

Dates for your diary

Y2 Parents SATs Information session

2nd December 9.10am via Teams
'Supporting your child through SATS'

PTA Christmas Shhhop

8th & 9th December

PTA Christmas Events

14th & 16th December

RAF Odiham Father Christmas in a chinook

Thursday 8th December (mid-morning-weather dependent)

Christmas Performance Whoops-a-Daisy Angel

6th Dec 2.00pm (adults only)

8th Dec 9.30am (adults only)

9th Dec 9.30am (adults only)

Joint Carol Service with Garland Junior School

12th December 2.00pm

Christmas Sing Along Little Acorns

Monday 12th December 2.45pm-3.30pm

Thursday 15th December
11.00am-11.45am

Performance club show

12th December 4.00pm
Parents of performance club children only

Hexagon – Jack and the Beanstalk

13th December (whole school)

Tuesday 20th December

Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Parties

End of Term 1.45pm finish

January

Start Spring Term (Term3)

School News

This week the children have been busy practicing their performance of Whoops-A-Daisy Angel. They have been working very hard and Mrs Sutherland and Mrs Dell (who can hear everything from the school hall) have certainly noticed an improvement. Practice makes perfect after all!

It really is 🎵 beginning to look a lot like Christmas 🎵 as the staff stayed late on Wednesday to decorate the whole school to get us all into the Christmas Spirit. The Children's faces were a picture when they saw their classrooms transformed – and that's what makes it all worthwhile!

Year 2 SATs

Thank you to those parents that were able to attend our Year 2 SATs Information setting today. We hope you found this to be of assistance. For those who were unable to attend, the presentation will be available on the school website shortly.

Whoops-A-Daisy Angel

Please know that our performance has been so popular this year that we have sold out of tickets for all performances. We hope you enjoy it!

Christingle Services

Burghfield Parish Support Group organises Christingle services on Christmas Eve each year. This year the services will be held at 2pm and 4pm in St. Mary's Church on 24th December. The events are free of charge, but places must be booked via Eventbrite.

Please check their Facebook page (St .Mary's Church Burghfield) for the links to book.

Reminders

The final few weeks of this term are always fun, but also very busy. Please make sure your children arrive promptly to school so they can come in with the other children ready to start their day.

As we are now in the colder months of the year, please can we ask that your child comes to school with a named hat and gloves. We do like to get the children out for some fresh air whatever the weather as they work so hard in school.

Please see the date section for important dates and note that school and Nursery finish at 1.45pm on 20th December.

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**

Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

We are delighted to have launched the Little Acorns library scheme. The children can choose from a selection of books to take home every week and share with you. It's a wonderful opportunity to encourage the development of multiple skills such as speech and language, developing literacy knowledge and helping sitting and listening skills. Please ensure that your borrowed book is returned to the nursery the first session your child attends the following week.

In the nursery this week, we have been putting our fine motor skills to the test. The children have enjoyed twisting and turning colourful screws into different shapes, drawing patterns on leaf-shaped paper and threading with wooden fruits. We have listened to a variety of music this week and thought about how we can move our bodies to the sounds we hear.

Well done, Little Acorns. What a wonderful week!

Acorns

This week in Acorns we have enjoyed reading, 'The Gruffalo' and role playing/acting out the story. Some children have also painted Gruffalo pictures on the easel.

The children have loved decorating the Nursery and the adding decorations to the tree. They have also had fun dancing to Christmas songs.

The children have been working very hard on our Christmas performance and it is really coming on nicely. They are so excited to show you what they have learned!

This is a picture of the display we have up in Nursery with all our twinkling stars (our song for the performance) :



Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in Reception we have been learning the sounds th, ng and the tricky words all and they.

We have been thinking about making Christmas lists, using Argos catalogues to pick items we might like and then making our Christmas lists.

In maths we have been re-capping on all the work we have done this term.

We have been practising hard for our Christmas Nativity. We look forward to performing it for you next week.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

This week in Year One, we have been very busy practising our songs and actions for the 'Whoops-A-Daisy Angel' production and learning when to come on and off the stage. We look forward to a fantastic show next week.

In English, the children decided how to change the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' to make their own version of the story. Some examples included 'Three Little Rabbits', 'Three Little Deer' and 'Three Little Elk'. They used the results of our Internet search for: 'What animals do wolves eat?' to help them choose their characters. They also used their science knowledge of materials to help them pick different building materials in the story. They picked materials that would be easily blown down by the wolf for the first and second houses and then a solid material for the third house. Birch class chose a house made of leaves, followed by a house made of cloth. Cherry Class changed the brick house to one made of gold!

Our grammar focus this week was 'plurals'. We learnt that some nouns are made plural by just adding an 's', whereas others need 'es' to be added. They learnt that nouns ending in s, ch, sh, ss, x and z typically require 'es' to make them plural. We did however, begin to learn that there are some other irregular ways of making a plural and that words like 'sheep' and 'fish' do not change!

In maths this week, we were consolidating our naming and describing of 2D and 3D shapes. We then answered a few short test questions to establish our strengths and next steps for improvement. If you would like to help your child with their shape knowledge at home, there are numerous shape quizzes on PurpleMash. I have set a couple of activities as 'To do's', so when they log on to PurpleMash, they should appear as a bell at the top of the page. Please do speak to a member of the Year 1 staff if you do not have your child's log in details.

Our focus phonics sounds this week were: ar, or, ur, ow, and oi.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

This week has been a very busy one for year 2. We are lucky enough this year to have been chosen to decorate a tree at the local Christmas festival. The theme for this year is 'Royalty', so year 2 have decided to honour the late Queen Elizabeth II. We have been busy creating crown decorations and writing labels including our thanks to the Queen, as well as creating a special red, white and blue wreath. Our tree will be on display at St Mary's Church the weekend of 10th and 11th December – please do pop along and see it if you can!

As well as this, we have been practising hard for our Christmas production. Our afternoons have been full of beautiful singing and rehearsing lines in preparation for our performances next week. Thank you for all the costumes that have been brought in – it is really starting to come together!

In English, the children have enjoyed writing their own story inspired by 'The Bear and the Piano'. Some of our favourite new titles have included 'The tiger and the electric guitar', 'The bunny and the harp' and 'The unicorn and the recorder'! We have been so impressed by the children's use of powerful adjectives and their attempts to include a range of conjunctions – keep it up year 2!

In maths, we have continued to learn about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We have been counting the sides and vertices of 2D shapes and beginning to sort them according to their properties. Why not try playing 'guess my shape' with your child. For example "It has 4 vertices and 4 sides that are all the same length" ... any guesses?

Finally, the children have really enjoyed this term's DT project. They have used their sewing skills to create some fantastic finished products. We don't want to give too much away but save a space for something special on your Christmas tree this year!

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week in Bumblebees we have been adding the finishing touches to our Christmas cakes – they look fantastic!

The children have played Chess, made 3D paper pictures, and we have made lots and lots of paper snowflakes to decorate our room!

Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Dinner Star



Playtime



Whole School Stars

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 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>