

Newsletter 17th December 2021

Dates for your diary

Friday 17th December

End of term Whole School
closes at 1.45pm

Wednesday 5th January

Start of Term 3

Monday 31st January 2022

Chinese New Year Week

Monday 31st January 2022

Reception Chinese New Year
Assembly

Friday 18th February 2022

End of Spring Term 1

Monday 28th February 2022

Spring Term 2 Begins

School News



The end of term is always a very busy occasion in school, but the end of the Christmas term is certainly the busiest, but also the most fun!

We hope your children have come home over the last two weeks with tales of a flying Santa (in a Chinook no less!), Christmas shopping, gingerbread men and elves.

The PTA did a brilliant job in organising our in-house 'Christmas Fair' and the children all had a wonderful time completing the many Christmas activities on offer. Thank you to all the PTA, the volunteers and to all that took part – we raised an amazing £2,280 for the school, which will go towards the purchase of the interactive boards in all classrooms. Well done everyone!

Our Christmas Production, 'The Very Hopeless Camel', has now been recorded and you will be sent a link to enable you to watch it. We hope enjoy it. Well done to all of the children, you were brilliant!

Christmas lunch was a festive affair followed by class Christmas parties and a visit from a very special guest! (ask your child who came to see them and what their class received). Good fun for all involved. Thank you to the kitchen staff for a yummy meal and to the lunchtime controllers for your help. A huge thanks to John Coleman who made sure our special guest, Santa, could make it to school.

Thank you to all the children this term as well as all you parents for your understanding and support through yet another tricky term with regards to COVID 19. If we all work together we can continue to try and limit the amount of disruption to our children. We look forward to welcoming you all back next term and wish you a happy, healthy Christmas.



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>

PTA AGM Dates - TBC

Get in Touch via –

mrsblandspta@gmail.com

or catch someone on the playground –

**Ben Ash, Laura Hooke,
Sian Killen, Charmaine
Kelly**

Last week, Christmas landed in Little Acorns Class!!!

The children were very excited to play and explore with the Festive themed activities this week. They enjoyed mark making in Christmas cards and writing letters to Father Christmas with pens and pencils. The children practised their fine motor abilities by using their hand muscles to pick up festive pom-poms using tweezers. They enjoyed the challenge of colour matching the pom-poms and counting how many they could collect. We transformed our reading area into a wonderful icy grotto where the children enjoyed looking through different books. The children have been able to listen to a range of Christmas songs and traditional Christmas carols over in the music corner- accompanied by the children's jingle bell playing too. They may be able to sing some of the songs and Carols we have learnt if you ask! In maths we counted different Christmas items- some children are able to count beyond 10, which is fantastic.

The children have enjoyed our sensory tray reindeer food activity, as well as mark making in 'snow and glitter' using their pointer fingers to create different shapes and patterns. Some children are beginning to recognise their initial letter for their name, which is fabulous. In the maths area, we sorted different sized Christmas objects into big, medium, and small. Outside the children explored making 'Christmas soup' in the water tray and worked as busy elves in the Elf toy workshop.

We had a wonderful time at our Christmas party, singing Christmas songs and dancing to Christmas music whilst wearing our Christmas crowns- which the children enjoyed making.

It's been a positive term, with lots of our children becoming independent seeing to their personal hygiene needs- keep up the good work over the holidays everyone and we look forward to seeing you all and welcoming new friends in January. A very merry Christmas to you all – from the Little Acorns team.

Acorns (Nursery am and pm)

We have enjoyed learning about the Christian Nativity story and how Jesus was born at Christmas. We have been doing lots of Christmas crafts! We have also been practising some Christmas songs and rhymes, and in our roleplay area we have a Santa's Grotto where the children have been practising wrapping presents, talking about how big/small/long/short the presents are, and how much wrapping paper we need.

We have also enjoyed our yummy Christmas lunch and played games at our party!

We have been practising hearing the 1st sound of a word with 'I Spy' type games, and learning about the s/a/t/p/i/n/m/d letter sounds - see if your child can sing along to these phonics songs at home <https://vimeo.com/76605648>

We hope you have a lovely Christmas break, and thank you for your kind cards and gifts.

Maple and Beech class (Reception)

Last week in Literacy, we wrote to Father Christmas! We talked about where we lived and some children could tell us their house number. In Maths we talked about time, learnt about the four seasons and what we wear at different times of the year. We then started to make calendars. We were very impressed with how the children have learnt their lines and song words. We have continued to explore outside using our advent calendar.

Wow what a week we have had this week! On Monday we had a very busy day, dress rehearsals, a fly-by with Santa and his Elf in a chinook and Popcorn and hot chocolate in Outdoor learning. The children did very well recording their nativity scenes. We enjoyed a very delicious Christmas dinner and had fun with party games on Wednesday. We would like to wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and we will see you all in the New Year. Our topic after the holidays is, 'Once Upon a Time...'

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

Last week, we were busy remembering what we have learnt this Term and what we can do independently. We wrote our own versions of the 'Beegu' story and tried our best to answer a variety of maths questions, including additions and subtractions. To conclude our learning about materials in science we investigated 'What Keeps Us Dry?'. We wrapped cuddly toys up in a selection of materials and poured water on them to explore which materials were 'waterproof'. In geography, we learned the names of the oceans of the world - see if your child can remember any of their names.

This week we have learnt that Christmas is a Christian festival and we discussed what presents we would give Jesus if he was born today. We had some interesting ideas! A Ferrari, gold toy, lots of money to name a few. The children have enjoyed making cards, calendars and party hats. We hope that you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

We recorded our Christmas Play and would like to thank you for providing all the lovely costumes.

For those of you that couldn't visit the church to see our tree, a picture is included below. Well done Year 1, it looked beautiful!



Hazel and Rowan News (Year 2)

In writing last week, Year 2 really enjoyed continuing work based on The Snowman story, including lots of descriptive work using expanded noun phrases (do ask your child to explain what these are, and can they give you an example!), sequencing using pictures and story maps. The children have all worked exceptionally hard on writing their own version of the whole story and have proudly shared their work with each other. In maths, both classes have continued work on multiplication, learning more about how to derive the repeated addition and multiplication number sentences from arrays, as well as deriving the times tables facts for the 2, 5, and 10 times tables (some have even worked out the facts for the 3x table). In particular, the children now need to practise learning the facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables so that they know them by heart. In Science the children have enjoyed investigating whether water can make music using fair testing, and have recorded their findings. In ICT, they have continued learning to use the Chrome music program 'Music Lab Song Maker' to begin creating their own rhythms and tunes.

It's been a very exciting week in school this week! On Monday we had a very special guest fly over the school to give all the children a wave - we think he must be very impressed with how good all the children have been this year to make an appearance so close to Christmas! We've also filmed our Christmas play this week, and hope you all enjoy watching it. The children have all worked so hard this month to learn their lines and the words to the songs. We've also all also enjoyed a festive Christmas lunch together and had our Christmas party! In between all the celebrations, we've been busy making Christmas hats, cards and place-mats.

We've continued now finished working through the Christmas Carroll bundle with Sir Linkalot, and completed our end-of-term spelling quiz.

Thank you for all the support from home this term, and a huge thank you for all the lovely well wishes, cards and presents. The Year 2 team wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas, and we can't wait to see all the children back in 2022!

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

Bumblebees have had a brilliant last two weeks of term! The children enjoyed their Christmas dinner. We all sat together and pulled our crackers and had a lovely turkey dinner. We have played games in the hall and danced to Christmas music! The children were really impressed with Fred in The Shed and had an amazing time!

Merry Christmas to you all and we look forward to welcoming you back in January.



Star of the Week



Friendship Star

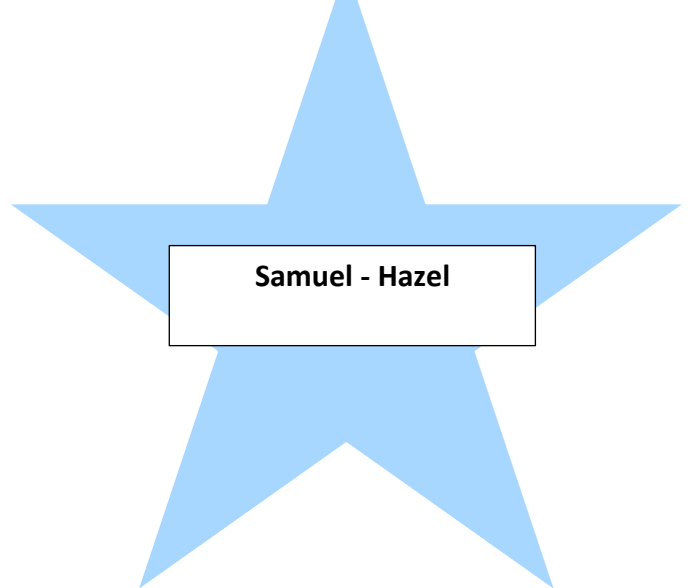


Playtime Star



Perfect

Presentation



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 is now registered with Amazon's 'smile' charity programme.

If you choose 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>