

## Dates for your diary

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October  
Y2 Falconry Visit  
(in school)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
End of Term 1 – collect at  
3:25pm as normal

Half Term  
23<sup>rd</sup> October – 27<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October  
Start of Term 2

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October  
PTA Halloween Disco

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
YR Vision Screening

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November  
9.30am Remembrance  
Assembly – Rowan Parents  
Invited

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November  
3.30pm – 6.00pm  
Parent Consultation  
Evening

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
YR to Y2 Flu nasal  
vaccination  
5.30pm – 8.00pm Parent  
Consultation Evening

## School News

The penultimate week of the first term has been a mixed bag weather wise. We started the week with glorious sunshine, but the air has certainly got a bit of a chill about it now! Please remember to send your children in with a warm waterproof coat as we do still like to get out in the fresh air in all weathers!

## Art Workshop

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have all taken part in an Art and PSHE workshop with Mrs Rose. In assembly on Monday, we read the story, 'Only One You' and we discussed how we are all special, but different and it's important to follow our dreams and not the crowd! The children were asked to paint a stone that will remain in school. Next week, the children will finish them off and they will be their own individual 'worry stones'. The concept of worry stones will be explained to the children. If your child feels worried or upset, but does not have the confidence to ask for help directly, the idea is that they would put their worry stone in the class box and the staff can then seek out your child and help them with their worry or concern. To give you an idea of the task that was set, please see the examples that the children were shown below:



## Year 2 visit from Millets Falconry

Year 2 had a very informative and fulfilled session with Millets Falconry as part of their Towers, Turrets and Tunnels topic this term. The children were very well behaved and set an excellent example of the school. It was a brilliant experience to learn how these birds were used in the past and how they are still used today.

## Lost Property

Lost property will no longer be collated in the school office. If your child comes home with any items missing, please do check with the staff in your child's year.

## Thank you

Thank you all for your patience while our outdoor areas in KS1 and Little Acorns are being updated. We are looking forward to being able to use the areas again soon. Until further notice, please continue to ensure that the children wait with you in the morning. Y1 & Y2 will enter and exit through the gate at the side of Bumblebees.

***Children attending Breakfast Club should enter school via the main reception in the morning but can be collected from Bumblebees at the end of the day.***

## Daisy's Dream

As mentioned last week, Daisy's Dream will be running a workshop 'How to talk with children about bereavement' on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 11.00am in **The Hub** at **Garland**. The session is aimed at those parents with children in Acorns Nursery, Year 1 and Year 2 and we hope to see some of you there.

## **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**

**Katie Thrussell**

**Maria Kennedy**

**Natasha Robinson**

Mrs Bland's PTA recently held their AGM meeting which reflects on the previous years' spending.

We are always looking for volunteers and would especially like to appeal to the parents of Beech and Maple Class. Please contact our Facebook page or any of our members if this is something you are interested in.

## **Little Acorns Class**

This week in Little Acorns the children have enjoyed playing doctors in our role play area. They have been making sure their babies have the medicine they need to feel better and have also been learning how to look after each other.

We have been reading the story "Pip and Posy, a New Friend" along with learning our songs in the Tap Tap box.

At the craft table the children have enjoyed decorating their own individual acorns using corks and paint.

Outside in the garden the children have really enjoyed playing and exploring the autumn tray and rolling the conkers down the big pipes.

This week, we have also been able to set up individual accounts using the seesaw app and you should all now have had a QR code (please let us know if you have any problems accessing the account.) We will update your child's account to show the activities they have been taking part in and you can also add any photos or comments to your child's account which will be lovely for us to see and discuss with them.

## **Acorns Class**

This week in Acorns the children have been looking at the story 'You Choose'. We talked about our houses and if we knew the number on the door and which rooms are in our house. We looked at different ways to travel to school and came up with some ideas of our own of how we would like to come to school. "I want to come on a train." "I want to come in a boat."

In maths, we were learning how to count to 10 using careful counting and making sure we move each item as we count so we do not count it twice. Some children enjoyed practising their number writing too.

In outdoor learning, we spent a long time clearing the garden and removing all the weeds. We then took time looking at different bulbs that we planted in the garden. The children knew that the bulbs would need watering and that we would have to be very patient to see the flowers grow.

Children on a Thursday now join the main school for their singing assembly. The children all enjoy singing and along and learning new songs. We are trying really hard to practice putting our shoes and socks on independently after PE. Please help your children to practice this at home too.

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In phonics this week we learnt the sounds c, k and ck, e, u, r.

In English this week, we have been talking about different families and writing labels and captions for pictures of our own families.

In maths, we have been continuing our focus on numbers to 5. We have used the song 5 currant buns and dice to help us count back. We played a game throwing bean bags in a hoop to look at pairs of numbers that make 5.

In art, we were inspired by looking at Van Gogh self-portraits and used thick brushstrokes to make our own self-portraits. In science we looked at the trees in our garden, focusing on the Maple and the Beech trees our classes are named after. We also looked at the different textures of natural objects.

We painted our own worry stones with Mrs Rose. We are going to keep these in our classroom and use them in our PSHE.

Reminder: children need both tracksuits and shorts for PE. We use gymnastics equipment on a Friday and children must be wearing shorts to do this.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

In maths this week we have been thinking about how a number can be split up. We have been using a part whole model and beginning to use the + symbol. We will continue this next week.

In English, we have been using full sentences to describe toys, both from the present and the past. We have them been writing our sentences down using a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.

In PSHE, we have been thinking about our rights as learners in our classrooms. We have discussed what good choices and bad choices in school are.

In DT, we have begun to construct our chairs made from junk modelling. We have had to think carefully about our joining techniques and have had to make adjustments where necessary. Thank you for all of the cardboard and tubes you sent in!

In yoga this week, we have been learning about keeping our mind on track, we call it training our 'puppy mind'. We practiced breathing like a snake to calm ourselves down and made a pose like a snake. We will be happy to show you!

In science, we have been learning all about our bodies and our senses. We practiced being real scientists (including wearing some cool goggles). We made up questions about our bodies and senses and we tested all of our friends. Do you know where your ribs are? How can someone who cannot see play cricket?

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

Another hardworking week in Year 2!

In maths this week we have continued to learn about subtraction. We have learned how to subtract 2 digit + 1 digit numbers, 2 digit + 2 digit numbers as well as practising our partitioning skills to help us work out some tricky number sentences without using any dienes! We have also started to look at our new topic in maths on multiplication and division.

In English, after finishing our amazing recounts we have moved on to look at descriptions. First, we learnt all about adjectives and how we can use these to make sentences even better. Then we looked at improving some really boring sentences ourselves by adding in adjectives! We made sentences like... 'There was a slug in the garden' better by changing it to... 'There was a big, slimy slug in the pretty, flowery garden'. We then applied our new adjective skills to describe some huge, scary, fierce dragon pictures!

Meanwhile, our afternoons have been filled with lots of different subjects as usual. In science, we put our findings to the test in our bridge investigations! We worked in groups and all used different techniques to build what we thought was the strongest bridge. In history, we learned about different castles over the years and why they have changed so much. Did you know castles used to be made of wood? Ask your child if they can give a reason why castles are no longer made of wood. In outdoor learning this week we put our joining techniques to the test and tried to build a castle with materials found in nature. This involved using lots of different sized sticks and twigs and required a lot of teamwork. We were so impressed with the teamwork and communication skills across the whole of Year 2!



### Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees



This week Bumblebees have had a great time dressing up in spooky costumes ready for Halloween and cutting out and decorating pumpkins. We also have some budding artists who are very good at using water colours to create some lovely art work.

The Year 2's have enjoyed reading stories to everyone before dinner. As always the children have been very keen to share the best part of their day with everyone during the welcome circle.

**Friend**



**Dinner Star**



**Playtime**



# Whole School Stars

## Star of the Week



## Friendship Star



## Playtime Star



## Top Maths Doodlers



## 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-blinds-infant-and-nursery-school>

Mrs Bland's PTA recently held their AGM meeting which reflects on the previous years' spending. Below shows the different fund raising events and where the money raised was spent. As always it shows how every donation is put towards the education of the children at Mrs Blands and how worthwhile it is to be a member of the PTA. We are always after volunteers and would especially like to appeal to the parents of Beech and Maple. Please contact our Facebook page or any of our members if this is something you are interested in.

