

**Dates for your diary**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

Reception Chinese New Year Assembly

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

Wear your scarf to school day

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

PTA Valentines day – wear red/pink

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

End of Spring Term 1

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

Spring Term 2 Begins

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

Book week

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

Y2 visit from Quirks Animal Roadshow

**28.02.22-04.03.22**

World Book Week

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

YR visit to Rushall Farm

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Red Nose Day

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

Parent consultations (TBC)

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

Parent consultations (TBC)

**School News**



What an exciting week! All classes have taken part in some fun activities this week to celebrate Chinese New Year.

During our Chinese Art Day we discovered that we have some very talented artists in our midst. The children made a Chinese Dragon, a model Tiger and completed Chinese Banner writing as well as Chinese flower painting. They are very excited to show you their creations!

The rest of the week has been filled with lots of Chinese stories, food tasting and themed lessons, as well as an informative online presentation from one of our parents. Ask your child what they enjoyed the most.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and we will be joining in with a new initiative to help raise awareness of the importance of Mental Health in Children.



There will be lots of fun activities for children to enjoy during the week and on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February children are invited to wear a scarf to school to raise awareness for this important topic.

Finally, we would like to pass on our thanks from St. Mary's Church in Burghfield. The card collection candles given out last term raised £178!

## 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](mailto:mrsblandspta@gmail.com)

or catch someone on the playground –

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

### PTA Valentines Day

For valentine's day, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February, we would like to invite children to come to school dressed in red or pink for a £1 donation. All proceeds go to the school. We are currently funding repairs to the EYFS pagoda and the library software.

This week in Little Acorns we have been celebrating Chinese New Year with lots of exciting activities.

We have been reading 'Peppa Pig's Chinese New Year' - to help us learn more about this celebration. The children were very excited to learn a song 'Kung Hei Fat Choy' - maybe they could sing it for over the weekend? We looked at photographs showing lots of festival celebrations too. The children liked all the bright colourful dragons and proudly displayed their knowledge of colour able to identify colours they could see. As a class the children painted paper plates and combined the plates made a body for our own class dragon.

The room was decorated in the lucky colours of red and gold. In the mark making area the children tried hard to draw Chinese symbols in red and gold glitter with their pointer finger.

We enjoyed sorting red, yellow and orange pom-poms into gold containers using tweezers- this helps the children to build and strengthen their hand muscles.

Outside the children enjoyed the sensory tray filled this week with red rice- gold and silver pots and Chinese money wallets- the children were able to demonstrate their skills of focus and concentration as the carefully scooped and poured rice into the different containers.

## Acorns (Nursery am and pm)

Well done to Acorns for learning so much about Chinese New Year this week! We have enjoyed learning about how Chinese New Year is celebrated, and we have tried some different Chinese foods, as well as learning how letters and numbers in Chinese are written very differently.

We have loved role playing in our 'Chinese restaurant', and have enjoyed being chefs and waiters, serving noodles and rice! We have been enjoyed making Chinese dragons and lanterns in the art area, and have danced to Chinese music.

Next week, we will be reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. On Wednesdays for Outdoor Learning, please can your child wear shoes or boots that are easy for them to take on and off to aid the children's independence when they are changing into their outdoor shoes.

## Maple and Beech class (Reception)

In Reception this week we have had a lot of children off for various reasons so we have joined the classes. The children have been amazing whichever classroom they have used each day, at sharing and taking turns with different people.

This week we have been learning about Chinese New Year. We have watched clips of people celebrating Chinese New Year, learnt a Chinese dragon song, and made lots of Chinese art works. We made our own spring rolls and in literacy we have changed the story of the Gingerbread man to be the Spring Roll man. We also tried prawn crackers, noodles, rice, lychees and physalis fruits.

In maths we have been learning about the numbers 6, 7 and 8. We have explored which smaller numbers can be combined to make 6,7 or 8. This is the beginning of us learning our number bonds.

We have spent a lot of time this week practising for our class assembly all about Chinese New Year. We will record this on Friday and post it on Seesaw so parents can see what we have been doing. It's been a really fun week!

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

We have really enjoyed learning all about Chinese New Year this week.

In English we have learnt the story of The Great Race and have written a version of it, making it into a book with a front cover too!

In maths, we have used the story to learn about ordinal numbers. In outdoor learning we made clay models of dragons and decorated them with stones, twigs and leaves to make them look scary.

We have also learnt how to do a Chinese hand dance, which we loved!

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

What a lovely week we've had in Year 2! We've had lots of fun learning more about Chinese New Year, and doing some fantastic arts and crafts to link with this topic! In English, we've read the story of The Magic Paintbrush, and had a go at re-writing it. The children have used some fantastic vocabulary, and are becoming experts in including adjectives and expanded noun phrases to make their writing even better. See if your child can retell the story to you at home.

In maths, we've done some Chinese New Year themed activities, including missing number activities and code breaking! We even used our fantastic maths skills to solve a crime! We've also done lots of art activities this week. We were very excited to work with Mrs Nisbet on Monday doing some Chinese themed arts and crafts. We've also painted a dragon mask and decorated sheets, which we used to do our very own dragon dance at the end of the week! In ICT, we used I pads to research the Chinese Zodiac Story; ask your child if they can tell you what animal represents 2022. We even got to try some Chinese food, and had a go at using chopsticks!

We've continued to work through the Great Grimms bundle with Sir Linkalot. Just a gentle reminder too, we'd still welcome any donations of leaflets, packaging, magazines or newspapers for our Karl Schwitters based art lessons over the coming week. Wishing you all a happy, restful weekend!

The Year 2 Team.

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week in Bumblebees the children have been celebrating Chinese New Year. We have been using red, black and yellow paint to do Chinese printing. We have tried using chopsticks to pick up noodles and practising some Chinese phrases.

We had a lovely surprise from Crumbs our who provide our meals in Bumblebees – fortune cookies! The children found it great fun to read the messages inside.

Friend



Dinner



Playtime



## 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, the trainline 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!



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