

## Dates for your diary

### Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

PTA Spring Disco  
3.00-4.00pm  
YR, Y1 and Y2  
(Tickets on sale for £3 via  
ParentPay)

### Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Parent consultations  
5.30pm – 8pm  
(See Parentmail)

### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Love your school day  
9am to 3pm

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Parent consultations  
3.30pm – 6pm  
(See Parentmail)

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April

**9.30am** Easter Assembly  
Y1

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April

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

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Inset day

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April –

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Easter Break

### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April

Start of Summer Term 1

## School News

This week the children have been making the most of this gorgeous weather in our outdoor areas. We appreciate that the weather can be changeable but this week we have seen lots of jumpers being removed and left in the playground while the children are playing. Please can you ensure that all items are labelled so they can be safely reunited with their owner. We would also like to ask that named sunhats and sun cream are bought into school ready for the Summer Term as the April sun can be deceivingly strong, particularly on young skin.

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

All those children that regularly attend our wrap around care sessions should have received their booking forms for the Summer term in their book bags. We do currently have spaces on some days/dates, so please do contact the office if you would be interested.

## Comic Relief Cake Sale

We're delighted to report that following the wonderful efforts of the YR.2 children an amazing **£236.00** was raised at their cake sale last Friday.

## Love Your School

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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!

## **Please sign up!**

Please do contact us if you would like to sign up to help with some general maintenance of our cabin and pond area. The more the merrier! Refreshments will be provided ☺

## Nuts

We would like to remind everyone that we are a healthy eating school and we are a **Nut Free school**. Please do not send items containing nuts (confectionary, snacks or spreads) for the safety of our whole school community.

## Sunglasses and personal property

There is plenty of shade within school, and we are very sun conscious. Please can we therefore ask that you do not send your children into school with sunglasses. They are items that can be easily lost or broken and cause serious injury and we do not want to send home unhappy children at the end of the day. Children will not be allowed to wear them outside at playtime, unless they are prescription glasses. Any items bought into the school and left after hours are left at the owners risk.

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

**or catch someone on the playground –**

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

## **Little Acorns Pre-Nursery**

Spring has sprung in Little Acorns this week.

During carpet time we have been learning about Spring and changes that Springtime can bring. We have been looking at our outdoor areas to see if we can notice any changes, some children were able to notice the falling blossom, flowers growing in our grass and the warmer air outside.

Our story of the week was 'My Mum' to celebrate Mother's Day this coming Sunday. We talked about what we liked about our Mummies and why. The children have worked very hard to make their Mummies something very special.

In our roll play area the children enjoyed taking care of their babies. The children took their babies for a walk in the garden and then put them to sleep by reading stories and singing them nursery rhymes.

In Maths this week have been trying to use description language such as Bigger, biggest, smaller and smallest to sort farm animals. Outside the children have been able to enjoy the grass area and using the balance beam to walk across – making mud pies in the mud kitchen and discovering what items roll down the guttering best!

## **Acorn (Nursery am and pm)**

Well done to all the children in Nursery who have been playing so well with their friends this week! This week we have enjoyed making obstacle courses in Outdoor Learning, and looking for signs of Spring by the pond.

In our 'Are Eggs Alive?' topic we have enjoyed the 'Rosie's Walk' story and enjoyed predicting what would happen next with the fox following Rosie! We have practised sequencing and retelling the story in groups, and the children have used some lovely story language!

Next week we will be thinking about what we have learned about eggs and reading the book 'Rabbits Don't Lay Eggs', thinking about animals that do/don't lay eggs. We will also be exploring how we celebrate Easter. In phonics we will be practising blending these sounds together to read words. We will also plan to enjoy some Easter crafts!

Please can you make sure all their uniform, coats and water bottles are named as it makes it much easier to find missing items! Thank you.

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In Reception this week we have continued reading the story, 'The Enormous Turnip', changing it from a turnip to an enormous potato. Maple class finished their story with all the characters eating a jacket potato with cheese and beans, their favourite lunch!

In maths, we have been working on our understanding of subitising (recognising small numbers of objects without counting) and number bonds to 5 and 10. We have been reading Beatrix Potter stories and thinking about how long ago Beatrix Potter lived. In computing and geography, we used the Ipads to take photographs of features outside to add to a map of our playground.

We are really enjoying using tools in outdoor learning. We are hoping to make our own fences for our wild areas and for this we need lots of willow or hazel poles. We plan to saw and whittle small pieces as stakes, then weave branches through them. If you are doing any spring gardening and cutting hazel or willow we would be very grateful for any donations.

Reception have a new woodwork area, kindly built for us by Mr. Ash, and we are looking for donations to stock it. If you have any off-cuts of soft woods - balsa, pine, we would love them to practice sawing, drilling and screwing into. We also need 25mm round nails and no 10. 3/4 inch screws. And finally embellishments - old cds, bottle tops (plastic and metal), beads.

As the weather gets warmer please can you make sure children have their PE shorts and t-shirt with them in school. Also a reminder that for outdoor learning they should be wearing a long sleeved top and long trousers regardless of the weather, as we play in grass that gets very long (this becomes a risk for ticks in the summer months as plenty of wildlife wander through the outside areas at night). Please can we also ask that if you listen to your child read at home, that you record this in their diary. Initialling the day will do.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

This week in maths we have learning about money. We have looked at the different coins- at their size, shape and colour and we have been practising counting small amounts of coins. This has been an uphill struggle for many, especially as in recent times, we find ourselves having less a less coins in the house. If you are able to, it would be a great idea to raid those piggybanks and have another looking at coins, seeing what their values are, and trying to find the value of a small number of coins.

In English, we have been writing non- chronological reports about badgers. We have put this together in a leaflet and have included a heading and sub-headings too. We have now started planning our own leaflet about an animal of our choice and have used non-fiction books and the Internet to find out more information about them.

We have been soaking up the sun this week and in Outdoor Learning we made habitats for an animal. We had to make sure the habitat suited the animal, for example a penguin needs somewhere cold to live. This linked well with our Science, where we have been thinking about the different animal groups (mammals, invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds) and the similarities and differences between them.

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

Year 2 have been busy this week getting started with our new writing topic – non chronological reports. We started off the week by exploring existing reports and understanding their different features. Next, we researched some facts about common flowers and began creating our own reports about them. Ask your child if they can recall a fact about their chosen flower!

In maths, we have started learning a new topic – measure. We have been estimating lengths, using rulers to measure the length of objects within the class and comparing and ordering lengths up to one meter. Next week we will start looking at much larger lengths, measuring in meters.

In the afternoons we have been enjoying the sunshine as much as possible, getting outside for our geography and outdoor learning where we have been learning to use maps. We have followed maps to find specific locations in a 'treasure' hunt and begun to make maps of our outdoor learning area to use in further activities next week. In science we have dissected kidney beans to find out about how a plant starts its life. We discovered that seeds start their life with a food store.

We are still hoping to receive some donations of seeds we can grow in our raised bed, if you have any you feel you would be able to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.

We hope you enjoy a wonderful weekend in the sun!

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week in Bumblebees the children have enjoyed using bubbles and chalk in the playground. Some of the children have been trying very hard to skip in threes with the long rope. We found it can be tricky for two children to turn the rope in time!

### Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Dinner Star



Playtime



## Whole School Stars

### Star of the Week



Taha - Acorns  
Kelyn - Beech  
Ellie - Maple  
Junior - Birch  
Dani - Cherry  
Hobie - Hazel  
Thomas - Rowan

### Friendship Star



Iazaiah - Acorns  
Arlo - Beech  
Avneet - Maple  
Dina - Birch  
Maisie - Cherry  
Isobel - Hazel  
Alejandro - Rowan

### Playtime Star



Mia - Acorns  
Ralph - Beech  
Viennamarie - Maple  
Molly - Birch  
Scarlett - Cherry  
Bradden - Hazel  
Jaxon - 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 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>