

## **Dates for your diary**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February**  
Spring Term 2

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**  
Y1 Phonics and Reading  
Workshop for Parents/Carers  
9.00-9.20am – school hall

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**  
World Book Day  
(Please see previous letter  
regarding dress up)

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**  
Red Nose Day assembly  
(led by Hazel Class)  
Replace one item of school  
uniform with something red.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**  
YR visit to Rushall Farm

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**  
Birch Class Parent Lunch

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**  
Parent Consultations 3.30pm-  
6.00pm (we will let you know  
when these can be booked next  
week)

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
Parent Consultations 5.30pm-  
8.00pm (we will let you know  
when these can be booked next  
week)

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
Y1 Educational visit to Marwell  
Zoo

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**  
Y1 Easter Assembly

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**  
End of Spring Term 2 1.45pm

## **School News**

Welcome back everyone and we hope you all had a wonderful half term break.

We have been thinking about the signs of Spring and were really excited to see the spring bulbs flowering around school, which we planted in the Autumn! The children also learnt the names of some of the common spring flowers...snowdrop, daffodil and crocus.

We welcomed year 1 parents in this week for a Reading and Phonics workshop to provide an insight into the phonics assessments that will take place in June. We had lots of positive feedback following the session and the slides will go live on the website very soon for those of you that were unable to attend.

## **PTA update**

Please join us for our next meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm in the school hall. We will be discussing the following events:

Mother's Day fun run - in exchange for a Mother's Day gift, your child will take part in a fun run at the end of their PE session. Gift donations can be given to the class teacher. Please see the attached poster for more information.

Mother's Day Shhhop - tickets will be available on parent mail for the Mother's Day shhhop where children can choose a present for a Mum/Step Mum/Nan/Aunt etc. tickets are limited to 2 per child and are £3 each.

Birch Class cake sale - date to be confirmed

We will also be at the CSA car boot sale on Saturday. Buyers are welcome from 8am. Entry is £1

## **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**

It is lovely to have all the children back in Nursery, we hope you all had a lovely half term break.

This week in Little Acorns we have been reading the story "Oh Dear" and been learning our new rhyme of the term "Mary had a little lamb".

We have also been recapping our routines and expectations and reminding everyone that we all share and are kind to one another within our nursery.

The children have been learning about the different noises that animals make and playing our musical instruments to match the noises.

Outside in the garden the children have really enjoyed riding the bikes and scooters and learning new ball and hoop skills.

Please could all parents make sure that we have a full change of clothes, including socks, in their bags thank you.

## **Acorns Class**

Welcome back. We hope you have had a restful break. It has been lovely to see how well the children have settled back in and were excited to be here.

Our topic this term is 'Are Eggs Alive?' We will be looking at where eggs come from and what is in an egg. This week we are looking at the story of Farmer Duck.

In PE, we moved our bodies like different animals on a farm. The children mooed and neighed and strutted around the hall. In maths, we were counting animals into their pens, making sure to only move one animal at a time.

We have been working hard writing our names, we practise every day and know to hold our pencil in a 'beaky bird' grip. The children enjoy tracing over the highlight of their name.

In science, we learnt about life cycles. We learnt that things go round and then start again. We looked at the life cycle of a chicken as well as the life cycle of Mrs. Tanner! Please feel free to put a baby picture of your child onto seesaw for us to share with the class. We also looked at what is inside an egg and cooked them in different ways (scrambled, fried and boiled) to see how they changed.

## **Maple and Beech News (Reception)**

In phonics this week we have recapped the sounds 'ar' 'or', 'ur' and 'ow' and learnt the tricky words 'you' and 'was'. We have been focusing on writing tricky words and forming the letters b and d and recognising the difference between them.

In literacy, we have read the story of the Tiny Seed. We have linked this to our science work about growing, planting pea seeds and looking at seasonal change. We have also been talking about the seasons.

In maths, we have been learning about doubling numbers to 6. We used dice patterns, counters and mirrors and Numicon pieces to recognise when we had doubled a number. We also explored measurements – long/short, tall/short and comparing longest/shortest and tallest/shortest.

In geography we have begun looking at maps. We took photos of our school to add to a map.

## **Birch and Cherry (Year 1)**

What a fabulous week back at school after the half term. The children have really enjoyed our new topic all about animals, 'Animals Around the World' and everyone has been exploring our new role-play areas in the classrooms.

In English we read a story called 'Cinnamon'. The children have been learning this story and using it to write their own version of the story already. We have seen some super writing and the children have been really trying with their handwriting and presentation.

In Maths, we have been working on using number lines to answers questions about missing number problems, as well as worded problems. We have also been learning the vocabulary we use in maths and identifying specific language in worded problems to help us work out additions or subtractions- altogether makes, more than, less than, take away, add, plus, count on, equals, take away, count back etc.

In outdoor learning, we had a very fun and very wet session this week! The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the outdoor areas around the school looking for bugs. Please can you ensure your child has NAMED wellies, waterproof coat and waterproof trousers in school.

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

It's been so lovely to have everyone back in school and see the whole of Year 2 working so hard on their first week back.

We have started our new term topic which is The Scented Garden and we have spoken a lot in or assemblies this week about spotting the first signs of spring. I wonder which signs of spring you can spot over the weekend!

In English this week, we have started reading a book called 'The Tin Forest'. We have found that this book is full of incredible vocabulary and it has inspired us to create a similar piece of writing ourselves. In the book, (spoiler alert!) an old man has a dream and explains his wonderful and very detailed dream place. Therefore, this week in Year 2 we have been working on creating our own dream places ready to write about them next week! We have had various settings from the children in Year 2, from snowy landscapes and underwater scenes to fantasy lands and ancient dinosaur worlds! It has been great seeing the children's imagination run wild and hopefully inspire them to get writing about it in the next few lessons. The adults in Year 2 were so impressed with their work that we have displayed them up and around the school.

In Maths this week, we have been revisiting topics from earlier on in the year. We wanted to ensure we had a recap of some of those really core maths topics, such as place value and addition. So, we started the week with some place value and we looked at partitioning numbers. This involved using part-whole models and using dienes. Everyone worked so hard and really impressed us with what they had remembered learning about. We did lots of work on partitioning a number into tens and ones and even solved some word problems on it. Towards the end of the week, we focused on some addition and we used dienes again to enhance our learning. Adding two-digit numbers can be tricky but because we were able to draw and use the dienes this enabled us to see it a lot clearer.

In art this week, we finished off our Quentin Blake illustrations... WOW! Year 2 are such amazing artists and once again they amazed us with their illustrations of characters from Roald Dahl books. We have also put these up on display for everyone in the school to see how proud we are of their work. Keep up the hard work Year 2 - well done!



**Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees**



We've had a busy first week getting back into routine. Everyone has enjoyed sharing what they did in half term, we are practising listening well when a friend is talking and waiting our turn to speak. Well done bumblebees!

### 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.

