

Dates for your diary

Monday 8th January

Start of Spring Term 1

Wednesday 31st January

The Lion King – Whole School
Enrichment Visit to Lyceum
Theatre

Friday 9th February

Reception Chinese New Year
Assembly

End of Spring Term 1 (3.25pm)

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Half Term

Monday 19th February

Spring Term 2

School News

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We have enjoyed hearing all about your family fun over the holidays.

We have welcomed some new faces to the school this term, both in school and nursery and have made some minor changes to staffing. Mrs Painter has joined as class teacher in Rowan Class and Mrs Rowlands has joined the Year 2 support staff. Mrs Loupos-Read has returned to year 1 in Cherry Clas, Mrs Marshall has moved to the Year 1 support staff team and Mrs Duly has moved to the Year 2 support staff team. We would like to say thank you to Mrs Loupos-Read who did a fantastic job as class teacher in Rowan Class while Miss Henly was unwell, and to Mrs Goodbun for working with Cherry Class while Mrs Loupos-Read was in Year 2. Mrs Bowen has joined the catering team, while Mrs Rosier has moved to a teaching assitant role in our Little Acorns nursery.

We have welcomed the January intake of nursery children in both Acorns and Little Acorns and would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families in school and nursery.

PTA News

Our PTA are hosting some wonderful events for this term. Further details will follow. Please see their message below:

The next PTA meeting is Tuesday 16th January at 6:30pm where we will be discussing events for the Spring Term. All parents are welcome (we meet at the school office) and we look forward to seeing you there!

Federation Update

Good afternoon parents and carers. I hope you had a great Christmas and wish you all Happy New Year. I have an update for you on the next step of the federation process.

After establishing the federation governing board in October, we are advancing to the next phase of the process by recruiting an Executive Head Teacher to lead the federation. I'm pleased to inform you that the Headteacher Appointment Process, facilitated by the Local Authority, is scheduled for next week on Wednesday, January 17th, and Thursday, January 18th. Following this, we will announce the successful candidate, initiating the transition to the new leadership structure at the earliest opportunity.

I will keep you informed of the outcome and future timelines as soon as possible. We aim to minimise the impact on the school community throughout the process.

Many Thanks,

Chris Rowlands

Chair of Governors
The Burghfield Common Federation

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

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

It is lovely to have all the children back in Nursery and a big welcome to all our new children. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break.

This week the children have been learning about our homes. If you have any photos of your home for the children to bring in and show at group time that would be lovely!

They have really enjoyed having a go at drawing their own homes and adding the features such as windows and doors.

We have been reading the story 'Home' along with learning our rhyme of the term, 'It's raining, it's pouring' which has certainly been relevant!

Outside in the garden the children have been having fun riding the bikes and scooters and learning new ball and hoop skills.

Acorns Class

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely break. Firstly, thank you so much for your generous gifts at Christmas!

This term in Acorns, our topic is, 'How does that building stay up?' We will be looking at different buildings in our community, what they are used for and how they are made. We will be investigating different materials and finding out which materials are stronger than others. Could we ask that you upload a picture of your house to seesaw so that we can show the children a range of different houses? Mrs Tanner will be uploading some buildings from around the village to see if the children recognise them and what they may be used for.

As the weather is much colder this term, please remember to send your child in with hats/gloves/scarves and layer up on outdoor learning days. Please also remember to name your child's belongings.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In phonics this week we have recapped all the learning so far, focussing on blending and writing the sounds.

In maths we have been looking at shapes – circles and triangles. We have been exploring these through different activities such as looking for them in the environment and making pictures. Perhaps you can help them to look for these shapes while at home too?

In literacy we have learnt the story of 'The Little Red Hen' off by heart. Ask your child if they can tell you the story.

We have talked about our Christmas holidays and New Year and what it means to make a New Year's resolution.

Please can you ensure your child has a full PE kit in school each week. They need to have shorts and the PE top for gymnastics, for safety reasons they must wear shorts for gymnastics. They also need the full tracksuit each week as Danny does PE outside as long as it is dry.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

A lovely first week back after the Christmas holidays, the children have settled back into their routines and learning.

In Maths this week we have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. We have explored their names and properties as well as making shapes with lolly sticks and straw. Can you find some shapes around your home? What shape did you see the most?

In English we have been exploring our new topic of Fairy tales. Our focus at the moment is on 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears.' The children have enjoyed learning the story and acting out the story in the role-play too. Can you tell you grown-ups the story?

In Art we have enjoyed making artwork inspired by Andy Goldsworthy using natural materials. It was lots of fun and we worked together in teams to make some beautiful patterns.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

It has been a great start to our spring term this week! It was so lovely to see all of those happy and wonderful faces back in class after such a lovely break away from school. It has been so nice to hear about all the great things Year 2 have been up to in the holidays!

In Maths this week we are learning all about 2-D and 3-D shapes. We have been recapping the names of different shapes and have taken a closer look at them to identify some of the shape properties! We have focused a lot on shape sides and the best way to count these as well as guessing shapes by just knowing how many sides it has! Can you ask your child how many sides a hexagon has?

In English this week we have been building upon our comprehension skills and we have started a really funny and interesting book called 'George's Marvellous Medicine' By Roald Dahl. He is our new author of the term and all of us in Year 2 are really looking forward to reading his weird and wonderful books! We have also been learning a model text which is a character description all about the main character George from our book. We are hoping that in the next few weeks we can write our own character description on Grandma!

In history this week we have started our topic all about historical and famous nurses. We have been introduced to a famous nurse called Florence Nightingale. We came up with many questions we wish we could ask her about her work and about being a nurse during the Crimean war! Hopefully as we learn more about her and other famous nurses, we can uncover some answers to some of the questions we had!



Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees



We've had a busy but fun week back. We've welcomed some new friends this term that have settled in really well.

We've shared our holiday news and talked about our Christmas. It sounds like you have all had a wonderful time!

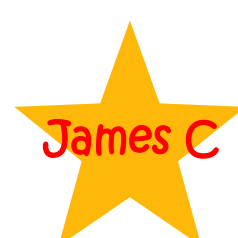
Friend



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 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.

