

### **Dates for your diary**

#### **25<sup>th</sup> April**

Y1 visit to Oxford university  
Museum of Natural History

#### **4<sup>th</sup> May**

Y2 visit to Thatcham Discovery  
Centre

#### **5<sup>th</sup> May**

Coronation celebrations (red,  
white and blue)

#### **11<sup>th</sup> May**

YR bus 'journey' and miniature  
railway

#### **11<sup>th</sup> May**

PTA Quiz Night – see Facebook  
for more details!

#### **12<sup>th</sup> May**

Maple Class Parent/Child Lunch  
11.45am-12.45pm

#### **12<sup>th</sup> May**

PTA - Birch Class Cake Sale  
(after school)

#### **21<sup>st</sup> May**

Burghfield May Fayre – Please  
visit our bottle tombola  
(donations from 5<sup>th</sup> May)

#### **26<sup>th</sup> May**

End of Summer Term 1

#### **5<sup>th</sup> June**

Start of Summer Term 2 &  
Science Week

#### **9<sup>th</sup> June**

Governor Visit Day

#### **16<sup>th</sup> June**

YR visit to Mudeford Beach

#### **22<sup>nd</sup> June**

Y2 Educational Visit to Bristol

#### **23<sup>rd</sup> June**

Armed Forces Celebration Day

### **School News**

This week Year 1 enjoyed their visit to Oxford University Museum of Natural History. All the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and learned some brilliant facts to help with this term's topic. As always, thank you to our wonderful parent helpers!

Next week Year 2 are looking forward to their visit to Thatcham Discovery Centre as part of their 'Wriggle and Crawl' topic.

The children have been busy making some decorations ready for the King's Coronation next week. Some fantastic artwork has been created!

### **Mental Health in Children**

We believe that positive mental health and wellbeing is of paramount importance to both children and adults. We have teamed up with the West Berkshire Mental Health Team to help support children who may need some support in this area. Neal Ridley will be coming in to give a talk to parents to give some information about what his team offers and how it will benefit the children in our school. If you feel that this is something that your family could benefit from and would like to find out more about how we can help, please come along on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30am. This event is for parents of children at Bland's and Garland Schools. (Invitations have been sent via Parentmail)



### **Coronation of King Charles**



Next Friday (5<sup>th</sup> May), we will be celebrating the Coronation of King Charles. As well as taking part in class parties, and various activities relating to the coronation, we are asking all children to come to school wearing red, white and blue.

### **PE Kits**

A reminder to all our parents that PE kits should stay in school all week. If your child attends an after-school club, please ensure their PE Kit is returned the next day. It doesn't need to be washed and ironed – at this age they can wear it a few times before it needs a wash! Please also ensure your child has the correct kit. Shorts, T-shirt, joggers and sweater/hoody as well as trainers or pumps and socks for those that wear tights with their uniform.

### **Head lice**

Please can we ask you to all check your child's hair over the weekend as we have had some cases of head lice reported this week. If we all tackle it at the same time, hopefully we can stop the spread!

## **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**

**From 5<sup>th</sup> May please  
bring in your bottle  
Tombola donations  
ready for the May Fayre  
on 21st May**

### **11<sup>th</sup> May**

PTA Quiz Night – see  
Facebook for more  
details!

## **Little Acorns Class**

This week in Little Acorns we have been learning a new song about a worm called 'Wiggly Woo'. See if your children can sing it to you! We have also been reading 'The Very Busy Spider'. The children have been joining in with the animal noises, using their words to identify them and re-telling the story using puppets.

The children have been making different length playdough 'worms' and used 2D shapes to build minibeast homes. They have practised their fine motor control skills with writing minibeast letters, painting minibeasts at the easel and using brushes to make marks on the chalkboard outside.

We have been busy planting lots of seeds in the garden area this week: wildflowers for the bees, cress seeds in little individual pots as well as salad vegetables. The children have also enjoyed continuing to develop their yoga poses in our daily sessions.

Now a few polite requests please:

- All children need to bring in a water bottle to their sessions that it is clearly named.
- The Little Acorns library books are enjoyed by all children – please return it the following week to be swapped for a new one.
- If anyone has any spare sock, the Little Acorns supply of spares is very low so we would appreciate any donations. Thank you!

## **Acorns Class**

This week in nursery we looked at the story of 'Superworm'. The children tried hard to answer questions about the story and predict what might happen. To link in with 'Superworm', during outdoor learning we made cheerio worms and went on a bug hunt using magnifying glasses.

In maths have focussed on length. The children can order items of different lengths. We learnt that length is the measurement for how long something is and we used language - long, longer, longest and short, shorter and shortest.

The children had fun role-playing restaurants this week, with lots of children taking meal orders and serving each other. We had lots of fun having picnics outside in the sun too!

In PE the children have learned to 'dodge' each other by doing a side step to avoid the catchers. We have also practised our marching skills ready for the King's Coronation.

Next week we will be learning all about the coronation with a focus on the King's Guards.

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in phonics we have learnt the new vocabulary – vowels (a, e, i, o, u,) and consonants (the other letters of the alphabet) and have started reading longer words (CVCC) words such as champ, tenth and sixth. We are also continuing to practise reading and writing sentences using tricky words (some, come, there, like, what, out, little, were, said, when).

In Literacy we have adapted the story – ‘Going on a bear hunt’ to ‘Going on a ..... hunt.’ The children have drawn their own story maps and some children have written labels and captions to go with these.

In Maths we have continued to look at numbers above 10, counting on and back to 20 and identifying any missing numbers on a number line, as well as making ‘teen’ numbers with tens frames and multilink towers.

In other areas we have used positional language to give directions to a partner and looked at how our environment has changed now Spring is in full bloom.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

It was an exciting week for Year 1 this week with their trip to the Oxford Natural History Museum. They saw lots of dinosaur skeletons and fossils, including the remains of the first dinosaur ever to be discovered, the Megalosaurus, which was found in Oxfordshire. The dinosaur workshop gave the children a hands-on experience of several bones, teeth and even fossilised dinosaur poo! Well done to all of Year 1 for their focus and enthusiasm on the trip and thank you to all the parent helpers.

On Wednesday, we wrote a recount of our time at the museum, focussing on our use of the past tense and using full sentences with capital letters and full stops or exclamation marks. Our spelling/grammar focus this week was the use of the suffix ‘er’ to change adjectives into comparative adjectives (e.g. tall into taller) and to change verbs into nouns (e.g. bake into baker). We also answered some comprehension questions after reading about the life of King Charles III.

In preparation for our celebration of King Charles’ coronation, Birch class made some union flags with tissue paper. They added the special ‘coronation logo’ to the centre of the flags. Cherry class made some beautiful crowns to wear next Friday. We look forward to lots more King themed activities next week, with each class creating their own table-top display.

In maths this week we have continued to develop our understanding of counting in equal groups. The children were introduced to the use of ‘arrays’ to represent multiplication with rows and columns and they wrote matching repeated addition sentences. They also revised their knowledge of doubles (within and beyond 10).

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

This week we have started to talk and teach the children about the King's Coronation. We explained to the children that we were not alive when the Queen had her coronation so it has been a new learning experience for us all. We have been challenged by Mrs Rose to create a display for one aspect of the King's Coronation. Hazel class have been learning about the robes that the King will wear on the day and Rowan class have been learning about the carriage that will carry the King to his Coronation. Hopefully the children will be able to tell you some of the facts that they have learnt.

The children enjoyed finishing off the 'Walter Worm' story in English this week as well as completing a comprehension about King Charles III.

We have continued with looking at halves and quarters of shapes and numbers. We encouraged the children to draw the number of parts and then share the number between the parts making sure that they are all equal.

This week was our first week of Mindfulness Yoga which the children really enjoyed. We learnt what the word yoga meant and how we can all work together. The children and staff can't wait for our next session.

In computing we have been looking at directions and creating a sequence of directions for a Beebot.

In RE we have continued to study Islam and the Salat or Salah and the different times of day that Muslims pray and the different movements and gestures used.



This week in Bumblebees we have been very busy. Some of the children have been helping Mrs Buchan to design and paint an entry for the Newbury Coronation Bunting competition. They have produced a lovely design that we will take to the Corn Exchange - keeping our fingers crossed to win! We have also started to make our annual scarecrow to put out for the May half term scarecrow competition. The children have been enjoying some quiet time in our reading corner with our older children reading the younger ones!

**Friend**



**Reuben Yr 2**

**Dinner Star**



**Dani Year 2**

**Playtime**



**James Yr R**

# 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>