

Dates for your diary

28th March

Parent Consultations 3.30pm-
6pm

30th March

Parent Consultations 5.30pm-
8pm

31st March

Easter Assembly Y1 9:30am
(Y1 Parent's welcome)

31st March

End of Spring Term 2
School/Nursery closes
1.45pm

17th April

Inset Day

18th April

Start of term 5

25th April

Y1 visit to Oxford university
Museum of Natural History

4th May

Y2 visit to Thatcham Discover
Centre

11th May

YR bus 'journey' and
miniature railway

12th May

Maple Class Parent/Child
Lunch 11.45am-12.45pm

26th May

End of Summer Term 1

5th June

Start of Summer Term 2 &
Science Week

9th June

Governor Visit Day

16th June

YR R visit to Mudeford Beach

School News

Wow – the end of term! How did that happen?

To start the week off Mrs Rose held a brilliant Spring Art workshop for each class in the school, including Acorns Class. The children received an input from Mrs Rose at the beginning of the session and then moved onto creating their independent masterpieces. Some beautiful artwork was produced, and we hope you liked the displays in the school hall at the Parent Consultation Evenings.

Thank you to those of you who were able to complete our school survey at the consultation meetings. If you were unable to complete the survey, or could not attend the meetings, please know that you can give your views on our school via the Ofsted website here: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

You will need to create a log in if you have never completed a survey before. We love to receive all feedback from parents as it helps us to grow as a school and in turn helps us to better serve our school community.

To finish the week on a lovely note, Year 1 shared their Easter Assembly with the school and their parents. We hope you enjoyed the assembly, the children learned a lot of facts and practiced very hard. Well done Year 1! We also had a special assembly to bid farewell to Mrs Rounce, who is off to pastures new. She has taught lots of 'little acorns' and will be greatly missed. Thank you, Mrs Rounce!

Looking forward to next term, all year groups have educational visits as detailed in the school planner and in the 'dates for your diary' section of the Newsletter. Look out for overview letters and invitations shortly.

Illness

We have had a few children across the school that have been suffering from a bug which cause sickness and diarrhea. As well as some further cases of chicken pox and ear infections. Fingers crossed everyone stays well over the holidays.

Uniform

Please can we ask that all children come to school in the correct uniform (and black shoes) after the Easter Holidays as we have noticed the uniform standard has slipped a little towards the end of term. We appreciate children grow so quickly, and hope the holidays will be an opportunity for you to update their uniform if required. A reminder that due to lack of space in the cloakrooms, children should not bring backpacks into school. (They cause coats and bags to fall on the floor, blocking the corridor and causing trip hazards).

Bland's and Garland School Governor Federation Working Group Update

The working group have been meeting regularly throughout February and March to discuss the federation process. Research has been conducted into a number of areas to ensure we create an informed proposal, and both governing boards have set dates to vote for or against the proposal at the end of April. Should the vote be successful then a formal consultation process will begin. This will be at least six weeks long and will provide opportunity for questions and feedback from all stakeholders. We will update you on the decision of the governing boards at the end of April, until then we wish you all a Happy Easter.

Other News

Easter Activities:

Please see the attached documents for more information on some exciting Easter Activities that are planned for the Easter holiday around Reading and West Berkshire.

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**

School Meals

We are really excited to be taking over the school meals from after the Easter break. Our school chef, JP, along with Vicki and Amy will be providing meals for breakfast Club, lunch and after school club.

For lunch, you will still order meals in the same way, through School Grid or children can order their meal on arrival to school. There will be a new three weekly menu, which will be regularly reviewed. The school council have already had some input!

We look forward to inviting parents in for lunch, more regularly, once the catering team have settled in.

Little Acorns Class

This week saw the nursery continue with the Easter theme.

The children loved mixing and stirring to make their very own Easter cakes. The children worked very hard painting their chicks and adding 'feathers' and produced some excellent focused work! They were very proud of their Easter Chicks and were so excited to take them home to show their families.

In literacy, we talked about different types of books, how some are story books, and others are information books. The children enjoyed listening to 'Spot's Easter surprise' and 'Spring' a fact book.

Outside, the children explored in the messy tray with children's scented purple and yellow foam body wash. The children thought about how to shape the foam with their hands or spoon and spread it using different utensils.

We practised our ball skills this week, thinking about how we throw and catch balls. We enjoyed group games on the carpet with different types of balls and used our words to describe how they looked and felt.

We wish you all a wonderful Easter holiday. Well done, Little Acorns.

Acorns Class

This week in Acorns the children have learnt the story of Easter and why we celebrate it.

We started the week with an exciting art activity with Mrs Rose in the hall. The children loved going over to the school hall to have their lesson there.

We have been very busy with all things Easter related! The children have had fun making Easter cards and Easter nests.

The highlight of the week was an egg hunt – we all had such fun!

We hope you have a lovely break.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have been learning about Easter. We have learnt how Christians celebrate the festival of Easter and how our Easter eggs represent new life. We have explored lots of different Easter crafts and been on an Easter egg hunt. We have written sentences about Easter pictures and found shapes in different Easter pictures.

In maths, we have been consolidating our understanding of the language of 'more than' and 'less than'.

In phonics, we have continued to consolidate our knowledge of the trickier digraphs and trigraphs in phase 3 and have moved on to phase 4 phonics.

We also had a Spring art morning, creating beautiful pastel flower drawings with Mrs. Rose. These look amazing displayed in the hall, we hope you spotted ours during parents' evening.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

Well done to Year 1 this week for a fantastic Easter Performance!

We were very proud of all the acting, narrating and singing. A special thank you goes to Mrs Loupos-Read for organising and directing the play. Thank you also for your support at home to help the children learn their lines and practise the songs.

On Monday, the children enjoyed a special art session in the hall with Mrs Rose. We hope you enjoyed looking at their watercolour paintings of daffodils when you came in for Parent's Evening.

In English, the children finished off their non-fiction writing about hedgehogs, adding information about what hedgehogs eat and some extra 'fun facts'.

In phonics we have had a 'spot check' to assess and work on gaps in learning the phase 5 sounds. Please can you continue to help your child build their phonic knowledge and practise reading over the holidays.

In maths, we have been measuring the mass of objects with cubes and using mathematical language to compare the weight of two objects. See if your child can use the words: 'heavier' and 'lighter' correctly. Can they describe what would happen to bucket scales if one object is heavier than another? What would they notice on the scales if the mass of the two objects is the same?

We wish you all a lovely Easter break and we look forward to welcoming the children back for our new topic of 'Dinosaurs' after the holidays.

Thank you for your continued support. The Year 1 team.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

The children have enjoyed this last week of term.

In English we have been creating fact files on flowers which we will then put together as a class book. The children have worked hard to include the features of a fact file such as the heading, subheadings and pictures. We have also started our work on reading comprehension. The children have read a passage of text and answered questions about what they have read. We will continue this next term in preparation for our SATs.

In maths we have been adding and subtracting and using the expanded column method. It is important that the children show their workings out. The expanded column method looks like this

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{TO} + \text{TO} \\ 41 + 38 \\ 40 + 1 \\ 30 + 8 \\ \hline + \\ \hline \end{array}$$

1. Partition each number into tens and ones.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{TO} + \text{TO} \\ 41 + 38 \\ 40 + 1 \\ 30 + 8 \\ \hline + 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2. Add the ones together, writing the answer in the answer section.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{TO} + \text{TO} \\ 41 + 38 \\ 40 + 1 \\ 30 + 8 \\ \hline 70 + 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

3. Add the tens together, writing the answer in the answer section.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{TO} + \text{TO} \\ 41 + 38 \\ 40 + 1 \\ 30 + 8 \\ \hline 70 + 9 = 79 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

4. Recombine the tens and ones.

In History we have been learning about the Wright brothers and how they invented the first planes. We studied the different designs of the first plane and then made our own paper aeroplanes and tested how far they could fly.

We have continued to learn about plants and have studied the lifecycle of a bean and have enjoyed watching our seeds grow in different environments.

If any parents or grandparents would be able to come and help listen to readers next term then Year 2 would very much appreciate the help. We hope that you enjoy your Easter break and your Easter cards.



Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees



In Bumblebees this week we have enjoyed lots of Easter crafts. We have had an egg hunt and had fun making our Easter Bunnies.

Friend

Dinner Star

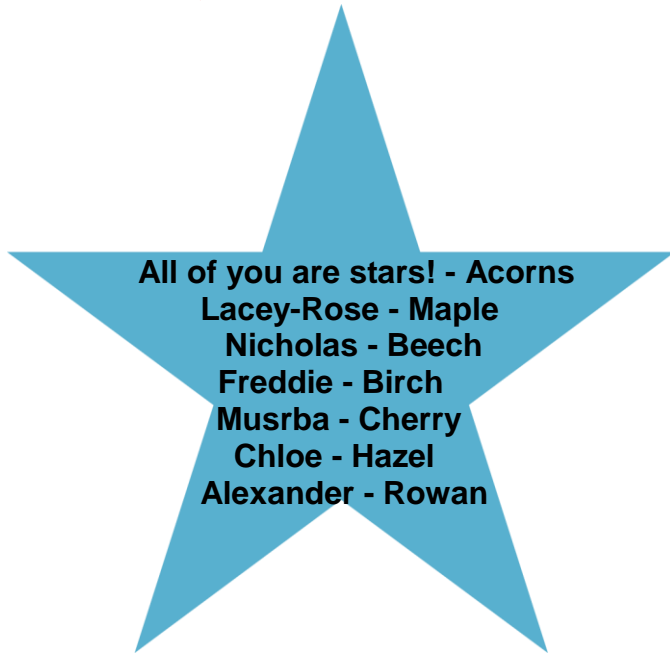
Playtime



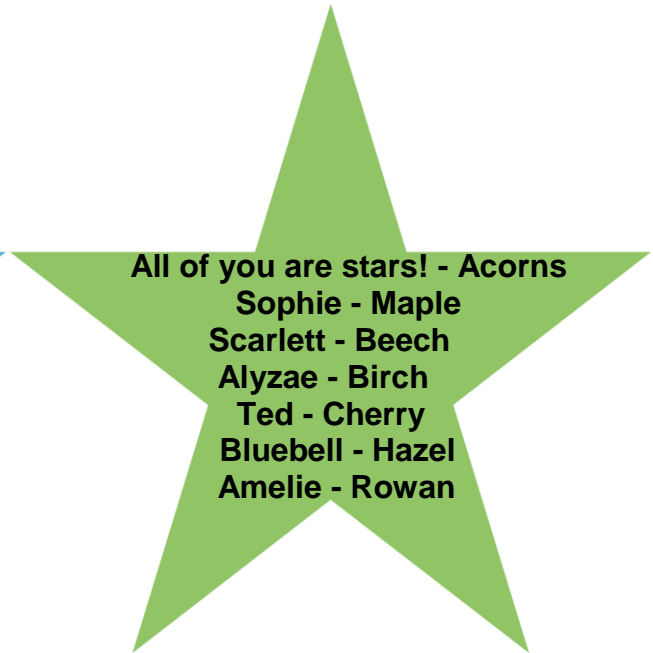
We could not pick just one of you as you have all been superstars this week!

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>