

Dates for your diary

27th January 2023

Year R Chinese New Year
Assembly 9.30am
(reception parents invited
via Parentmail)

Governor Visit Day

7th February 2023

Year R Walk around the
Village

PTA Valentine School
Disco 3.30pm 4.30pm

10th February 2023

End of Spring Term 1

20th February

Start of Spring Term 2

24th February

Cherry Class Parent/Child
lunch

2nd March

World Book Day (Whole
School and Nursery)

7th March

Year 1 visit to Marwell Zoo

Mobile Phones



School News

This week in school we have been celebrating Chinese New Year and on Friday we welcomed the Reception parents in to watch the reception children tell us all about Chinese New Year! The children all performed beautifully – well done!

The Governors spent Friday morning in school, speaking to parents at morning drop off, visiting classes to see the learning taking place and talking to the children about our school.

Despite the current cold spell a few of our longstanding Spring bulbs have started to make an appearance above ground and the lighter mornings and evenings certainly seem to be helping with the children's energy levels!

Preloved uniform

The PTA are collecting preloved school uniform in the hopes of holding another preloved sale. If you do have any school uniform items that are clean and in good condition, please can we ask you to bring them into the school office. There is a box just inside the sliding doors for donations.

Parking

Please can we remind our parents that in fairness to our neighbours, you always park considerately and without blocking driveways no matter how long you intend to stay in a space for.

National Teachers' Strike

You may be aware from media coverage that NEU have declared strike action, which will take place on the following dates:

Wednesday 1st February

Thursday 2nd March

Wednesday 15th March

Thursday 16th March

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over how teachers' pay is funded and working conditions, and not because of any issues at our school.

We are working closely with our staff to plan for how we will manage the situation in the best interest of the school, pupils and wider community.

At the current time, we are expecting to be open and provide cover for classes which are affected.

I am sorry about the potential disruption to you and, most importantly, your child's education. I understand that this situation is frustrating, and we are trying to minimise any disruption.

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**

Second Hand Uniform

Please donate any unwanted school uniform to the PTA for a second-hand clothes sale. There is a box just inside the office doors to leave clean. Good condition clothes in.

Thank you in advance!

7th February

PTA Valentine School
Disco 3.30pm 4.30pm

Little Acorns Class

This week in Little Acorns we have been celebrating Chinese New Year, the year of the Rabbit. The children have enjoyed learning and exploring with different themed activities such as making Chinese Lanterns, using our pencil control skills, using our sensory skills feeling different textures in the sensory tray and using our sitting and listening skills as we read our story, 'Peppa's Chinese New Year'.

During our snack time this week the children have had the opportunity to taste some Chinese foods such as prawn crackers and tangerines.

During our carpet time the children enjoyed learning how to say hello in Chinese (Ni Hao) and learnt a new song, Chinese Dragon - why not ask if your child can sing it to you over the weekend?

In maths we have been focusing on shape names and tried to describe each shape. The children have taken turns at shape puzzles and have tried hard to draw these shapes independently on the chalkboard.

Well done Little Acorns.

Acorns Class

This week in Acorns we have been learning all about Chinese New Year. This year is the year of the Rabbit.

In Literacy we heard the story of The Great Race and we enjoyed recreating this in our small world area.

The children were very good at making Chinese lanterns, practising their cutting skills. We then decorated the nursery with our lanterns.

The children tried some Chinese writing, and we learnt that Chinese writing goes from top to bottom!

Acorns class enjoyed listening to clips about how people in Chinese celebrate their New Year and in PE we used scarves to dance to traditional Chinese music and watched a Chinese Hand dance that we had fun trying too.



Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in phonics we have learnt th, ng, ai, ee digraphs. Our new tricky words are: all and they. We have practised reading and writing words with these sounds in.

In handwriting, we have continued to practise curly letters, a, d, g, q and s.

For the rest of the week have been busy preparing for our Chinese New Year assembly, we hope you enjoy it!

The children have had an Art afternoon where we wrote rabbit symbols in Chinese script, painted cherry blossom trees and made moving dragons and collage lanterns.

We practised our cooking skills and made spring rolls, then tasted them as well as lychees, prawn crackers and noodles.

We watched two performances of Chinese dances, a dragon and lion dance, we talked about which ones we preferred and why, then created our own dragon dance and used found objects outside to create the music.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

It's definitely been a frosty week however this has not dampened the children's spirits.

In English, they have been applying their text mapping skills to help them internalise the model text about Tim Peake. This made it possible for them to rewrite the text and understand the structure of a fact file.

This will support the children in writing a fact file about Neil Armstrong next week.

We have started adding in Maths and the children have been focussing on understanding the concept initially using concrete resources.

They have had the opportunity this week to apply their understanding of a sentence in their Computing work by learning to add capital letters to their typed work.

We had another great History lesson and the children got to explore Tim Peake's adventure into space by watching first-hand accounts of him and the fascinating things he was able to do. We're sure you'll hear all about it!

We had some fabulous artwork in the abstract style of Joan Miro using those bold colours and interesting shape and line to create an alien.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

This week the children have been very excited in English as we have begun to plan and write about our very own 'marvellous medicines!' The children spent some time thinking of the most disgusting ingredients they would include in their mixtures and then thought about how it would look, taste and smell. The best part though was thinking about the effect their mixture would have on Grandma! Ask your child what their medicine would do to Grandma.

In maths, we have moved on to our new topic of multiplication. We have spent a lot of time this week working on recognising, making and adding equal groups. We have learned that multiplication is the same as repeated addition and have been writing number sentences to show this. We have also discussed the language that can be used when the see 'x' symbol such as 'lots of', 'groups of', 'times' and 'multiplied by'.

In history, the children have continued to learn about Florence Nightingale and the impact she had on modern day nursing. We discovered that Florence introduced many important hygiene rules to hospitals to help stop the spread of diseases and infections. We know that Florence is an important historical figure because she set up a nurse training school. Next week will be learning about another famous nurse - Mary Seacole and making comparisons between the two historical figures.

In outdoor learning, the children have continued to create art using paint made from natural materials. Last week, after our fire had been put out and cooled down, we collected the ashes and charcoal to use to create paint. We also used crushed sticks of chalk to add some colour to our work. We hope you are enjoying seeing the pictures of our work on Seesaw! Have a lovely weekend!

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week the children enjoyed painting Chinese numbers and letters. On Monday we were lucky and had a fortune cookie with our dinner. The children were very excited to read their fortune!

The children had fun with the playdough this week and made some lovely creations.

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>