

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 2nd February

PTA second hand uniform sale
after school

Tuesday 6th February

Year R-Year 2 Valentine's Disco

Friday 9th February

Reception Chinese New Year
Assembly

Cherry Class Cake sale PTA –
KS1 playground after school

End of Spring Term 1 (3.25pm)

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Half Term

Monday 19th February

Spring Term 2

Friday 7th March

World Book Day

Friday 15th March

Red Nose day assembly (led by
Hazel Class)

Friday 23rd February

Year 1 Phonics and Reading
Workshop

School News

This week Reception enjoyed a walk around our local area, looking at man made and natural objects. The weather didn't dampen their spirits and they thoroughly enjoyed the walk. Thank you to our wonderful parent helpers and we hope you had fun too!

There has been a buzz in the air as the children (and the staff!) are all excited about next week's enrichment visit to see The Lion King in London. We have sent several communications out about the visit over the last few weeks, so wanted to summarise them here for you as we appreciate these things can sometimes be difficult to keep on top of!

Food for the visit

The children will be provided with an early lunch before we depart at 11:30am. Please ensure that you have **pre-ordered** your child's lunch for Wednesday 31st January **BEFORE midday on Monday 29th January**. There is an option of a cooked brunch (eggs/bacon/sausages etc - and all dietary requirements have been considered) or a cheese baguette with a biscuit and fruit.

Parents should then provide their child with a packed tea (in a small backpack or bag that they can carry) which we will be able to eat during the interval at the theatre. Please send in a simple tea, something like a sandwich and a biscuit and some fruit that they will be able to finish during the interval. The children will have their water bottles with them during the visit so will not need an additional drink.

We will provide a further small snack for the journey home so there should be no hungry tummies on our return!

Choice of late arrival Thursday 1st February

As we are not scheduled to return from London until around 7pm, Mrs Rose has agreed to offer the option of your child coming into school at 1pm on Thursday. **Please complete the form** on ParentMail (or let the office know) **by midday on Monday 29th January** to confirm if your child will be attending at normal school time on Thursday 1st (8:55am registration) or if they will come in after lunch, at 1pm. We need this information to be able to plan the curriculum for the morning. The children cannot come to school in between these times. If your child is coming in at 1pm, please make your way to the school office.

Travel sickness

If you know that your child is prone to travel sickness, please do medicate them **before they attend school** and provide the same medication (if required) in its original packaging for the return journey. You should drop this into the school office **before the end of Tuesday 30th January** and complete a consent form to enable us to administer the medication before leaving London.

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

This week in little Acorns the children have been learning about the different Mighty Machines and looking at non-fiction books about construction and the different materials we use to build buildings. In maths we have been looking at weights what is heavy and what is light.

We have been continuing to learn our rhyme of the term, "It's raining, it's pouring" and learning all our nursery rhymes by using our rhyming basket and tap, tap box during carpet time.

Outside in the garden, the children have really enjoyed practising there balancing skills on the balance beams.

Hopefully you have all been able to access your child's Seesaw account. QR codes have been provided (please let us know if you have any problems accessing the account). There are a lot of lovely photos on there which show some of the wonderful activities that your children have been enjoying now that they have all settled into the nursery routine.

Next week we will be making junk models - if you have any spare boxes or junk modelling materials then please drop them in to us – thank you!

Acorns Class

This week in Acorns we have been looking at different machines that help us build. We have looked at the size of the machine and how big the wheels are. We had some lovely ideas on how the machines help us.

"The crane lifts the big things."

"The scoop makes massive holes."

In maths we have been looking at patterns - when something happens again and again. We made patterns in different ways, using stones, sticks, animals and shapes. We enjoyed using the interactive whiteboard to play the pattern game and apply our new learning.

The children have loved going over to the "big hall" and having yoga with Mrs Sharratt. We are learning several yoga positions and the children always try their hardest to hold the poses.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In phonics this week we have recapped the sounds 'ai', 'igh', 'oa' and 'oo' (making the long sound as in moon, and short sound as in look). We are also focusing on remembering and reading our tricky words.

In literacy we have adapted the characters in the story of the 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' and wrote about road safety following our local walk.

In maths we have been looking at the numbers 6, 7 and 8, counting out from a larger number, remembering to stop counting, recognising them in different contexts and representations such as dice, dominoes and with fingers.

Our local walk was to look at natural and man-made features and identify local landmarks. The children behaved so well on the walk and enjoyed the experience, even though it rained. Thank you so much to the volunteers who did the walk twice!

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

This week in Maths we have been looking at place value and using our tens frames to make 20. Our place value work was looking at numbers and seeing how many tens and ones are in each number, we enjoyed using practical resources to support us. The children have also enjoyed finding one more and one less of number. You could do this at home when counting sweets or toys and take one away or add one more.

In English this week we have been continuing to look at the 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' story. This week we have been inventing our own story inspired by the three bears story. We have also been answering questions about other fairytale stories by reading the text and then answering questions by using what we have read to help us.

Science this term has been studying nature. We continued our studies by focusing on trees, looking at their different parts, as well as identifying trees as evergreen or deciduous. The children then enjoyed looking around the school grounds to find evergreen and deciduous trees, especially the class trees which the Year 1 classes are named after.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

In English this week we have continued to read more of 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and we are really enjoying getting to know the two main characters - George and Grandma! After our amazing writing last week, this week we have combined all our writing skills together to create our own independent character descriptions all about Grandma herself. Ask your children what Grandma is like - she's pretty nasty! Year 2 came up with some fantastic adjectives to describe her!

This week in Maths, we have been continuing our learning on shape. This week's focus was moved to 3-D shapes, which are a little trickier when you have to remember the language change - but Year 2 are smashing it! So far, we have looked at the different faces of 3-D shapes, the edges and the vertices.

In Science, we are starting a really exciting investigation called 'Which stuff is stickier?'. In order to plan and prepare for this, we familiarised ourselves with lots of different types of glue and went on a sticky hunt. This was to identify types of sticky stuff that it used throughout the school. We were then able to talk about if these types of glue were reusable or not.

Another little reminder that alongside PE kits, the children also need their outdoor learning clothes every Thursday. We suggest bringing everything in on a Monday so that it is at school ready for the whole week ahead. Children with long hair are required to have it all tied up for physical education so it may be a good idea to come to school with this ready to save time getting changed - meaning we get longer actually having fun playing games! If your child wears earrings, the requirement is that they are studs and they have to be removed for PE or taped. This tape needs to be provided in their bags with the ability to apply this independently. Thank you for your support with this.



Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees



We've had a short week this week in Bumblebees but have had lots of fun making beautiful creations with hama beads and have been busy bees, playing games and making new friendships.

Bumblebees Stars

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.

