

Dates for your diary

Year 1 Educational Visit

27th September –
Milestones Museum

Year 2 Educational Visit

28th September – Oxford
Castle

Flu Immunisation Yr R & Yr 1

Wednesday morning 28th
September

PTA AGM

29th September 7-8pm

Year 2 Rowan Class Parent/Child lunches

7th October 12-1pm (other
classes invited later in the
year – see planner)

Flu Immunisation Yr 2

Tuesday 18th October

Newbury Weekly News

20th October

Photographer for pictures
of the new reception
classes

Year 2 Millets Falconry Visit

21st October – in school

End of term

21st October – normal
collection time

Half Term

24th October – 28th October

Start of Term 2

31st October

School News

This week we welcomed parents back into school in our 'Meet the Teacher' events. These meetings are a chance to hear some of the ways we teach your children and some of the things they will learn this year in an informal manner. It also gives parents a chance to see the classroom in which their children are based. Thank you to all those that could attend and for those that couldn't the presentations from the evening will be uploaded to the school website next Monday.

You should all now have received your child's school photograph proofs. If you have not received them yet, please speak to your child's class teacher. You should order direct online with Tempest and if you have any issues with ordering, please contact our finance officer on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 9am.

Next week two educational visits are taking place. Year 1 will visit Milestones Museum in Basingstoke as part of their 'Toys' topic on Tuesday and on Wednesday Year 2 will visit Oxford Castle as part of their 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets topic.' These trips prove to be incredibly beneficial to the children's learning and all of the children come back buzzing with the new information they have learned. We have now secured the required number of parent/carers helpers for both trips – thank you so much!

We also have the school nurses in with us next week for the flu immunisations. They will be in on **Wednesday** morning to give the immunisations to Reception and Year 1. Please ensure you complete the consent form online (sent via Parentmail) and if you have any problems, please contact the nursing team directly using the contact information provided. The consent form needs to be completed by **9am on Tuesday 27th September**. Further information will be sent later in the term for Year 2 as they will be on their school visit.

Finally, we have had some items going missing this week and wondered if you could all check the belongings your child has brought home in case they have picked someone else's up by mistake? In particular, an Xbox water bottle that was named has gone missing, as well as a Marks and Spencer school skirt.

Please remember to name all items so that we can reunite belongings easily.

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

or catch someone on the playground –

**Laura Hooke or
Charmaine Kelly**

**Please come to our PTA
AGM**

**Thursday 29th
September at the school
hall 7pm-8pm**

Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

This week in Little Acorns, the children have really settled into their nursery routine. The children have been practising using their 'listening ears' when they hear the tambourine.

During carpet time this week, the children enjoyed the 'Tap, tap box'. This is a fun game where we tap out a child's name, and they get to look inside the box to find a nursery rhyme of their choice. This game helps us practise our speech and language skills and our turn-taking abilities. We have begun learning some actions during our singing. This helps little ones develop their communication skills as well.

The children enjoyed a trip to the hall where we sang some jumping songs. It's a perfect place to develop our independent jumping using both feet at once. The children were very good at holding onto the safety rope whilst we moved from the nursery to the hall. If out and about this weekend, we would like to ask parents to continue to encourage their child to walk independently whilst holding onto an adult's hand. These are excellent safety skills to reinforce to children.

Many thanks.

Acorns (Nursery am and pm)

This week in Acorns we have started our topic of 'Why do you love me so much?' The children discussed who they love and who loves them. We talked about ways to make each other happy. In Maths we have been singing number songs and counting up to 10, as well as looking at simple patterns.

In Science we learnt how important soap is when we wash our hands!

Please take a look at seesaw to see your child's learning throughout the week.

Please be aware that we give the children cups of milk/water at snack time and encourage them to drink their water bottles throughout the session.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in Reception we have started our new phonics scheme. The children have learnt the sounds for 4 letters – s a t p. We have put a game and link on seesaw for ideas to support this.

In English we were talking about our feelings and what we look like using the books 'Be who you are' and the 'Mega magic hair swap'. We have been practising our letter formation and writing our names.

In maths we have been subitising, looking for small amounts without counting. We have done this inside with small objects and outside during outdoor learning.

We have started to use our woodworking area, practising hammering nails into wood. If you have any off cuts of very soft wood we would appreciate any donations. In outdoor learning we explored what we could use sticks for – they were swords, walking sticks, fishing rods and pets.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

The children have worked very hard in Year 1 this week. They have been getting to grips with our new phonic games and activities. Our focus digraphs (two letters making one sound) have been: **ay, ea, ie, aw and ue**. See if your child can recognise these sounds and read some words containing the digraphs.

For maths this week we have used number lines and counting objects to 'count back' and answer 'one less' questions. We have also used our number knowledge to fill in missing numbers on number tracks.

In outdoor learning we have continued to talk about different trees and leaves and the changes that occur in Autumn. We gathered leaves and acorns to create natural pictures on the ground. It was lovely to see the children's imaginations and enjoyment of this process. There was lots of good team work too.

We look forward to our trip to Milestones museum next Tuesday to enhance our learning about the history of toys. Please ensure that your child wears the usual uniform and they will only need a **small** rucksack or named carrier bag in which to bring their lunch and water bottle. Since we will be indoors for the trip, there is no need for any extra water proofs - maybe just a light jacket to get to and from the coach if there is rain forecast. Your child will also not need to bring in their bookbag for the trip.

However, on other days please can you make sure they bring in bookbags / reading books regardless of whether or not they have finished reading that particular book. Also, please do use the reading diaries to record any reading you have done at home so that we can see when their book needs changing.

Thank you for your continued support.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

This week year 2 have been busy continuing our topic on 'Towers and Turrets'. In English we have looked at the differences between fiction and non-fiction texts and begun writing our own information text about life inside a castle. The children have learnt some amazing (and some disgusting!) facts about castles - ask them if they can remember any!

In maths we have continued our work on number and place value. This week we have been using number lines to count in 10s and identifying missing numbers in the sequence. We have also started to think about what number might be halfway between two given numbers.

In science, we conducted our first investigation of the year! We wanted to find out which material was the strongest, so we put 4 different types of paper to the test. The children tied a bag to each piece of paper and gradually filled the bag with weights to see which paper could hold the heaviest weight. Spoiler alert! The card and sugar paper were clear winners.

Next week, we will be going on our trip to Oxford Castle and we are very excited! Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to support us, we now have enough helpers. Enjoy your weekend :)

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week in Bumblebees the children have been busy doing jigsaw puzzles and playing hangman. The children have enjoyed using stencils to make pictures.

Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Jack Yr 1

Dinner Star



Tristan Yr 1

Playtime




Ellie Yr 1



Whole School Stars

Star of the Week



Brook - Acorns
Cobie - Maple
Willow - Beech
Eliana - Birch
Bradley - Cherry
Charlotte - Hazel
Scarlett - Rowan

Friendship Star



Pixie - Acorns
Autumn - Maple
Alesha - Beech
Layton - Birch
Ted - Cherry
Molly - Hazel
Arthur - Rowan

Playtime Star



Murphy - Acorns
Afsa - Maple
David - Beech
Dennis - Birch
Zahra - Cherry
Chloe - Hazel
Maisie - 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>