

Dates for your diary

Monday 15th April

Start of Summer Term 1

Tuesday 16th April

Year 1 visit to OMNH

Friday 26th April

PTA Non uniform day for
bottle tombola

Cherry Class Parent Lunch

Friday 3rd May

Rowan Class Parent Lunch

Tuesday 7th May

Year 2 visit to Thatcham
Discovery Centre

Friday 10th May

Hazel Class Parent Lunch

Sunday 12th May

Year 2 to perform a country
dance at the Burghfield
May Fayre 12th May

Tuesday 14th May

Year R bus and train
journey

Friday 17th May

Maple Class Parent Lunch

Friday 24th May

Beech Class Parent Lunch

End of Summer Term 1 –
3:25pm (school) 3:30pm
(nursery)

School News

Welcome back to the start of Summer Term 1!

You may have noticed our new reading huts in the KS1 playground. We introduced these as a space for the children to use if they want a little bit of quiet time to read or chat with their friends. We hope you agree that they look marvellous and have been well used already this week. Please can we ask that these are not used afterschool by siblings at pick up time.

To start the week off, Year 1 had their first education visit of the term to the Oxford Museum of Natural History. They came back buzzing with excitement about the things they had learned. Thank you to all of our parent helpers, you were brilliant.



Next Friday we have Cherry Class parents in for their parent/child lunches (please ensure you have purchased your place by 5pm on Sunday if you have not already done so). On the same day, the children are also invited to wear non school uniform, in return for a bottle for the forthcoming bottle tombola at the May Fayre.

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 to welcome all the new starters, we hope you all had a lovely Easter break and are ready for a new and exciting Summer term.

This week in Little Acorns we have been reading the story, 'Giraffes Can't Dance' and been learning our new rhyme of the term 'Open, Shut them'. We have also been recapping on our routines and expectations and have shown our new starters how we share and are kind to one another within our nursery.

The children have been enjoying dancing on the carpet with the coloured scarfs and musical instruments.

Outside in the garden, the children have really enjoyed riding the bikes and scooters and learning to balance on the balance tubes.

Please can you make sure that we have a full change of clothes including socks and a supply of nappy bags and wipes in your child's bags, thank you.

Acorns Class

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely half term break.

This term our topic is 'Why do spiders eat flies?' We will be learning all about insects and what they eat and how to identify an insect.

This week we have been looking at the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We have been trying to learn the sequence of the days of the week and knowing what day we are on each day. We have also been trying to put pictures from the story into the right order.

In maths we have been looking at 2D shapes. We have been describing the shapes using the words straight, long, short, curved. We have also been learning what number is 1 more and 1 less than a given number. We ordered the numbers to 10 and then then hid a number. The children then had to find the missing number.

In science we looked at different materials that would help a spider stay at the top of the drain pipe.

"The soft one will help him stick." Callum

"The smooth one will make him slip." Emily



Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In phonics, we have moved on to Phase 4. This week we recapped lots of our Phase 3 digraphs and learnt the new tricky words – do, so, come, some, have and like.

In Literacy we have learnt to retell the story of the Bear Hunt. We have made textile and digital maps to help us retell the story in the right order. We have also role-played the story inside and through outdoor learning and explored the Bear hunt settings using sensory trays.

In Maths we have moved on to learning about teen numbers. We have explored how the numbers 11-19 are formed with numicon pieces, for example, we have learnt to use the sentence stem: I can see 10 and 3 more, 13 is 10 and 3 more. We have encouraged children to use these sentences to explain how they know what a number is.

In RE we are using different stories to learn about moral messages. This week we read the story 'The boy who cried wolf'. We used this to talk about the importance of telling the truth.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

This week has been such an exciting week in Year One with a great start to our new dinosaur topic.

On Tuesday we went to Oxford Museum of Natural History. We had an amazing time looking at the exhibitions of fossils, dinosaur bones and skeletons. In the workshop we got to work as scientists and handle real fossils and bones to help us discover more about dinosaurs. We also got to hold a real Tyrannosaurus tooth, fossils, bones and even a fossilised dinosaur poo! Thank you to our parent helpers who came with us.

Another big thank you to the art department at The Willink School, as on Wednesday we had an art workshop where we worked with clay to create our own dinosaur. The children all really enjoyed it and we are looking forward to getting them back from the kiln so we can paint them before we display them.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

How lovely it has been to see all the children back looking refreshed and ready for a new term. Now that the sun has started making an appearance, we look forward to extending our learning in our garden areas.

Our new topic is 'Wriggle and Crawl' and the children have had a great time innovating the story of Walter the Worm with their own exciting ideas.

The children have shown impressive understanding of our Maths unit about length and height. They have been able to articulate their learning using mathematical vocabulary and have applied their learning a range of problems.

We have a very exciting new topic in History; 'The Age of Discovery!' The children will be exploring significant events beyond living memory and how seafaring has changed over the last 450 years, from simple canoes to steam boats. They will learn about the famous explorers – Zheng He and John Cabot, and the steam boats designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

In Science this week we have compared the differences between things that are living, dead and have never been alive. We will continue our exploration by looking more closely at how living things are suited to their habitats.



This week we have been settling back into our routines and welcoming our new starters to Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees. The children have been sharing their holiday news with us, it has been lovely to hear their stories.

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.

