

## Dates for your diary

### Y2 Parents Sats Information session

2<sup>nd</sup> December 9.10am via Teams  
'Supporting your child through SATS'

### Christmas Performance Whoops-a-Daisy Angel

6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2.00pm (adults only)  
8<sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30am (adults only)  
9<sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30am (adults only)

### PTA Christmas Shhhop

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> December

### PTA Christmas Events

14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> December

### RAF Odiham Father Christmas in a chinook

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
(mid-morning-weather dependent)

### Joint Carol Service with Garland Junior School

12<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm

### Performance club show

12<sup>th</sup> December 4.00pm  
Parents of performance club children only

### Hexagon Theatre– Jack and the Beanstalk

13<sup>th</sup> December (whole school)

### Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Jumper Day  
Christmas Parties

End of Term 1.45pm finish

## School News



The School Council are pleased to announce that they raised a whopping £282 For Children in Need last Friday. Thank you to everyone that was donated items for our 'Preloved stall' and to those that were able to purchase items or our yummy cookies.

The school has been a hive of activity this week in preparation for the run up to Christmas. All week the children have been practicing their lines and songs and the week ended with a non-uniform day in return for gifts for the PTA shop taking place in a few weeks. Thank you all for your support.

### Whoops-A-Daisy Angel

Tickets for our Christmas Performance 'Whoops-A-Daisy Angel' are now available in the Shop on Parentmail for all parents from Acorns Nursery to Year 2. The performances are for adults only, and we are unfortunately unable to run a creche this year. We have allowed for 2 tickets per **family**, and if we have any tickets remaining then we will operate a waiting list for those that would like extra tickets.

### Christmas Pantomime

A quick reminder that the children from Year R to Year 2 are going to see 'Jack and the Beanstalk' on 13<sup>th</sup> December. If you have not yet done so, please can we ask you to make payment, provide consent and order a picnic bag for your child before November 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Collection of Children

Please may we remind all parents that children should be collected from school promptly at the end of the day. If someone else is going to be collecting your child, please can we ask that you inform us as early as possible in the day to ensure the office are able to get the message to the teaching staff in good time. Also, if you know that another parent will sometimes collect your child, you can email the office with a list of nominated collectors – then you will not have to call us every time your child is due to be collected by them. Please do remember to update us if anything changes or you would like a person removed from that list.

## **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 –**

**Laura Hooke or  
Charmaine Kelly**

## **Little Acorns Pre-Nursery**

This week in Little Acorns our focus story has been 'The Little Red Hen'. The children were very good at demonstrating their listening ears and sitting legs whilst sat on the carpet. They thoroughly enjoyed the accompanying puppets to the story and began demonstrating different animal noises.

In the small world area this week, we enjoyed the happy land farm set. We talked about what animals we might see on the farm, and some children began to sing 'Old McDonald' whilst playing.

The children were delighted to explore the noisy ICT toys this week- lots of turning handles, pressing buttons and twisting keys.

Please can we ask you to check your child's fingernails. We have noticed some nails are quite long. This can lead to accidental scratches to others during play.

## **Acorns**

This week in Acorns, we have been making models in the creative area. The children have been demonstrating their growing independence and finding the correct tools and resources required to make their models such as glue, sticky tape and bottle tops.

In maths we have been counting using objects and remembering to touch each object as we count.

In literacy, we have been reading stories from our author of the term, Helen Nicoll. The children have loved listening to the adventures of Meg and Mog.

In our outdoor learning sessions, we went on an Autumn Walk round the school and had a very exciting time as we got caught in the rain and hail!

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have consolidated the sounds and tricky words from the last two weeks. J, v, w, x, z, zz, qu, sh, ch, he, she, me, be, we, my. We have practised blending them together to read words and used phoneme frames to help us spell words. In Literacy we have written captions using all the above words.

In Maths, we have been talking about and sorting shapes: rectangles, squares, circle and triangle and made pictures with them. We have used stories to help us think about time, day and night and we have made lists for the things we do during the day.

We have learned about some other celebrations, Hanukkah and Eid and created Christingles linked to Advent, and together made lists of some of the things they do to celebrate.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

This week in English, we moved on to the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. The children enjoyed working in groups to retell the story with stick puppets. They also came up with questions to ask 'the wolf' and they wrote sentences to describe the different settings in the story.

In maths this week we focussed on recognition, naming and describing of shapes. We started with 2D shapes (circle, triangle, square, rectangle) and then moved on to 3D (cube, cuboid, sphere, cylinder, cone). The children were asked to sort shapes by different properties (E.g. number of edges) and they also used shapes to complete and make their own repeating patterns. Perhaps your child could look out for shapes and recall their names when out and about this weekend.

To further the children's science knowledge and skills, this week they explored the 'magnetism' of different materials. In pairs, they had a zip-lock bag filled with various small objects and they waved a bar magnet over the materials to see if they would 'attract' the magnet. We encouraged the children to use the correct vocabulary of 'attract' and 'repel' rather than say 'stick' to the magnet. Some of the children already knew that metals can be magnetic but they learnt that not all types of metal will attract to a magnet. For instance, they learnt that old 1p coins (made before 1992) are not magnetic but newer ones are.

In art, the children were busy making items for our Christmas display boards. They also continued to use the I-pads to create digital artwork. Our focus artist in computing was Wassily Kandinsky and the children copied his abstract art using squares and concentric circles.

In our exploration of world geography, we revised the names of the 7 continents and began to learn the names of the 5 oceans. The children have really enjoyed learning these through song. Here are the links to use to find them at home:

Continent: <https://youtu.be/K6DSMZ8b3LE>

Oceans: <https://youtu.be/X6BE4VcYngQ>

Our focus phonics sounds this week were: ee (tree), igh (light), oa (coat), oo (moon) and oo (look).

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

This week in year 2 we have continued our English topic based on 'The Bear and the Piano'. The children have spent time learning how to describe characters and settings in detail and finally began to plan their own stories. The children had to choose their own animal and instrument to base their story on - ask them about the combinations they chose!

In maths, the children have started their new topic on shape. They have learned how to count the number of sides and vertices on 2D shapes and recapped their knowledge of shape names. Ask your child to see what shapes they can spot at home - as a challenge, ask if they are regular or irregular.

In the afternoons we have started to get in the festive spirit! Year 2 have been chosen to decorate the tree at St Mary's Church. The theme is 'royal' so we have started to create decorations around this theme and reflected on Queen Elizabeth II's reign. Finally, the children with speaking parts in our production have started to rehearse for the big show! We are very excited for you all to see it.

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week in Bumblebees the children have been enjoying jigsaws and games. We are very lucky to have had some new resources donated to us. The children have loved using the new resources and are very good at tidying things away and looking after the things they have been playing with.

The Children have been really helpful this week and have offered to help load the dishwasher and clear the plates and they take a great amount of pride in helping each other and our younger children. Well done!

## Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Dinner Star



Playtime



## Whole School Stars

### Star of the Week



Jacob - Acorns  
Lev - Maple  
Freya - Beech  
Freddie - Birch  
Zahra - Cherry  
Junior - Hazel  
Aoife - Rowan

### Friendship Star



Rory - Acorns  
Imogen - Maple  
Cassidy - Beech  
Eliana - Birch  
Isaiah - Cherry  
Scarlett - Hazel  
Maisie - Rowan

### Playtime Star



Ollie - Acorns  
Mason - Maple  
Zachary - Beech  
Ralph - Birch  
Logan - Cherry  
Reuben - Hazel  
Deborah - 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, 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 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>