

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 16th March

Yr R visit to Rushall Farm

Friday 18th March

Red Nose Day

(wear 1 item of red clothing
with school uniform)

Saturday 2nd April

Love your school day 9am
to 3pm

Tuesday 5th April

Parent consultations (TBC)

Wednesday 6th April

Parent consultations (TBC)

Thursday 7th April

9.30am Easter Assembly
Y1

Thursday 7th April

End of Spring Term 2 –
school closes at **1.45pm**

Friday 8th April

Inset day

Friday 8th April – Friday

22nd April

Easter Break

Monday 25th April

Start of Summer Term 1

School News

We would like to start this Newsletter by again expressing our gratitude for your support this week with regards to the measures we have been forced to take due to an outbreak in COVID across our staff.

It really is not a decision that we take lightly, and we are all frustrated that COVID can still cause such a disruption to our lives. We always like to look for a silver lining in every cloud and one of the good things to come out of all this is that it does build resilience in your children and can help to allay any fears of change as they will now be so used to things having to change last minute! The remaining staff have been fantastic, and I would like to say a huge thank you to them for carrying on to ensure we haven't had to close more classes.

Book Week

On a more positive note, on Monday, Ian Bland, a performing poet, came to complete some poetry workshops with your children. The workshops were engaging, and we have heard many of the children talking about the poetry they heard and created in the playground and outside of school too. Book week has been such a success and with the focus on poetry, it has been lovely to hear class poems and see the children so engaged. Thank you to Mrs Williams for organising the week!

Love Your School Day

We would appreciate any help you can give to support us, whether it's an hour or part of the day. We are hoping we can sand down and paint the log cabin, tidy up the pond area and weed the sensory garden. Please email the office if you can help, so we have an idea of numbers for refreshments. Thank you!

Saturday 2nd April, 9am – 3pm



In order to improve the use of the outdoor learning areas, we'd like some volunteers to assist in:

- Sanding and repaint the outdoor learning cabin
- Clear/tidy the pond
- General gardening

To offer assistance, whether an hour or more, please sign up via the office.

Refreshments provided!

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**

We've all had an egg-cellent week in Little Acorns. Following on from our group time last week the children had asked if we can eat eggs, so they were very excited to help make scrambled egg for their snack time! Each child had a turn at whisking the egg.

They enjoyed sampling their scrambled egg with buttered toast- how yummy! The children were able to independently scoop up the egg and feed themselves! Brilliant.

In maths this week we have been busy at number recognition from numbers 1-10 with the help of numberblocks! We even built our own numberblocks using small, coloured cubes.

Our story of the week was 'Freddy the Frog' and 'Lizzie the lamb' two short rhyming stories.

Outside the weather has been kind and the children have been able to enjoy the grass area, this has allowed lots of turn taking and sharing of the cars and bikes.

Lots enjoyed our sensory farmyard tray whilst others enjoyed splashing with the ducks and frogs in the water tray. It's been lovely to hear the children making farm animal noises whilst playing!

Well done Little Acorns.

Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

This week after all the fun of Book Week last week, we have properly started with our 'Are Eggs Alive?' topic and have talked what we know already about how eggs hatch, and we have started learning about the life cycle of an egg, what hatches out of an egg and what eggs are used for. We have been drawing life cycles of a chicken and thinking about the stages of life. We have been thinking about how plants grow too and we have planted some cress seeds! See if your child can tell you what conditions they need to grow!

Next week we will be learning about other farm animals through the Farmer Duck story and retelling the story with small world animals. We will be revising the s/a/t/p/i/n/m/d/g/o/c/k/e/u/r/h/f/b/l letter sounds and practising blending these sounds together to read words - see if your child can sing the Jolly Phonics songs to you

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIQ5L9xgU4g>. We will also be making repeating patterns with natural objects, e.g. leaf/stick/leaf/stick.

Maple and Beech class (Reception)

We started the week with a poem workshop with Ian Bland, where we created our own action poem, which we then performed at the end of the day.

This week we went on a spring walk around the school, it was lovely to see all of the bulbs we planted in Autumn starting to come out. Can you see if you can spot any new flowers or buds on the trees near your house? Maybe you could take a photo and upload it to seesaw so we can have a look together.

In Literacy this week we have been learning the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk', we have acted it out and imagined what we might see if we climbed a beanstalk, which then helped us write some simple sentences.

In maths we have been counting backwards from 10, comparing amounts of objects using the words 'more' 'less/fewer' and have started to think about pairs that make 10.

Don't forget we are going to the farm on Wednesday – Please make sure your child has trainers and track suit trousers on, a bag for their wellies (if their wellies are in school) and a suitable coat. Lunch bag is provided unless you have stated that you will be providing your own. We are all really looking forward to it!

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

Wow, what a start to the week having the Poet Ian Bland come in. The Year One children loved creating their own poem with him, he made us all laugh including the teachers. In English this week we are learning all about Sir David Attenborough and what he has done to raise awareness about wildlife and the planet. Ask the children what facts they can remember about him. We are beginning to record our own wildlife reports using the iPad. During Maths this week we have continued to learn about measure and length and height. We have used metre sticks and rulers to help us measure correctly.

In RE we have started to learn about what it was like when Jesus entered Jerusalem and how he was treated as a special person. The children said that if they were to welcome Jesus to Burghfield they would make him cookies and cups of coffee and give him flowers and wave hello.

We have continued learning about animals and labelling the different body parts and saying which animal group they belongs to.

During outdoor learning we have been exploring the Year 2 wildlife area and ponds on the hunt for minibeasts. Can you think of any that we might find?

We are also going to start planting some vegetables in the raised beds outside the kitchen areas. If anyone has any seeded potatoes, bean, pea, carrot or salad seeds they would like to donate we would be very grateful.

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

It has been an exciting week for Year 2. On Monday we were lucky to enough to spend some time with a poet – Ian Bland. We enjoyed a fantastic poetry workshop with him where we wrote our very own Animal Alliteration poem - You can see the fantastic performances of our poems on Seesaw!

In our English lessons we have started a new topic, studying the book 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. We started the week by making predictions about the book and comparing it to similar stories. Now we are moving towards planning and writing our own stories based on this text. Ask your child if they can remember the events from the story.

In maths we are nearing the end of our fractions unit. This week we have learnt the difference between unit and non-unit fractions, explored equivalent fractions and begun to look at counting in fractions from 0 to 1 whole.

In science we have planned and begun an investigation to explore which conditions are best for plants to grow in. Each week we will observe our plants to see which ones have grown and which ones haven't. We can't wait to watch our plants grow throughout the term!

We are now working our way through the Blue Blyton bundle with Sir Linkalot.

We hope you have a wonderful, restful weekend.

Star of the Week



**Lezaal - Acorns
Alyzae - Beech
Mutaza - Maple
Clara - Birch
Aoife - Cherry
Leo - Hazel
Rose - Rowan**

Friendship Star



**Molly - Acorns
Eliaana - Beech
Louie - Maple
Malik - Birch
Scarlett - Cherry
Esme - Hazel
Chloe - Rowan**

Playtime Star



**Xavier S-M – Acorns
Myla – Beech
Harmony – Maple
Meleka – Birch
Charlie – Cherry
Jolene - Hazel
Samuel - Rowan**

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>