

Dates for your diary

Friday 5th November

Y2 Remembrance Assembly added to Seesaw for parents to view.

Friday 12th November

Children in Need assembly led by The School Council

Tuesday 16th November

Parents Consultation Evening
3.30pm-6.00pm

Thursday 18th November

Parents Consultation Evening
5.30pm-8.00pm

Friday 26th November

Maple Class Advent
Assembly

Friday 3rd December

Year 2 SATS Information

Friday 8th – 10th December

Christmas Performance. This will be recorded for parents to view.

Monday 13th December

Joint Carol Service with
Garland TBC

Tuesday 14th December

Theatre Trip 'Beauty and the Beast' The Hexagon (whole school excluding Nursery)

Wednesday 15th December

Christmas Jumpers,
Christmas Lunch and Class
Parties

Friday 17th December

End of term School closes at
1.45pm

School News

Welcome back to all our children this week. It has been lovely hearing about the fun you had during half term and over Halloween.

We have had a very busy first week back. Year 1 had the Explorer Dome in to visit on Tuesday and from the noises we could hear from the hall, it sounded as though the children really enjoyed the visit! The children learnt all about the stars.

Later the same day, our offices were filled with the sounds of music and drumbeats as the Year 2 children took part in a music workshop with the Junkman Orchestra.

Thank you to all of those that were able to sign up for the flu immunisations for their children on Wednesday. For anyone that was unable to make this session there is further information attached on how to book this in for your child.

The Year 2 children have also been very busy all week practising for the Remembrance Assembly. Well done everyone for your hard work! The assembly was recorded and will be added to Seesaw for the Year 2 parents to view. The video will be available to view for 10 days.

We are now selling poppies for a donation as well as various other items which have a suggested donation price. Please see the attached poster which includes the prices and ensure you send your child with the correct money in a named envelope which also details the item/s that they're buying. These will be given to the children to bring home at the end of the day.

We would like to say a big **Thank You!** To the PTA for the wonderful Interactive Boards that were put up over half term. The teachers and children have found them really useful.

Finally, please can we remind parents to ensure that all children bring their PE kit to school on a Monday and leave it here for the whole week. In addition to the PE sessions with Danny, the children also have indoor Dance/Gym sessions each week. We occasionally swap Year group sessions over, depending on other events happening in school. Having the PE kit in school also means children have a spare set of clothes available if they get wet during outdoor learning or during play or if they have an accident.

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**

Little Acorns Class (Pre-Nursery)

Welcome back everyone, we hope you all had a wonderful half term and are ready for the fun to continue.

This term our topic is 'Why do Leaves go Crispy?'

This week we took advantage of the beautiful Autumn weather and the children enjoyed a walk to our forest school area. The children were excellent at holding on to the safety rope and remembered how to use their walking legs. Whilst in the forest area the children explored in the long grass hunting for different coloured leaves, climbed onto different sized log and some even felt brave enough to jump off, remembering how to land safely on two feet whilst bending our knees. Lots of fun was had as the children discovered the willow den! Some children began to sing independently as they made a 'fire' using sticks.

Back inside the nursery we talked about Bonfire night- what the children might see and hear and how to stay safe.

We enjoyed making edible chocolate sparklers for snack time too!

We enjoyed listening to some stories about Diwali, the festival of light. The children enjoyed Mendi hand colouring sheets in the mark making area.

The weather has turned colder so we please ask that your child has a coat, hat and gloves as we do still play outside every day.

Please do continue to bring in spare clothing (named) daily and a (named) water bottle.

Thank you.

Acorn Class (Nursery am and pm)

We are really proud of the way the Acorns children have come back to Nursery after the half term holiday, well done to all of them!

This term our topic will be 'Why Do Leaves Go Crispy?' and we will be learning about leaves and trees changing in Autumn, as well as learning about nocturnal animals.

The children have enjoyed the stories about fireworks and how to keep safe with fireworks this week. In outdoor learning we found different types of leaves, sticks and twigs to make tree pictures, and we made some leaf people and leaf families back in the classroom. After enjoying a fire in outdoor learning before half term, we have enjoyed having a pretend fire pit in our role play area this week.

We have been learning about the s/a/t/ letter sounds - see if your child can sing along to these phonics songs at home <https://vimeo.com/76605648> We have been learning all about the number 1, and practising recognising small amounts of dots up to 3 without counting (subitising). We have also been practising counting carefully at times like register and snack time, counting how many children have got bananas/apples/oranges etc. We have also been learning a little about Remembrance Day and what the poppies are for.

Maple and Beech class (Reception)

In Reception this term our topic is all about celebrations. We have begun by learning about the Hindu and Sikh festivals of Diwali. We have read the story of Rama and Sita and used puppets to begin to act out the story. We have also made our own clay Diva pots.

In maths this week we have been looking at shapes, with a particular focus on circles and triangles. We have gone on a shape hunt and drawn and created pictures inspired by the shape pictures of Wassily Kandinsky. We have also looked at positional and directional language.

In Outdoor Learning we have continued developing our skills with hammers. We used nails this week, hammering them into clay.

Our Sir Linkalot words this week are: he, she, we, me.

Thank you to those who have already sent in a photo of their child as a baby. If you have not yet done so please could you send it in this week. These photos can be emailed to reception@mrsblands.w-berks.sch.uk if you would prefer to send it digitally.

This term in PE outdoors we are learning tag rugby. As the weather is getting significantly colder, please can you make sure the children have trainers, tracksuit bottoms and a jumper/hoodie for PE outside, as well as their T-shirt and shorts for indoor PE, which is dance this term.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

We have had a very exciting week in year 1! We had a visit from the Explorer Dome and went on a journey into space. We found out about the stars in the sky and the different shapes and pictures that they make. If we get a clear night, then maybe you could look at the sky and see if you can find any of these stars. We also saw our planet Earth, the moon and the sun. We learnt that Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on the moon. We will be learning more about this in History. We will also be making our own moon buggies as part of our DT. If you could please start collecting cereal boxes or other small light cardboard boxes that we can use to make the chassis for our buggies we would be very grateful.

In English we have been writing recounts of either our half term holiday or the Explorer Dome experience.

In maths we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. Have a look around your home and see if you can find any of these shapes.

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

What an exciting week we've had in Year 2 this week! On Tuesday, we had a visit from the Junk Man with his junk orchestra, and the children had great fun trying out lots of the junk instruments and having a boogie to his music! If your child has been inspired to make their own junk instrument at home, please ask them to bring it in to school to show us, we'd love to see! And don't forget, we will also be making junk instruments at school this term, so we'd very much still appreciate any donations of boxes, tubes, tubs or elastic bands which we can use to make our instruments.

In English, RE and PSHE this week, as well as part of their assembly, Year 2 have been learning about the importance of Remembrance Day, the significance of the poppy, and why we commemorate it each year. Do ask your child if they can explain to you why poppies are such a significant symbol of Remembrance Day today. They have also worked extremely hard to memorise their lines in the assembly, as well as the famous poem 'In Flander's Fields' by John McCrae.

In maths, both classes have been learning how to subtract two-digit numbers from two-digit numbers, by showing their workings out both on their own number line, and by recording the number sentences. They have also applied this by solving worded problems involving subtraction.

Also, this week Year 2 have learnt about the Gunpowder Plot and firework safety, and have created their own firework safety posters in art.

As our new topic this term is music-themed, in both ICT and music, the children have enjoyed listening to and comparing different kinds of music, as well as thinking about music generates emotions.

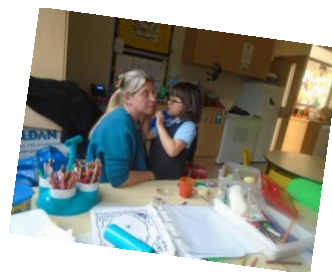
This week, they have now started learning to spell the words from the Sir Linkalot Christmas Carol bundle.

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week in Bumblebees the children have enjoyed colouring and making firework pictures. We have discussed what we may see on Friday night and the loud noises we will hear.

The children really enjoy the role play area and are good at sharing the toys and pretending to be 'mums' and 'dads' serving dinner.

The children have noticed how dark it is after dinner now, and we have talked about safety at nights on the way home.



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>