

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 21st September

Meet the Teacher –
Appointments via
Parentmail

Thursday 23rd September

Yr 1 Toy Workshop

Tuesday 28th September

Yr 2 visit to Oxford Castle

Friday 1st October

Deadline for returning
school photographs via
school

Tuesday 12th October

Sir Linkalot school visit

Monday 18th October

Yr 2 Millets Falconry in
school

Friday 22nd October

Inset Day – school closed to
pupils

Friday 22nd October – Friday

29th October

Half Term

Monday 1st November

Autumn Term 2 begins

Tuesday 2nd November

Yr 1 Explorer dome in
school – am

Yr 2 Junkman visiting – pm

Friday 5th November

Remembrance Assembly-
led by Rowan

School News

This week we have been saying '**cheese**'! Tempest were in to take sibling and school photographs and Newbury Weekly News have taken pictures of the new Reception classes. The children behaved impeccably, and we would like to thank those of you that came in early to ensure a quick turnaround. Please note the deadline for returning your pictures via school is Friday 1st October.

We are looking forward to inviting a parent per child into the school next week for 'Meet the Teacher.' Thank you to those of you that have already signed up. There are still some spaces available if you would like to come in to see your child's class and teacher. Please check Parentmail to sign up.



Calling all parents..... Our children really enjoy building their own obstacle courses outside. Please may we ask for donations of used (but not damaged) tyres, and scaffold planks. We would also like any small wood offcuts that the children can use during their outdoor learning sessions for woodwork. Thank you in advance.



Another activity that the children gain vital skills from is gardening. They thoroughly enjoy making the school beautiful and so we are planning on having a planting week from 27th September. Could we ask each child to bring some bulbs in to plant in their outdoor learning session that week. The children can then track the development of their plants through to spring when they will all be in bloom.

As always, the start of a new term means the children getting used to looking after all their own items. Please can we all ask you to check PE and school bags to ensure that all the contents belong to your child, as a few items of clothing have been misplaced this week. To help facilitate this process, please ensure that everything is labelled.

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>

PTA AGM Dates - TBC

Get in Touch via –

mrsblandspta@gmail.com

or catch someone on the playground –

**Ben Ash, Laura Hooke,
Sian Killen, Charmaine
Kelly**

The children have been hard at work playing and exploring this week in nursery. We have been learning how to sit on the carpet as we enjoy daily 'rhyme time' sessions. The children have really enjoyed choosing different items from the rhyme time basket and have been excellent at listening to the rhymes and joining in with the rhyme as well.

The children have been putting their hand muscles to the test this week by squeezing and squashing the playdough and moving colourful pom-poms into different containers using tweezers. These simple activities help build hand muscles needed to control pens and pencils when we learn to draw or write. Outside we have been practicing our number knowledge as we splash in the water tray with the ducks. Each duck has a number underneath, and the children were excited to see which number duck they had caught in their nets - of course the song '5 little ducks' has been sung lots of times whilst we play - we would love to hear if your child has been singing this to you at home too.

Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

Well done to the Nursery children for continuing to settle into Acorns Nursery so well. Over this week they have been enjoying circle games to get to know each other, as well as settling in to the Nursery routines. With our topic based around the theme 'Why do you love me so much?', they have been learning this week about their families and homes. It has been lovely to see some of the photos of the children's families this week and they have spoken to the class about them, please do bring them in next week if you haven't had a chance to yet. The children loved their first outdoor learning session, learning about Oak trees and acorns, and how to sit and move around safely in the log circles.

Next week we will be thinking about how we belong in school as well as in our families, and we will also be exploring the book 'Spot goes to school', as well as other stories about starting school. In Maths we will be practising copying and making repeating patterns using natural objects (e.g. acorn/pine cone/acorn/pine cone etc.), and other everyday objects such as buttons and bottle tops – maybe they can have a go at making some at home too? If you have any questions, do ask.

Maple and Beech class (Reception)

We would just like to say well done to all the Reception children for completing their first full week at school and what a busy week it has been!

In outdoor learning we explored our outside environment, practising how to get into a circle quickly when the teacher shouted 'sticky toes.' We also had a walk around the school looking at the pond area and wild garden.

We have been into Assembly twice this week in the hall sitting and listening to stories and practising some harvest singing.

Ms Duncan came and did some Music in our class on Tuesday afternoon, we made different sounds with our body.

In PE we played stuck in the mud and practised bouncing balls.

In Literacy we have listened to the story Halibut Jackson, which was about someone being shy and blending into the background, it had some wonderful illustrations that we talked about.

In Maths we have been matching pairs of objects and talking about how things are the same and different.

On top of that we have started going into smaller phonics groups, looking at letters s, a, t, p. Can you play eye spy and see if you can find things starting with these letters, or see if you can find examples of these letters written in the environment, on books or signs.

We used Sir Linkalot programme to help us learn the letter 'a' this week.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

In English this week we have been writing a simple story based on the book, 'Where's my Teddy?' We have been using colourful semantics to help us with our sentence structure. In Maths, we have been working on one more and one less and practicing our number formation. In Science, we have named and labelled our body parts played lots of games with actions. In Art, we have been mixing the primary colours to find out what happens.

Please could you help your child by reading at home every day. We understand that the children are tired when they come home so even reading a few pages is beneficial. At school, we aim to hear the children three times a week and will change books daily, if they have been finished.

Sir Linkalot words this week – do, go, no, so, do, ear, hear, near, eat, away.

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

A huge well done to all the children on another fantastic week in Year 2! We've had another busy week. In maths, we have continued learning about place value, and have been reminding ourselves how to partition 2-digit numbers in different ways. See if your child can draw a part/whole model at home for you!

In English, we've learned how to use the suffix 'ed' to change verbs into the past tense (look – looked). We've also continued with our Castles topic, learning about the different jobs people did in castles. Ask your child if they can tell you what job they would have liked to do if they worked in a castle!

We've also been designing and creating this year's Christmas Cards for the PTA to sell. The children have been very creative, and we've used our knowledge of Paul Klee from our art lessons to inspire our drawings. We're very excited to see the finished product once they've all been printed!

Our Sir Linkalot words this week have been biscuit, country, couple and daughters. We've also been revisiting some of last week's words, to help us remember them.

We would love to welcome some adult helpers into school to read with the children or help us with our outdoor learning sessions. If you can spare any time to come in and help us, please let one of the adults know when collecting your child. We're also after materials for junk modelling, if you have any small boxes or cardboard rolls you can send our way!

We look forward to welcoming some of you to our Meet the Teacher meetings next week. If you have any questions or concerns about this year, please feel free to share them with us then.

With thanks from the Year 2 team.

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>

Mrs Bland's is now registered with Amazon's 'smile' charity programme.

If you choose 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>