

Dates for your diary

Sunday 8th May

Burghfield May Fayre
The Hatch, Burghfield

Thursday 12th May

Year R Bus Journey to
Prospect Park and
miniature railway

Thursday 12th May

Year 2 educational visit to
Thatcham Discovery
Centre

Tuesday 17th May

Full Governing Board
Meeting

Thursday 19th May

Outdoor Classroom Day

Thursday 26th May

End of Summer Term 1
(normal school finish times)

27th May -3rd June

May Half Term

School News

May is here already! May Day was originally a festival to celebrate the arrival of spring. One of the traditional dances of this festival is the maypole dance, which involves a group of dancers circling a large pole with ribbons, and then wrapping these ribbons around it in different directions and patterns. It has been great to watch Year 2 practising this traditional dance. They have really enjoyed learning the dance and the teamwork involved. Please do come and support our dancers at the Burghfield May Fayre on Sunday.

Thank you

Thank you all for your generosity and for bringing in more bottles for the bottle tombola at the May Fayre. We really appreciate your help in raising money for our school. Maybe you'll win some back on Sunday at our Tombola stall!

Drop-in Sessions

Drop-in sessions are now available again with our ELSA, Mrs Hodson, to chat through any concerns you may have about your child. These sessions are available on Monday & Tuesday mornings after drop-off, or just before the end on the school day on Mondays. Please contact the school office for an appointment in advance.

Trips and Visits

Looking forward to next week, both Reception and Year 2 will be out on educational visits relating to this term's topics. Reception are off on a bus journey to the park and to visit the miniature railway as part of their topic 'Journeys and Quests'. Year 2 will be visiting Thatcham discovery centre as part of their 'Wriggle and Crawl' topic.

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

or catch someone on the playground –

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

What an adventurous week we've had in Little Acorns. This week the children have enjoyed exploring in our nature garden. We were able to hunt for mini beasts putting our positional language skills to good use by looking, under, next to and on top of different objects. The children were very excited to use the tick charts sheet to help them identify what mini beasts they had discovered. We were delighted to have found 'Mr Slug' named by Ralphie. They children collected leaves, sticks and spoonfuls of mud to make him a new home for a little while whilst the children observed how Mr Slug moved, what he looked like up close and which areas of his new home he enjoyed the best. The children demonstrated respect for all living things and were able to show kind hands to all the mini-beasts we have discovered this week.

We are hoping to begin our termly work in our nature garden next week and we are asking for any donations of plants, vegetables or bags of soil from our lovely parents!

Acorn (Nursery am and pm)

This week in Acorns the children have been very creative and designing their own spiders using different media. We had some lovely spiders to use in our display.

In Literacy we have been looking at non-fiction texts to learn more about spiders. We found lots of interesting facts-ask your child if they can remember how many eyes a spider can have?

In maths we have introduced 3D shapes. We use the term 'fat' shapes not 'flat' when describing the difference between 2D and 3D. We spent time sorting the shapes into different categories on our maths table.

We have enjoyed learning new songs in assembly this week and we practised during our music session too.

As the weather is slowly getting warmer please remember to bring in a named sun hat.

Hopefully your children came home and told you our exciting news. The caterpillars changed into butterflies, and we released them into the nursery garden last week. The children were very patient and sat very still while the butterflies learned to spread their wings and fly off to pastures new!!



Maple and Beech News (Reception)

In Reception this week, we continued working on the story of 'We're Going On a Bear Hunt', but we changed it. Maple class went on a shark hunt, travelling through Lego town, the North Pole and a mountain.

Beech class chose to go on a T-Rex hunt and had to travel around a volcano and through a swamp to find the T-Rex.

In maths we have been consolidating our understanding of number bonds up to 10, using counters and numberlines to help us. We have also been practising our counting beyond 20.

In science we have been looking at how things are changing as we move through Spring. We have noticed lots more blossom and wild flowers and more leaves on trees. We've been enjoying animating different scenes using the free app 'animate anything'. We have also been working on our positional language using maps to direct our friends to find specific things or places.

As the weather gets warmer please ensure children have a named bottle of suncream to stay in school, a named hat, water bottle and PE shorts and t-shirt with them in school. Also a reminder that for outdoor learning they should be wearing a long sleeved top and long trousers regardless of the weather, as we play in grass that gets very long (this becomes a risk for ticks in the summer months as plenty of wildlife wander through the outside areas at night).

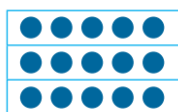
Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

In Year 1 this week we have continued our Dinosaur Topic. We are learning about Mary Anning. Can the children tell you about what she is famous for? During Science we learned about the features of a Carnivorous Dinosaur and recapped on the terminology Herbivores, Carnivores and Omnivores.

In Maths we have been learning about an array - which is the arrangement of objects in columns and rows to help us understand multiplication e.g.

Array

Rows and columns with an equal amount in each.



$$3 \times 5 = 15$$

In RE we have been learning about Shabbat which is the Jewish holy day which starts on a Friday evening and ends on a Saturday evening. Jewish people prepare nice food, clean and lay the table and attend the synagogue during the Shabbat. The children have also enjoyed using the apparatus again in Gymnastics and demonstrating different ways of traveling across the equipment.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

What a packed week we've had in Year 2 this week! We're very excited to be performing our maypole and country dances at the spring Fayre this weekend, so we've squeezed in as much dance practice as we can! We look forward to seeing some of you over the weekend to support the children.

In English, we're writing our own minibeast story. The children have had to think of their own storyline, and decide which minibeast characters they want to include and what might happen to them! We're so proud of all their imaginative and exciting stories. Ask your child if they can tell you all about the story they wrote.

In maths, we've continued with our time topic, and also done a few extra maths tests to practice everything we've learned in maths this year. It's been lovely to see how much the children's maths knowledge has progressed this year, well done to them all!

In ICT we've had great fun creating algorithms and programming Beebots (robots), whilst in RE we've continued to think about the Muslim religion and learned about some of the prayer rituals which Muslims commit to. In science, we've looked at the life processes of plants and animals.

We are continuing to work our way through the Orange Orwell bundle with Sir Linkalot.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend!

The Year 2 team.

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week in Bumblebees the children have been busy making our scarecrow. We have been using Paper Mache and painting to start our scarecrow.

The children have enjoyed having Shabana coming to join us/help supervise for part of our session and they have been very welcoming and kind.

We have spent our time colouring in and drawing some lovely pictures in the art area.



Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Clara Yr 1

Dinner Star



Daniel Yr R

Playtime



Hugo Little Acorns

Whole School Stars

Star of the Week

Kaziah - Acorns
Tristan - Beech
Mya - Maple
Junior - Birch
Jan - Cherry
Cohen - Hazel
Ava U - Rowan

Friendship Star

Sophia - Acorns
Hugo - Beech
Emilija - Maple
Reuben - Birch
Shersha - Cherry
Cora - Hazel
Esme H - Rowan

Playtime Star

Freya - Acorns
Arlo - Beech
Ted - Maple
Joshua - Birch
Kalsoom - Cherry
Samuel - Hazel
Aaron - 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>