

### **Dates for your diary**

#### **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April**

Dr Awbery – author visiting  
Year 1

#### **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

Bank Holiday

#### **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

Bring a bottle – non  
uniform day

#### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

Burghfield May Fayre  
The Hatch, Burghfield

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

Year R Bus Journey to  
Prospect Park and  
miniature railway

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

Year 2 educational visit to  
Thatcham Discovery  
Centre

#### **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

Full Governing Board  
Meeting

#### **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

Outdoor Classroom Day

#### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

End of Summer Term 1  
(normal school finish times)

#### **27<sup>th</sup> May -3<sup>rd</sup> June**

May Half Term

### **School News**

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all enjoyed your Easter Break and some of the marvellous weather we had. We have had a wonderful start to Summer Term 1 and the children have loved being able to play across bubbles in the Key Stage 1 Playground once again.

#### **School Trip**

On Thursday of this week, Year 1 visited Oxford University Museum of Natural History and came back full of the facts they had learned during their very interesting visit. All the children enjoyed themselves and showed what a well-behaved school Mrs Bland's is – thank you! Further thanks are extended to all our parent helpers, we couldn't do it without you!

#### **Author Visit**

Year 1 also had a visit from Dr Awbery; a local children's author this week. We hope you enjoy reading the books you purchased with your child/ren.

#### **May Fayre**

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2) will be performing a traditional May Pole dance at the May Fayre on Sunday 8th May. Please do show your support by bringing your Y2 children to participate and come and watch them dancing at 11.45am at The Hatch in Burghfield.

After the success of our first 'Bring a Bottle' non uniform day we have decided to hold a second day, creatively entitled 'Bring Another Bottle Day' ☺. In all seriousness however, your bottle donations will bring in a lot of funding for the school, so please do bring a bottle on Friday 6th May in exchange for your child wearing non-uniform to school and we thank you in advance.

#### **Sun hats and suncream**

As the weather gets nicer, we would like to ask that you all ensure your child has a named sunhat in school every day. We do like to get the children outside as much as possible, but if they do not have a sun hat then they will be asked to remain in the covered areas/shade. Please also provide named suncream that can be kept in school until the end of term. This again must be labelled and be easy for your child to apply themselves (staff will be on hand to ensure full coverage and help for the younger pupils).

#### **Outdoor Learning Clothes**

As we move into the Summer Term and the weather (hopefully!) warms up, we would like to remind you that children are still required to wear long sleeve t-shirts/tops and long trousers for their outdoor learning days. This then offers sun protection as well as protection from insect bites/nettles as the grass in our outdoor learning areas is sometimes left to get a little longer to encourage more wildlife. Unfortunately this also means there is a risk of insect bites or ticks, if skin is exposed.

## 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>

### **Get in Touch via –**

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

**or catch someone on the playground –**

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

Hello and a very warm welcome back to you all. It's been so lovely to welcome the children back after the Easter break and hear about all of their adventures!

This week in Little Acorns we have welcomed some new children into the nursery. We have been reminding ourselves of our rules and daily routines. The children have been excellent at welcoming our new friends and helping them learn our daily songs.

This week we began our new topic 'Why do spiders eat flies?' We have begun to look at different minibeasts, learning their names and talking about how they look - do they have patterns on them? What colour they are and thinking about where we would find them.

Outside we have used our 'bug hunting' sheet to help us identify any minibeasts we might find!

We now have lots of little people in our nursery so please do make sure all clothing and water bottles are clearly named.

Many thanks

## Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

Welcome back. This term our topic is 'Why Do Spiders Eat Flies?'. We have talked about what we already know about spiders and have made a list of the things we want to find out. We have read the story of Spinderella, the spider in a school. We enjoyed hunting for spiders in our own school.

In maths, we have been learning how to order our numbers to 10 and trying to recognise numbers out of sequence. Can your child find any numbers when they are out in the village?

We have carried out a science experiment this week to find out what materials would help keep the spider at the top of his drainpipe!! Ask your child what material would be best to use.

We have also enjoyed making our own spiders to decorate our nursery.

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

We have started our new topic, 'Quests and Journeys' with Michael Rosen's - We're Going on a Bear Hunt, which the children have loved. They have made story maps, acted the story out using characters in the small world and been on our own bear hunt in outdoor learning. Everyone has also enjoyed making binoculars and finding the hidden bears in the classroom.

In Geography, we have been using positional language to describe routes and give directions to our friends. This then helped us to program instructions into a Beebot to help him move where we wanted him to go.

In Maths, we have been exploring numbers between 10 and 20. We have found out what they look like using cubes, numicon shapes and counters on tens frames as well as how the numerals are written.

Our Author of the term is Beatrix Potter, we started to learn about her in History last term and we will be reading more of her books.

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

We've had a fantastic start to our new topic, Dinosaurs, with an incredible trip to Oxford Natural History Museum. It was such a pleasure to be able to take the children on their very first school trip. A big thanks to all of the children who were a credit to the school, and an extra thanks to our parent helpers. We got to see lots of different dinosaur skeletons, touch dinosaur bones, T-Rex teeth and even fossilised poo! We saw huge skeletons and tiny ones, and skeletons of herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. It was a brilliant day out!

As well as learning lots of science information at the museum, we have worked in school to identify animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. I wonder if your child can remember what these definitions mean? Which one means a plant (nuts, seeds, berries) eater, which means they eat meat and which means they can eat a mixture of meat (from other animals) and plant material?

Our English / history focus has been to order and talk about the evolution of dinosaurs from small cells. We learnt that the first animals on Earth were in the sea and then gradually we had amphibians that were able to walk on land and then eventually reptiles of the land, sea and air (many of which are what we call dinosaurs). We learnt that the word dinosaur means 'terrible lizard'.

In maths, we have been taught to understand multiplication through repeated addition of groups of pictures. We have mainly focused on multiples of 10 and 5, so see if your child can count forwards and backwards in 5's and 10's. Can they also say how many 10's or 5's are in a given number e.g. 40 (4 tens, 8 fives).

Please can we also just remind you that children need to have shorts in their P.E. kit (not just because the weather is warmer, but for safety reasons, we do not allow wearing of trousers for indoor gymnastics). Thank you for your continued support.

## **Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)**

It has been a lovely first week back at school for year 2 and as usual we have been so busy with our learning!

In maths, our new topic is time. The children have learnt to tell the time using language such as o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to. Some of them have even started learning to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes! Ask your child if they can tell you how to work out what time is shown on an analogue clock.

In English, we have been reading and discussing stories about minibeasts. We compared stories, talked about our likes and dislikes and even re-wrote a well-known story in our own words. Next week, we will plan and write our own minibeast stories.

In science, the children have begun their new topic all about living things and their habitats. They have learnt how to identify living things and about the 7 life processes – movement, respiration, sensitivity, growth, reproduction, excretion and nutrition.

Finally, a plea - we are still short of adults for our trip to Thatcham Discovery Centre on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May; if you think you may be able to support us on this day, please speak to Miss Henly.

Have a lovely, long weekend!

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

Welcome back!! The children have enjoyed the lovely weather, getting out as much as we can.

This term we are entering the Scarecrow Competition in Burghfield. We are going to be making a 'Beekeeper' and bees! The children are going to be working together in make bees out of tin cans and papier mache.

### Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Dinner Star



Playtime



## Whole School Stars

### Star of the Week



Alesha - Acorns  
Zaner - Beech  
Isabelle - Maple  
Marshall - Birch  
Kaylan - Cherry  
Blnd - Hazel  
Amelia - Rowan

### Friendship Star



Emily K - Acorns  
Callie - Beech  
Ellie - Maple  
Blake- Birch  
Isaac - Cherry  
James - Hazel  
Thomas - Rowan

### Playtime Star



Cobie - Acorns  
Luna - Beech  
Murtaza - Maple  
Holly - Birch  
Paul - Cherry  
Katy - Hazel  
Tailan - 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-blinds-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>