

## Dates for your diary

### **ALL TERM**

**Please book a week in advance**

Family Friday Breakfast – book on Parentmail

Come dine with.....your child lunches – email the office to book

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

8.00pm-9.00pm PTA Body Shop Party

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
Wear something spotty (as well as uniform)

Pre-loved stall (during the school day)

Children in Need Cookie Sale

School Council to lead the Children in Need assembly (school children only)

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
Performance club show (4.00pm)

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Performance (adults only)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
Joint Carol Service with Garland Junior School (Children only)

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Jumper Day and Class Parties

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
End of Autumn Term 2 (school closes as **1:45pm**)

## School News

The school has been a hive of activity this week!

We have welcomed parents in for parent consultations this week. We hope you found these meetings to be informative and you were able to ask any questions that you have regarding your child's learning in school. We have an open-door policy here at Mrs Bland's, so if you ever wish to inform us of anything or ask any questions then please do not hesitate to contact us. Communication is key in helping our school community to continue to grow and thrive.

Rehearsals have started for our Christmas Performance of "Babushka" and children will be bringing their costume letters and/or lines home today. Please help your child to practise at home. We will set the tickets up on Parentmail for the performances in due course and will give you notice beforehand.

### **PTA Body Shop Party**

Thank you to the PTA and to local Body Shop consultant Lucy for running a fantastic party on Thursday evening. The PTA will let us know how much the evening raised towards their fantastic fundraising goal.

### **Children in Need**

We all went spotty for Children in Need today and wore something spotty to show our support for this worthy cause.

Thank you all for your generous donations of pre-loved items for the school council's stall. The stall was a great success and we will let you know the amount raised as soon as possible. Thank you to the school council for organising this event and for assisting on the stall – well done!

Another well done to the whole school for baking their cookies for the Children in Need cookie sale! They certainly looked delicious. Thank you to everyone that was able to buy a cookie or two!



## **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. 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 this week the children have been learning about nocturnal and diurnal animals and they have really enjoyed finding out and discussing facts about them.

We have been reading the story, "A Cold Dark Night" and "Owl Babies" and the children have loved learning our song, 'Dingle Dangle Scarecrow'.

We have also been having some Children in Need fun and have made some Pudsey headbands to wear at home and baked some Pudsey biscuits to sell to make some money for Children in Need.

The children have also had lots of fun making their hedgehog leaf pictures using the leaves we have collected from the garden and they have enjoyed practising their cutting skills by using the scissors to cut around shapes.

Outside in the garden the children have had fantastic fun riding the bikes and scooters (weather permitting) and practising their counting skills using the large wooden threading disks.

Little Acorns Team

## **Acorns Class**

This week in Acorns we have been learning all about nocturnal animals. We have read the story 'One Cold Night' where the hedgehog is looking for his home. The children understand that nocturnal animals come out at night time – well done! We have made a lovely display of the story and made collage animals, using tissue paper, feathers, paper and material.

In outdoor learning we used our sense of touch to find different items that were spiky, smooth, wet, bumpy! "This stone is smooth." "This stick is bumpy."

In science we made Children in Need cookies to sell on Friday - thank you to all those who brought a cookie! The children had a fun Friday celebrating Children in Need wearing an item of spotty clothing and colouring Pudsey pictures!

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In phonics this week, we learned the sounds z (and zz), qu, ch and sh and the tricky words we, me, be and my.

In maths, we have been focusing the numbers 6, 7 and 8 and investigating the smaller numbers within those.

In science and literacy, we learned about nocturnal animals, learning to draw, sort and label them.

In RE, we have been learning about festivals of light this term. This week we learned about Eid al Fitr and Channukah.

In outdoor learning, we begun to learn how to use saws to make wood slices for Christmas decorations.

Please can you send in spare socks with your child. We have none left in school and as the weather is very wet, children often need a change of socks.

Please can you recheck all your child's PE kit is labelled and check they have PE trousers as well as shorts, we need both weekly.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

In maths this week we have been learning about fractions. We have been finding halves and quarters of different shapes, making sure each part is equal. We have used playdoh to help us to understand this tricky concept.

In English we have been learning all about non-chronological reports. We have been reading about Tim Peake and have learnt lots of interesting facts about him! We have also been learning how to make plurals by adding -s.

We have started to practise our class dance for the Christmas production and learn the songs too. The children are working hard on this!

Lots of children are not bringing the correct kit in for Outdoor Learning. Children need waterproof trousers, a waterproof coat and wellies in this weather as we go outside every week. Please make sure your child has the correct kit. If you have any questions or concerns, please come and speak to us in the door after school.

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

Year 2 have been busy bees this week!

In English we have been learning to write setting descriptions. We read a model text and thought about how the author had used their senses to create a picture of the summer setting. We broke the model text down into each sense and thought about alternative ideas for each one. We have started to think about writing our own setting descriptions for a winter scene (linked to our topic, Winter Wonderland!) Why not ask your child about the different things they might see, hear, smell, touch or taste during the winter months.

In maths we have continued our topic on measure. We have moved on from measuring length and mass to beginning to measure volume and capacity. We learned that capacity describes the amount that a container could hold, whilst volume measures how much liquid is actually in a container, regardless of its capacity. We had great fun using water and a range of containers to explore volume and capacity - though it did get messy!

In science we have been learning about animals, including humans. This week we talked about the things that all animals need to survive, including water, food and air. We thought about the difference between wants and needs and sorted a range of items under these headings. We came to the conclusion that as much as we all WANT cake and PlayStations... we do not need these things to survive! This lesson prompted some great discussion from the children.

This week we also enjoyed a wonderful assembly from the school council about Children in Need. We loved learning about this amazing charity and how we can support them. Each class baked delicious, spotty cookies and we can't wait to share them with you.

Finally, in PE this week we have started to choreograph our dances for the Christmas performance. Each class has been given a location from around the world to theme their dance around. Hazel class will be basing their dance on Africa and Rowan class on Antarctica!



The children all made a poppy to add to our window display wreath and feathers for our Peacock in celebration of Diwali. There's been great teamwork whilst playing with the Lego and some amazing creations. We will be thinking about a design for our snowman for the Englefield Snowman Trail next week.

### Bumblebees Stars

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-blands-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. Please contact our Facebook page or any of our members if this is something you are interested in.

