



Friday 17th January 2025

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter

Federation News- Message from Mrs Rose

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy and productive second week of the spring term, and it's lovely to see everyone settling back into school routines with enthusiasm and energy.

Bikeability in Year 6

This week, it has been wonderful to see so many of our Year 6 children participating in their Bikeability sessions. The children have shown excellent focus and determination while learning important skills for road safety. Thank you to the instructors and all the families for supporting this valuable activity.

Infant School Assemblies

In the infant school, our assemblies this week have been focused on remembering and celebrating our school values. These values guide us in how we treat one another, work together, and approach our learning each day. We have then linked these to British values.

Junior School Assemblies

At the junior school, we have been reflecting on our behaviour for learning and the importance of self-discipline. We have explored how these habits support us in achieving our goals, whether they are academic, personal, or social.

Looking ahead to next week:

- Reading Challenge: Encourage your child to read for at least 10 minutes every evening. Younger children can enjoy sharing a book with a family member, while older children may like to explore a new genre or author.

Reminders

- We have a number of children not bringing PE kits in every day. Please make sure children have indoor (navy shorts and coloured T shirt) **and** outdoor kit (navy joggers and top) and trainers. Please label all clothing to help us return lost items to their owners quickly.
- We encourage punctuality at the start of the day to ensure children are ready and settled for learning.

Thank you for your continued support in making our school a positive and thriving community. We look forward to another exciting and rewarding week ahead.

Click below for your newsletter

Mrs Bland's News

Garland News

Burghfield Common Federation

OUR VISION

*Community, Curiosity,
Creativity and Challenge*

Discovering every child's sparkle and shining a light on their brilliance...



MRS BLAND'S INFANT
AND GARLAND
JUNIOR SCHOOL



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Newsletter



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery News



Here at Mrs Bland's, we are bursting with community spirit and excitement as we embark on our new learning for this term. It is sure to ignite creativity and curiosity in all our young learners.

Our various afterschool clubs started with a burst of enthusiasm this week. We hope your children have been sharing everything they got up to when participating in these extra-curricular activities.

There is a real buzz in school for the upcoming Matilda visit. This will be a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to experience live theatre, enhance their imagination and discover the magic of storytelling. Did you know Roald Dahl trained as a fighter pilot and even survived a plane crash when serving in the Royal Air Force?

It was lovely to see so many smiley faces at the PTA cake sale today, a sugar rush to start the weekend! As always, your support is greatly appreciated in supporting our lovely school.

Dates for your diary

- 22/01/25 KS1 visit - Matilda
- 31/01/25 Year R - Chinese New Year Assembly

Quote of the Week

“Community is about doing something together that makes belonging matter.”



A big congratulations to Cassidy and Penny for winning trophies in their dance competitions this week!



School Stars

Acorns - Rosie N
Beech - Aleesha
Birch - Jacob
Cherry - George
Hazel - Angel
Rowan - Ava

Star of the Week

Acorns - Dylan
Beech - Azil
Birch - Judi
Cherry - Bella
Hazel - Sophia S
Rowan - Theo

Friendship Star



Theo P
Lucas C

Reading Stars

Acorns - Tilly
Beech - Keegan
Birch - Stelian
Cherry - Maria
Hazel - Riyan
Rowan - Autumn

Playtime Star

Little Acorns



Our new topic for the term is “Where Does Snow Go?”

This week in Little Acorns we have been reading the story *The Gruffalo’s Child*, and have been continuing to learn our new rhyme of the term *It’s Raining, Its Pouring*. The children have loved our Gruffalo’s Child role-play cave, and have been enjoying making Gruffalo crumble in the Rice Krispies sensory tray.

During carpet times we have been talking about the snow and ice, how it melts and turns to water, and what we need to wear to keep ourselves warm in the cold.

At the craft table this week the children have been enjoying making and colouring their very own individual snowflakes ready for our display.

In the outside area the children have been loving exploring the frost/snow on the ground and the ice in our winter animal ice trays.



Acorns



This week in Acorns the children have enjoyed using the construction role play area. They have been dressing up as builders and know that they need to wear hi-vis jackets and hard hats to keep them safe. They have been working together to build tall towers and using their words to support each other and ask for help.

The children have been working hard to remember the actions to our story *The Three Little Pigs*. The actions have helped the children remember the words of the story, and some children have been retelling the story during child-initiated time.

In PE we are working hard to learn new skills... passing the ball and waiting our turn. The children really enjoy PE with Danny and it has been lovely to see their progress.

In Science we have been exploring materials. We have been learning about materials that are used to build houses, and have learnt that some materials are natural - we can not make them - and some are man-made - people make the materials.



Beech (Reception)



This week in Beech class we have been continuing our work on traditional tales. We used the story of *The Little Red Hen*, which we learned last week, to create new stories. We changed the characters to make our own versions. We also learned how to add the details to a story map to support us in retelling the new stories.

In Phonics our focus has been the phase 3 sounds we have learnt so far, recognising them in words and starting to write them.

In Maths we worked on our subitizing speed skills – quickly recognising small number patterns and picking out small groups. We also recapped on finding one more or one less very quickly with small numbers.

We have been getting outside for longer this week as the weather has improved, and we have begun to spot signs of spring. We have been learning how to tie simple knots and have been using our new skills to make ourselves log dogs, and to retell the story of *Jack and the Beanstalk*.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)



This week in Literacy we have finished writing our learnt text about *Beegu* and have started to change the story slightly to create a new version.

In Maths we have been using a number line to 20 to find one more and one less, filling in missing numbers and estimate positions of values on a part filled in number line.

In DT we have designed our vehicles. Please can you have a look around your house for any suitable materials that we can use to make them:

- boxes,
- toilet tubes,
- straws,
- kebab sticks,
- lids of different sizes.

In Geography we have started to look at globes and maps of the world and labelled the seven continents.



Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)



Year 2 have worked really hard this week, and both teachers have seen LOTS of perseverance demonstrated by all the children. A big well done to you all!

In English we have been writing character descriptions about Grandma from *George's Marvellous Medicine*, and the children have come up with some fabulous adjectives. It was great to see the children applying their SPAG focus in their writing this week, which has been compound sentences. We have been working really hard to remember the seven coordinating conjunctions. Can you ask your children what 'FANBOYS' stands for?

In Maths this week, we have had a whole week on revisiting and recapping addition and subtraction. Instead of using manipulatives we have been using drawn representations to help with our two 2-digit number sentences. We even looked at addition and subtraction with exchange!

In Outdoor Learning this week, we have applied our learning and knowledge of *George's Marvellous Medicine* to create our own potions using natural materials collected from our very own outdoor learning area. You should have seen the mess we made!

We absolutely love to listen to the children read but sadly we cannot if they don't have their reading books. Please can we kindly ask that the children bring their reading books in every day so we can do so?





— Friday 17th January 2025 —

Burghfield Common Federation

School Newsletter



Garland Junior School News

In assembly this week, we have been looking at identity, and how each of us is unique.

People all have different influences in their lives - maybe through their family, where they (or their parents) have lived, the friends they have made, or through exploring different cultures and countries - and these influences play a part in who we are and how we feel about ourselves.

Lots of people who live in the United Kingdom come from countries all over the world. Likewise, many people from the UK move to live and work in other countries. This mix of cultures and identities gives an amazing opportunity to learn about lots of different places, people, customs and beliefs.

This mix should be embraced and enjoyed, not feared or viewed negatively.



Dates for your diary

- 23/01/25 Year 5 Level 1 Bikeability
- 29/01/25 Whole School visit - Matilda
- 26/02/25 Year 6 Level 2 Bikeability
final sessions

Quote of the Week

“Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else.”

School Awards

Values Certificate

Zaner A
Jahnia H
Logan S-M
Noah H
Cora G
Esme F
Ella-Mae W
Isabella M

Reading Stars

Vienna B
Charlie D
Sonnie S
Bluebell C
Fraser S
Evelyn B
Carter I
Will O

WOW Award

Kelyn H
Yenuth D
Rufus P
Malik R
Jasmin A

Top Doodlers

Alice C
Isabella P
Holly M
Annie H
Harvey A
Ralph M
AJ P
Annabelle S

Year 6 pupils have been taking to the streets of Burghfield this week as they take part in their Level 2 Bikeability training, and they should be proud of the lovely feedback from the instructors about how the children listened, learned, and strove to improve each time.

Last week, in a sunny spot of the frozen playgrounds, they successfully completed Level 1 and are now going out 'in the real world' to consolidate and build on the skills they have learnt. Each instructor works with a group of six pupils when on the roads, and the training has been so popular with Year 6 pupils that the instructors need to come back for extra dates in February!

Next week, Year 5 pupils have the chance to take part in their Level 1 training - fingers crossed this warm spell holds for them.



Franklin and Grey-Thompson (Year 3)

On Monday we started learning about the Roman myth of Romulus and Remus in English, and have practiced retelling the story using drama. We also learnt about the Roman army in History and how they conquered Britain, as well as the Punic wars.

In Geography we have been learning about the Lake District, and explored the National Park on Google Earth.

Our PE lessons have been focused on co-ordination, practicing catching and throwing in fitness and controlling the ball in hockey.

We are so impressed with the learning behaviours shown in Maths by both classes this week. The children have been extremely determined with multiplying and dividing 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers.

On Friday we explored magnetic forces in Science, going around the school investigating which materials were magnetic. We followed this up by testing which forces we could find on objects. It was lovely to see their engagement and enthusiasm.

Finally, we finished our week with Outdoor Learning, where we all took part in a nature treasure hunt.



Edwards and Hussain (Year 4)

What an exciting week it has been in Year 4! We've dived into the enchanting world of *Leonora Bolt*, our new class book, which has sparked our imaginations and inspired us to craft persuasive letters.

In Maths, we've solidified our understanding of multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100, even putting our skills to the test with some tricky problem-solving questions.

Our Science lessons were a blast as we explored the fascinating properties of solids, liquids, and gases, sorting everyday objects into their respective categories.

PE was energetic, focusing on building both strength and speed through various exercises—everyone gave it their all!

In French, we mastered the pronunciation of vowels, a fantastic step towards reading more French words with confidence.

To top it all off, our Outdoor Learning adventure included a spirited game of 'capture the flag' to sharpen our teamwork skills, as well as a litter pick to keep our school environment tidy.

Here's to another terrific week ahead!



Brunel and Zephaniah (Year 5)


This week, we have been exploring a new setting for several areas of our curriculum this term.

Our Geography lessons have taken us to tropical climates, to the rainforest of South America. Linking to this, we have started reading *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell in English, as a stimulus for our writing this term. The book took a very dramatic turn straight away as our main characters crashed straight into the Amazon!

This nicely links to our History for the term, in which we are going to be learning about the Maya civilisation, a group of people who were (a small minority still are) found in South and Central America. The children have really enjoyed the start of this unit, and are looking forward to exploring the rainforest in more depth. We have started looking at the animals of the Amazon, so that we are able to write non-chronological reports about some of them.

In Maths, we have been extending our multiplication skills and methods, by using area models and the formal method of multiplication to multiply by increasingly large numbers. This has been a challenge as there are many aspects to understand when applying this method. If you want to have a look at the method with your children, Doodle has a brilliant explanation which can be found by going on to this QR link.

		3	3	
	x	2	1	
<hr/>				
		3	3	← This is 33 x 1
		6	6	0 ← This is 33 x 2
<hr/>				
		6	9	3 ← This is 33 x 2
<hr/>				



The road was a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor

Parks and Wiltshire (Year 6)

We have been galloping along in Maths, using our knowledge of place value to help us with the concept of decimals, including multiplication and division, and many of us have taken on 'challenge' work we might not have tried before!

We have also really enjoyed *The Highwayman* text, with in-depth discussion and comprehension. I think for many, this has become a favourite text, even though it turned out not to be the same as *The Highway Rat*, as some of us thought it would be!

Our PSHE focused on the importance of understanding the need for consent when sharing images online, and we talked about ways to ensure we are protecting ourselves when communicating with others through sites or apps that allow image sharing.

**Have a lovely weekend, from us all at the
Burghfield Common Federation!**

Dates for your Diary

January 2025	Wednesday 22nd		KS1 visit - Matilda the Musical
	Thursday 23rd	AM/PM	Year 5 - Level 1 Bikeability
	Wednesday 29th		Garland School visit - Matilda the Musical
	Friday 31st		Year R - Chinese New Year Assembly
February	Wednesday 26th		Year 6 - Bikeability Level 2 final sessions