

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
Year 2 Trip to Oxford Castle

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
School Finishes normal times

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
Staff Inset Day

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
8.50am – School Reopens

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November  
3.30pm – 4.30pm  
Reception Halloween Disco

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November  
Year 2 Junkman visiting  
3.30pm – 4.30pm Year 2  
Halloween Disco

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November  
3.30pm – 4.30pm Year 1  
Halloween Disco

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November  
Full Governing Body meeting

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Year 1 Explorer Dome visiting

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
3.30pm – 6.00pm Parent  
Consultation Meeting

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
5.30pm to 8.30pm Parent  
Consultation Meeting

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November  
Diwali Assembly

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November  
Flu Vaccinations

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December  
Advent Assembly

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Class Christmas Lunch and  
parties

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
1.45pm School Finishes

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
8.50am School Re-opens

### School News

Year 2 enjoyed a visit from the Falconer, to support their learning about life in castles.

Next Tuesday, Year 2 are off to Oxford Castle to learn even more about everyday life in a castle. The children come back to school very excited about all they have learned.

### Covid News

We are seeing an increase in positive cases nationally, so to continue to keep the school community safe could all parents, who are not exempt, please wear masks whilst dropping off and collecting your children at school.

**If you or your child are showing Coronavirus symptoms and have a Covid test, the whole family bubble must isolate until the test result is received back. Please do not come into school if you or your children are showing any of the symptoms.**

An information leaflet was attached to the newsletter last week.

### Half Term Activities

Berkshire Maestros Courses

If you're looking for a half term activity for your children and teens, look no further! Our one day courses at Reading Music Centre are for ages 8 to 18, with something for everyone.

Some courses require no prior experience, with others designed for those who play flute, clarinet, saxophone, brass, guitar or double bass.

<https://www.flipsnack.com/bmaestros/autumn-music-courses.html>

## Little Acorns Pre-Nursery

### PTA News

To see what you may have missed out on please visit the PTA on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MrsBlandsPTA>

### Halloween Disco

**Reception – Tuesday  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 3.30pm–4.30pm**

**Year 1 – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>  
Nov 3.30pm–4.30pm**

**Year 2 - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov  
3.30pm-4.30pm**

**£5 per pupil includes  
drink, snack and gift**

**Please bring your best  
fancy dress costume to  
change into.**

**Get in Touch via –**

[mrsblandspta@gmail.com](mailto:mrsblandspta@gmail.com)

**or catch someone on the  
playground –**

**Loic Manneville, Claire  
Oakes, Ben Ash, Laura  
Hooke**

This week in Little Acorns the children have been busy printing.

We have been printing with sponge 'a,b,c' letters and printing with ink pads and image blocks.

The children have enjoyed building with colour filter blocks. As we build we have been practicing counting and saying each colour of the block.

Outside this week the children have had fun rolling balls down a guttering shoot and catching them at the other end.

Others have enjoyed pouring and scooping rice with tea pots and cups in the sensory table this week.

Our story this week has been, 'Pip and Posy, the Little Puddle'. A lovely story about little accidents during the first phase of toileting, why not ask your children about the story? See if they can recall any parts for you.

### **Acorn (Nursery am and pm)**

Well done to the Acorns children for joining in so well with Outdoor Learning! They are learning really well to put their coats on by themselves in Nursery - here is the link again to show the method they have been using to do

it <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-FaxBoCvNqM>

The children have enjoyed the story, 'My Mum' this week. Next week we will be learning about positional language - maybe at home you could play games hiding a favourite cuddly toy under/over/next to/in front/behind other toys and tell your child clues to find it! Some parents have asked about useful websites - this one is useful for phonics, we have been listening the 's' and 'a' songs this week, see if your child can sing along to the songs at home <https://vimeo.com/76605648> and this one for practising counting <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/teddy-numbers>

With the weather becoming more Autumnal, please remember to bring a named coat everyday as we go outside in all weathers, and to wear outdoor clothes on a Wednesday when we have Outdoor Learning.

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

This week the children have been sharing their special items from home with their friends in class. We have been thinking up good questions to ask them to find out more about their item and why it is special. We will not be doing show and tell every week so there is no need for children to bring in any more special items, as it can be hard to keep track of them in school.

In maths this week we have been learning about common 2D shapes and looking for which 2D shapes we can see inside. We also sorted shapes and used them to help us make pictures. In outdoor learning, the children used sticks and pipe cleaners to make different 2D shapes and went on a shape hunt around the garden. They also began to use real (child-sized) hammers to make marks into clay. In outdoor PE, the children began to learn to dribble the ball with just their feet, no hands! It was tricky but everyone tried hard. In gymnastics, we have continued to explore different equipment. The children have been travelling in different ways including jumping and landing safely while travelling on and off equipment. In computing they have started their coding journey by exploring how they can program a 'beebot' (a programmable floor robot) to move in the direction they want.

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

In year 1 we have been exploring 3D shapes, naming and describing their properties. In English we have continued our topic on toys. We have written about toys from the present and how they are different from toys in the past. In Art we have learnt about the artist Georges Seurat and painted a sunflower using his pointillism technique. In DT next week we are going to be designing and making a chair for baby bear. If you have any recycling materials such as small boxes or cardboard tubes we could use could you please bring them into school next week.

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week, in English, Year 2 have been preparing for our visit from the Falconer by learning about different birds of prey. We have been answering questions about barn owls by finding information in a text. We have also planned and written our own fact files about a bird of prey. We are hoping to impress the Falconer with all of our new knowledge! See if your child can tell you a fantastic fact about their chosen bird!

In maths, we are practising our addition and subtraction using two and three digit numbers. We have been using our knowledge of number bonds and fact families to help us. Some of the children have challenged themselves by solving more complex number problems where there is a missing number to find!

During our Outdoor Learning sessions we have used our prior knowledge of lashing sticks and building tripods to make bridges. Some have even been strong enough for the children to sit on!

We have also been learning about the importance of Black History Month. The children have had some great discussions about the importance of equality. Ask your children if they can tell you about the life of the famous figures we have been learning about.

## Bumblebees News

This week in Bumblebees, the children in Reception have enjoyed the Superheroes that were kindly donated to us. We also made Autumn books and talked about the weather changing.

Year 2 have been enjoying building a tall tower and working as part of a group.

In Year 1 the children have been making a papier mache head ready for Halloween Week. They also enjoyed throwing and catching the ball outside.

### Star of the Week



Aisha - Acorns  
Marshall - Beech  
Arthur - Maple  
Ava - Birch  
Cohen - Cherry  
Matilda - Hazel  
James - Rowan

### Friendship Star



Layton - Acorns  
Sebastian - Beech  
Natalia - Maple  
Jaxon - Birch  
Saffron - Cherry  
Ruby - Hazel  
Elsa - Rowan

### Playtime Star



Luna - Acorns  
Chloe - Beech  
Rufus - Maple  
Rose - Birch  
Sam F - Cherry  
Leo - Hazel  
Ella-Mae - Rowan

## **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, thetrainline 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 Blands is now registered with Amazon's 'smile' charity programme!

If you select Mrs Bland's as your selected charity, 0.5% of eligible spend will go straight back to the PTA.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1050019-0>