

Newsletter

22nd January 2021

Dates for your diary

Thursday 28th January 2021
1.45pm Finance Committee

Governing Board Meeting Friday
12th February 2021

3.00pm School Finishes

15th-19th February
Half term break

Sunday 21st February

Government update on current lockdown measures. This is going to be difficult to plan any changes, if required, for the start of term beginning 22nd February.

We will be sending out a Parentmail on 21/2/21 to update you on any changes made in education.

School News

It's lovely to see how resilient the children are all being, whether they are learning at home or in school. They have adapted to all the changes really well.

The PTA have very kindly bought us some new IT equipment to help with remote learning. Thank you for all your support with events over the last few months, as it has meant the children will benefit from the fundraising. We have some new wireless headphones, which should help filter out background noise and some visualizers which help project images and teachers modelling and share children's work.

Next week, we will be trialling something a little different during the 9am and 11.30am sessions to see if it enables us to start the sessions more promptly. Next week, on Monday to Thursday, the teachers will lead the remote sessions without the children in class joining in. On Friday for the weekly learning review/quiz, the remote learners and school learners will be able to catch up and join the session together. All links for sessions will remain the same. Learning, both in school and remotely will continue to be aligned.

Many thanks for your continued feedback. All your positive comments have meant a lot to the staff.

Mrs Nisbet

remotelearning@mrsblands.w-berks.sch.uk

Blue Peter on Youtube

CBBC has launched [Blue Peter on YouTube](#) at CBBC. If you fancy something different after your home schooling.

Blue Peter is the longest running kids TV show in the world and we are uploading videos to it that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. We have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. We also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about our incredible presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog.

Subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> - (it's obviously completely free to subscribe!) and don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.00pm every week, or on BBC iPlayer.

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

or catch someone on the playground –

Loic Manneville, Claire Oakes, Ben Ash, Laura Hooke

Hello Little Acorns, I have been blown away at how hard you are all working at home. I have loved seeing all your videos enjoying the different activities. This week we read the story, 'Head and Shoulders' following on from this we sang the song 'Head and Shoulders' and I challenged you at home to make a clip of yourself finding and naming your different body parts from the story- well done to those who did.

We also practiced using our hand muscles by working with pegs this week. I showed you how to open and close the pegs, which is a good way to build up important muscles in our hands to help gain control. This helps with fine motor activities such as pencil control and threading.

We look forward to hearing from you all next week.

Take care and stay safe.

Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

The children are still engaging really well with the remote learning sessions, Seesaw and the learning packs, as well as the children who have come back into Nursery. It is lovely to have Mrs Tanner helping with the remote learning and in class too. Please let us know if there is any way we can help you engage with the remote learning. With our topic, 'How Many Colours in the Rainbow?', this week we have been exploring the colour red in the story 'Little Red Riding Hood'. We have been learning the song 'I love red!', exploring how to mix colours, and making a big group rainbow. We have made masks for the characters in Little Red Riding Hood, and retold the story with small world characters and in the role play corner. We have been learning the letter sounds m, d and g, and we have been counting carefully and next week we will be learning about the colour white, and exploring the story 'Polar Bear Polar Bear, what do you hear?'. Keep an eye on Seesaw for more resources and to see what else we are learning!

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have read the story, 'The Gingerbread Man'. The children sequenced pictures, retold the story using small world characters and puppets focusing on the repeating language, drew their own story map and wrote some simple labels and thought bubbles.

In addition to this, in our creative curriculum the children have been making bridges using lots of different materials they have found in school and at home so the gingerbread man can get safely across the river. As well as completing activities on Purple Mash, and making and decorating gingerbread men.

In other areas we have been continuing to practise our addition and subtraction skills using bricks, online games and food!

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

It's been another busy week in Year 1. In English we have been innovating on the story of Three Little Pigs and Writing our own versions, such as The Three Little Chickens. We have had fun thinking of the different characters we could use! Our focus has been on using capital letters and full stops in the correct places- not easy! In maths we have been adding on a number line, making sure we count the jumps correctly. Science has been about Seasonal Change, and beginning to use the words evergreen and deciduous, and in Geography we have been thinking about the objects in our location, and how near and far they are from us.

Our remote sessions are going well and we have loved being able to connect with all of the children in our class on a daily basis.

Next week we will be doing some art based on the work by Andy Goldsworthy. He used a lot of natural items such as leaves, pebbles and twigs in his work so please collect some of these things over the weekend. You will also need a pine cone for science next week so please try to find one of those too!

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week, in writing, the Year 2 bubble and children at home have been working hard on designing their own marvellous medicine, thinking about what disgusting ingredients they will add! They have worked on using similes, expanded noun phrases and alliteration. We are so impressed with the language children are selecting and can't wait to hear more about their marvellous medicines!

In Maths, Year 2 have been working on measure! We have been learning about capacity and volume, reading scales accurately and explaining the difference between the two. We have also been thinking about measuring in cm for length and width.

We have continued to find out more about Florence Nightingale and her importance in the development of hospitals, we have followed recipes to make lots of amazing products and have been thinking more about the things we can do to look after the environment, such as recycling. In Art we have been inspired by Carl Warner, designing our own landscapes and images using items from around our homes/ classroom. We have learnt more about the Jewish celebration of Passover and what families might do to celebrate.

We are so impressed with all the work Year 2 have produced this week and are really enjoying watching children share their work with the rest of the children!

School Star



Seesaw 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>