

Dates for your diary

Monday 28th September

Meet the Teacher week – via
Telephone

Thursday 1st October

Autumn Census for Schools

Monday 12th October and

Tuesday 13th October

Life Bus in School

Thursday 15th October

9.30am Governing Body
meeting – pupil progress

Friday 16th October

Year 2 Falconer visit

Tuesday 20th October

Year 2 Trip to Oxford Castle

Wednesday 21st October

Year 1 Explorer Dome visit

Thursday 22nd October

School Finishes normal times

Friday 23rd October

Staff Inset Day

Monday 2nd November

8.50am – School Reopens

School News

We've had another very busy week. One of the positive aspects we have noticed about the changes made in school due to Covid, is that the children are very focussed on their learning and have more extended opportunities, especially in English and maths. The children are showing excellent attitudes to learning and are really enjoying the topics in each year group.

Today, I presented our Celebration certificates to each class virtually. As well as Star of the week and Friendship Star, we have introduced a new certificate...the 'Playtime Star'.

Each week, each class will have a 'Craze' of the week, where staff will teach them a new playground game and they will be able to play it all week. One child, who plays well, includes others, teaches others or is an enthusiastic role model will be awarded the Star. Do ask your children which game they have learnt this week.

We will very shortly be having a new computerised library system installed where children will be able to borrow books on a fortnightly basis as part of their class library time. We are also focussing on 'storytime' in each class on a daily basis. Each year group will be listening to stories and poems by a specific author for enjoyment. We have lots of new story books arriving in school. We will also be publishing a list of recommended books for each year group on the school website.

Mrs Nisbet

Governing Body News

Following the recent Parent governor elections we are delighted to welcome Mr Aaron White as Parent Governor to Mrs Bland's Governing Body. We also welcome Mr Kevin Mortimer, Mr Kevin Hughes and Mrs Jenina Mistry-Soares as Co-opted Governors.

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 –

Loic Manneville, Claire Oakes, Ben Ash, Lauren Hooke

Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

What a noisy week in Little Acorns! This week we have been saying our nursery rhymes with the addition of musical instruments. The children have really enjoyed learning how to shake, bang or jingle to a tune. We have been learning the song 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes'. We have been practising this song to help us identify parts of our bodies. Some children have been brave and enjoyed the challenge of attempting to walk along our balance beam! We have been showing the children how to use our arms to help us balance. It looks like the wet weather is on the way, please can we ask that all children bring in a named coat, a pair of welly boots and any waterproofs. Thank you.

Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

It has been lovely to see the Nursery children coming into Acorns Nursery so independently and with big smiles this week, well done to all of them! With our topic based around the theme, 'Why Do You Love Me So Much?', we have been learning this week about our families and pets. The children loved the 'Spot Goes to School' story and have talked about their pets. There is still a chance next week to bring in photos of the children's families and any pets if you haven't yet, and to speak to the class about them. The children loved their second outdoor learning session, finding and sorting different sticks, and making 'log dogs'! See if your child can find sticks that are long/short/wide/thin etc. if you go out for a walk or in your garden.

Next week we will continue to think about how we belong in our families as well as any pets we have. We will also be exploring the book 'You Choose' and 'Home'. In Maths we will be counting and matching numbers, and sorting objects by how long/short they are. With the weather becoming more Autumnal, please remember to bring a coat everyday as we go outside in all weathers. If you have any questions, do ask myself (Mrs Collis), Mrs Hitt or Miss Phillips.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have continued to talk about ourselves and think about similarities and differences. We collected data about eye and hair colour as a class on a bar chart and looked at what was most common. The children used this to then count how many of each colour there were.

The children have all been practising how to write their name, either by painting over the top of letters or copying a name card, some children can write their name independently.

We also started phonics sessions this week, the children are split into smaller groups and learn different sounds, write letters and learn to blend sounds together to make simple words.

In outdoor learning we were investigating sticks! The children had some amazing ideas of what their stick could be, they ordered them by size and made 'log dogs.' Next week we are thinking about what makes them special. Could each child please bring in a family photo to share and talk about with their class by Tuesday.

Thankyou

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

In English this week we have been reading, "The Tiger Who Came to Tea" and writing our own shortened version of the story. We have learnt about our five senses in Science and talked about the different things we could see, hear, smell, taste and feel. In Geography we have studied a map of the UK and identified the four countries within the UK. We have continued to improve our netball skills in outdoor PE and have found different ways to move on the apparatus in Gymnastics.

Please could you help your child to dress and undress independently at home, particularly with putting on socks, as this will help them immensely when getting changed for PE. Also to remind you that they need both shorts and jogging bottoms in their PE bags.

For ICT, we have set a 2do on purple mash for the children, which involves a game using letters and the space bar. They can do this at home if you have a device for them to use.

Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week, Year 2 are practising our past tenses, and looking at how to add the suffix-ed to words where we need to double the last consonant (e.g hug - hugged, slip - slipped). In English, we have continued learning about castles and begun to write our own fact file. We have been focusing on the different jobs people had in castles. Please talk to your child and find out many different kinds of people lived and worked in castles!

In maths, we are learning more about place value in two-digit numbers, with lots of practical resources to help. We are also practising partitioning numbers in different ways and are making sure we use the correct maths vocabulary to support our learning (tens and ones). We have also been ordering and comparing numbers.

We have been very excited to have started to paint this year's Christmas cards for the PTA to sell. The children have done a fantastic job, and we can't wait to be able to show you the finished version, once the cards have been printed!

We've been particularly arty this week! As well as the Christmas cards, we have also been finishing off our Coat of Arms designs. The children have thought carefully about what designs, symbols and colours to use on their shields. Ask them if they can tell you what some of the different pictures and symbols represented.

We are looking forward to speaking to you next week for our 'Meet the Teacher' calls and will be happy to answer any questions you may have then.

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>