



Dates for your diary

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
CHANGE OF DATE now Inset  
Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
8.50am School Re-opens  
Spring Term

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
6.00pm Finance Governing  
Body Meeting

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
Year 2 SATs Parents Meeting  
TBC

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
3.30pm School Finishes



Each class have put a clip of their Christmas song on 'Seesaw' for you to view. Please enjoy the performance.

(The clips should not be copied, shared or uploaded to the internet or any social media sites).

Thank you.

*Christmas Bonnet Competition*

It was lovely to see all the effort the children had gone to create their Christmas bonnets - thank you! The children enjoyed parading their hats and Our Chair of Governors judged the hats (via video call, of course!). Everyone who entered received a small prize.



Winners

Nursery - Tristan      Reception - Scarlett  
Year 1 - Alejandro      Year 2 - Romany

Runners Up

Jessica (Cherry), Molly (Beech), Seren May (Hazel)

Mrs Bland's PTA Balloon Race

Why not enter the great Mrs Bland's Balloon Race. Lift off is on Christmas Day. You can buy multiple balloons, and please share this (or our Facebook post) with friends and family online! You could enter as a gift for someone too. £50 Amazon voucher to the most travelled balloon by January 1st.

<https://www.balloonrace.com/mrsblands>

## 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>

**Don't forget to join the Balloon Race – lift off is Christmas Day! Which balloon will go the furthest?**

<https://www.balloonrace.com/mrsblands>

**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**

The Christmas activities have continued this week in Little Acorns. The Children have enjoyed the 'Elves toy shop'- Christmas puzzles and Dinosaurs in the snow! In the tuff tray this week the children had fun scooping and mixing to make their own Christmas cakes.

On Tuesday and Thursday we had our Christmas party- this was to ensure all children who attend Little Acorns throughout the week had their share of the fun. We enjoyed party games and a visit from a special guest! The children have worked extremely hard this term and we are very proud of them. We hope you all have a happy and safe Christmas break. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

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

This week we have enjoyed having Christmas parties and Christmas hat parades! We have also been sharing lots of Christmas stories and doing lots of Christmas crafts! We have also been practising some Christmas songs and rhymes. Next term we are looking forward to starting a new topic, 'How Many Colours in the Rainbow?', and also to welcoming some new children into Nursery. We would like to thank you for all your kind cards and gifts, and wish all our families a very Happy Christmas, and we hope you have a lovely break.

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

We started the week with a special treat in Outdoor learning – toasting marshmallows on the fire and drinking hot chocolate. The children were all so sensible when they came to have their turn, looking closely at how the marshmallow was changing in the flames.

They have enjoyed making Christmas tree stained glass windows and practising their pencil control tracing around Christmas stencils.

They have talked about sizes and weight in Maths comparing presents saying which was heavier or lighter and ordering different sized Christmas objects.

We really enjoyed seeing everyone's Christmas hat designs and enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner.

Next term PE and outdoor learning days will stay the same. Please remember girls who wear tights will need a pair of socks in their PE kit and as the weather gets wetter and colder children will need waterproof trousers for outdoor learning. The children will have come home this week with their Christmas tree decoration.

Last week these were used to decorate our tree at St. Mary's Church. They got lots of compliments for how amazing they looked. You can see our tree and the other beautiful trees on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Burghfield-Christmas-Tree-Festival-2020-100226131977453>

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and look forward to seeing you back for our next topic, Once Upon a Time.

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

This week we have enjoyed lots of festive activities. The highlight was Wednesday when we had our Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch. We were very lucky to have a present from Father Christmas for our classes. We have been sequencing the Christmas story and writing letters to Santa.

In Maths we have been learning about length and discussing the terms longer and shorter. We have used nonstandard ways of measuring length. We loved having hot chocolate and melting marshmallows in Outdoor learning. We will send out new spellings at the beginning of next term.

We hope that you have a safe and relaxing Christmas. We look forward to welcoming all the children back in the New Year.

## Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

This week in English, Year 2 have been re-writing the Christmas Story. We have been thinking about how some of the characters in the story might have felt, and learned why the baby Jesus was so special to Christians. See if your child can retell the story to you at home!

In maths, we have been using cubes, dienes and number lines to help us with subtraction. Lots of the children have been able to challenge themselves by subtracting larger 2 digit numbers, and partitioning their 2nd number to break the process down into chunks.

In Outdoor Learning this week, we lit the campfire and toasted popcorn! We all enjoyed a hot chocolate and had fun exploring our outdoor area for the last time this year!

We have all had lots of fun at school this week, and really enjoyed Wednesday's Christmas Jumper Day. The Christmas bonnet parade was fantastic, and a huge well done to all those children who made a bonnet and joined in with the parade! Everyone looked very festive in their Christmas jumpers, and we all really enjoyed our Christmas lunch and Christmas party too!

## Bumblebees News

This week in Bumblebees we have all enjoyed finishing off our crafts and colouring Christmas pictures. The children all enjoyed a Christmas party on Tuesday with Pass the Parcel and musical statues! The children were also treated to a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and a cracker! The children were very well behaved and had a great time. A very Merry Christmas to all our families and thank you for your generous gifts.



## Star of the Week

**Callie - Acorns**  
**Hugo - Beech**  
**Rufus - Maple**  
**Bonnie-Louise - Birch**  
**Sam - Cherry**  
**Rochan - Hazel**  
**Archie - Rowan**

## Friendship Star

**Carys - Acorns**  
**Junior - Beech**  
**Hanna - Maple**  
**Henrieta - Birch**  
**Niamh - Cherry**  
**Tarrick - Hazel**  
**Chloe - Rowan**

## Playtime Star

**Freddie K - Acorns**  
**Raul - Beech**  
**Bethany - Maple**  
**Sophie - Birch**  
**Isla - Cherry**  
**Ellie - Hazel**  
**Maisie - Rowan**

## 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.**

## 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>