, 24/11, 8/12) - leaving at 1.30, returning for home-time at 3.00

This year we will **not** be able to supply spare wellies and waterproofs to children to go to the woods due to Covid restrictions. Children will need to bring their own waterproof trousers and wellies or they will not be able to go to the woods unfortunately.

Nursery and Reception will continue with on-site outdoor learning with a view to using the woods in the Spring term.

School Disco

The PTA are holding Halloween Discos for each year group bubble to raise funds for the school. The cost is £5 and includes drinks, snacks and a gift. Payment can be made via Parentmail, or cash in a named envelope posted in the post box. The staff have very kindly agreed to staff these events.

Reception – Tuesday 3rd November 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Year 1 Tuesday 10th November 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Year 2 – Friday 6th November 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Please see the posters in the school noticeboards for more details.



Year R pattern making with natural objects

PTA News

To see what you may have missed out on please visit the PTA on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MrsBlandsPTA>

Halloween Disco

**Reception – Tuesday
3rd Nov 3.30pm–4.30pm**

**Year 1 – Tuesday 10th
Nov 3.30pm–4.30pm**

**Year 2 - Friday 6th Nov
3.30pm-4.30pm**

**£5 per pupil includes
drink, snack and gift**

**Please bring your best
fancy dress costume to
change into.**

Get in Touch via –

mrsblandspta@gmail.com

**or catch someone on the
playground –**

**Loic Manneville, Claire
Oakes, Ben Ash, Laura
Hooke**

Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

What spooky fun we have had this week. We have been enjoying lots of Halloween themed activities in the nursery such as making a witch's brew in the water table, practising our scooping, pouring and stirring skills.

We have been hammering golf tees in pumpkins outside and matching ghost numbers in Maths.

The children have settled into nursery life so well this term, we are very proud of them all.

If you find a spare moment over half term please do continue practising on counting, colour names and singing along to your child's favourite nursery rhyme.

Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

We are really proud of the way the Acorns children have settled in so well to Nursery this half term, well done to all of them!

The children have enjoyed the stories about brothers, sisters and Grandparents this week. We have been learning about the s/a/t/p letter sounds - see if your child can sing along to these phonics songs at home <https://vimeo.com/76605648> We have been practising counting carefully at times like snack time, counting how many children have got bananas/apples/oranges etc.

Next term our topic will be 'Why are leaves crispy?' and we will be learning about leaves and trees changing in Autumn, as well as learning about nocturnal animals. We hope you all have a lovely half term break!

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in Maths we have been learning about repeating patterns.

The children have been identifying what the pattern is and then continuing it. We have tried it with colours, objects and shapes.

Maybe you could have a go at making a pattern using natural objects such as the one above? The children have enjoyed writing their name and house numbers on envelopes which they then posted in our post box in school. Maybe over the holidays you could see if they can remember some more of your address and write a letter, draw a picture and post it to your friends or family.

We have found out about the Harvest festival and read a story from the bible – Moses and the bullrushes, and talked about our own families, thinking about how people are special and how we can celebrate and give thanks.

We have started looking at internet safety with the children. This website www.childnet.com has a really useful section for parents with online safety tools and advice for different ages.

We would like to say how proud we are of all the children in Reception in how they have adapted and learnt so many new things this term. We have put some 'wow moment' sheets in their book bags if you could write something you have noticed that your child is able to do at home we can add it to their learning journeys. We hope you all have a restful half term and come back ready and refreshed to start our new topic 'Let's Celebrate!'

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

In maths in Year 1 this week the children have been learning about 2D shape. They have been on shape hunts, made shapes from sticks and made shape pictures too! In English the children have made a timeline, marking on toys from the past and the present, and continuing their discussion about their similarities and differences. They have also been learning the days of the week in order, and practising to write them, remembering the capital letter at the front. Perhaps you could make a sign at home and ask your child to write what day it is! We have done a lot of Design and Technology this week to design, make and evaluate a chair for Baby Bear.

The children have worked so hard this half term and we are impressed with how they have made the transition from Foundation Stage to Year 1. Next half term our topic will be 'From Infinity to Beyond,' concentrating especially on Neil Armstrong. I wonder if over half term you could find out some interesting facts about him, or look up some information about one of the planets? Don't forget to keep up with your reading over half term. Have fun, stay safe and we will see you in November!

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

We are so proud of the way Year 2 behaved on our trip to Oxford Castle, they represented the school fantastically and impressed the tour guides with their Castle knowledge!

This week, in English, Year 2 have been writing recounts. We have written all about our amazing visit from the Falconer and also our exciting Trip to Oxford Castle. Ask us to tell you what we got up to!

In maths, we have been continuing to practise our addition and subtraction, in particular adding and subtracting single digits. We have also been working on the different ways to add and subtract 10 to a two digit number using dienes, 100 squares and number lines!

In P.E this week Year 2 showed off their basketball skills in a bench ball tournament! The children's team spirit and determination meant they all were very successful.

Bumblebees News

This week in Bumblebees the children have all been enjoy some Halloween activities. We have decorated pumpkins, made ghost lanterns and played pumpkin bowling! The children coloured in Halloween pictures and made their own spider pictures. We enjoyed carving the pumpkins-even if it was a bit smelly!

Star of the Week



Friendship Star



Playtime Star



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.

If you or your child are showing Coronavirus symptoms and have a Covid test, the whole family bubble must isolate until the test result is received back. Please do not come into school if you or your children are showing any of the symptoms.

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>



Mrs Blands is now registered with Amazon's 'smile' charity programme!

If you select Mrs Bland's as your selected charity, 0.5% of eligible spend will go straight back to the PTA.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1050019-0>

Half Term Activities

Patricia Sears
Arts Centre Officer
Arlington Arts
Mill Hall
Mary Hare
01635 244246
www.arlingtonarts.co.uk



Jungle Adventure with Boogie Mites!

Join Lizzie as we set off on a musical adventure into the jungle!

Perfect for children up to 5 years and their favourite grown-ups, we'll be using music, movement, instruments, and imagination as we explore the sights, sounds and wildlife.

Children and adults alike love our engaging, interactive songs - and as a bonus, you'll discover ways to use the brain-boosting power of music to support your child's development.

Each child can bring one grown-up only, this will help us adhere to the social distancing guidelines. Only one non-participating sibling may attend per paying child and they must be under 1 year, carried by the grown up.

Session 1 - 10-10.45am

Session 2 - 11.15am-12.00pm

£8 class fee is payable per child.

Burghfield Pumpkin Trail

Burghfield is having it's own pumpkin trail this year instead of Trick or Treating. Please go to the facebook page for more information

<https://www.facebook.com/BCPumpkinTrail2020/>

Berkshire Maestros

If you're looking for a half term activity for your children and teens, look no further! Our one day courses at Reading Music Centre are for ages 8 to 18, with something for everyone.

Some courses require no prior experience, with others designed for those who play flute, clarinet, saxophone, brass, guitar or double bass.

<https://www.flipsnack.com/bmaestros/autumn-music-courses.html>

Clean Air Competition

Why don't you design poster for the Clean Air Competition. Details are attached to the email.