

## **Dates for your diary**

**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)

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May - 3<sup>rd</sup> June**  
May Half Term

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June**  
Start of Summer Term 2

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**  
Yr R Education Visit to  
Mudford Beach

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June**  
Yr 1 Educational Visit to  
London Eye and Boat Trip

## **School News**

This week we have been joined by a new family! A mother duck decided to lay her eggs in the quadrant which makes up Rowan class' outdoor area, and this week they hatched. The children were very excited to see them emerge from their nest on Wednesday and we counted 10 ducklings in all. We will keep you updated with their progress.



Thursday's outdoor classroom day was a success, and the children enjoyed their visit to Garland's outdoor area. Thank you to all of the staff for your flexibility and for ensuring the visits were a success, thank you also to the children who showed what a well-behaved school Mrs Bland's is.

## **SATS**

Year 2 have started their SATs this week. They will be tested throughout the month and have taken it all in their stride. Well done!

## **BBC Radio Berkshire**

Hi there,

I'm getting in touch from BBC Radio Berkshire about an exciting project we're running for the Queen's Jubilee.

You might remember that for the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle we asked local schools to design bunting to decorate the Long Walk in Windsor. Well this year, we're working with the organisers of a big event in Windsor on June 5<sup>th</sup>. We're designing place-mats to decorate a 1 kilometre long picnic table – that's nearly 3,000 places - and we want YOU to take part!

It's really straightforward.

We can take submissions from individual children.

The design needs to be something relating to the Queen and the Jubilee – perhaps something reflecting her love of horses, or maybe a crown or castle theme. It could be a drawing, painting, collage – whatever you want. Just make it colourful and celebratory

The design needs to fit on an A4 piece of paper – landscape not portrait. Please don't go right up to the edges - we need 3 mm of space at the edge. And please leave some room in the top left and right-hand corners (around 5cmx5cm).

Once you've got your design then please scan it or take a picture of it on your phone and set it back to me. The submissions need to be sent by someone over 18 and for our privacy notice please go to

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/GIWjcgLhbmIFGz69HNn6/local-privacy>

We will then get them printed and they'll be used to decorate the table on the Long Walk on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

The timing is quite tight on this because of the printing logistics so we need your submissions by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

We'd love your children to be involved in this exciting project. Please do let me know if you're planning to take part or if you have any questions,

*Faye Harland | Senior Journalist, Communities*  
BBC Radio Berkshire Email: [faye.harland@bbc.co.uk](mailto:faye.harland@bbc.co.uk)  
Tel: 0118 9464 200

## **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**

## **Little Acorns Pre-Nursery**

Another busy week for our Little Acorns. This week we have spent time in our nature garden. The children have learnt how to hold a spade safely and use it correctly. In small groups, the children have enjoyed digging up the weeds and discovering what mini-beasts lay hidden. The children were very excited to see snails, spiders, bees, dragonflies, and a butterfly in the garden.

We are very grateful for your donations of plants and soil and can't thank you all enough. The children have been working hard to help develop the garden. We have talked about treating all animals, big or small, with respect and 'kind hands'.

We would like to ask all children to bring a named hat to the nursery to help keep our little ones cool during this summer term.

It is very busy at drop off and pick-ups at the nursery, and I would like to ask if all bikes or balance bikes be either held or left by the wooden gate. I would also like to ask that all older children accompanying adults remain by an adult's side. The nursery equipment is not for children aged over 3.

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

This week in Acorns we have been reading the story, 'What the Ladybird Heard'. The children have enjoyed making maps of the farm to show the different animals and where the ladybird was.

In maths, the children have been putting spots on ladybirds and counting how many spots altogether... 'I know 2 and 2 is 4!' said Alanis. The children have been bug hunting in the garden and are still finding different bugs to observe.

We were lucky to have some ducks land in school, so nursery were very quiet and went to see them. 'Where is the daddy duck?' one child asked... 'Probably at work!'

We had lots of fun on Thursday with our Outdoor Classroom Day. We spent all day outside at visited different parts of the school to do our learning. The children who stayed for lunch all enjoyed a picnic outside too!



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

This week we have read and written about, 'Little Red Riding Hood' and made Grandma's Cookies and a basket. We also learnt about sun safety, see if your child can remember the things we need.

In Maths we have been telling stories about numbers, first, then, now.

We enjoyed our outdoor learning day, looking for bugs and exploring Garland's outdoor classroom.

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

We have had a fantastic week. We started off finishing our stories about Mary Anning and understanding why she was an important person in History. In Maths, we have been learning about time, the children were very good at the days of the week but still are not confident with Months of the year. Please discuss with your child when their birthday is, and see if they can recall the months of years. Some children still need to practise this.

The children absolutely loved the Outdoor Learning day on Thursday - we made our own fossils, painted fossils on stones, investigated 'Whose poo?' looking at what kind of dinosaur would create which poo. It was great to be able to go and explore Garland's outdoor learning area as well.

We have also been learning how to sew and making our dinosaur puppets this week. The children have worked hard to recreate the design for this. Well Done.

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

This week, Year 2 have been busy with their SATs tests. A massive well done to them all for such fantastic concentration and resilience. We are proud of them all!

In English, we've been thinking back to our trip to Thatcham Discovery Centre and writing a recount about our day. The children have been thinking about using time connectives to begin their sentences in exciting ways and have included lots of adjectives to describe all the things we saw! Ask your child if they can give you a recount of their day.

We also had a great day on Thursday, celebrating Outdoor Learning Day. The children loved their visit to Garland and we all had great fun at the jubilee picnic lunch!

In DT this week, we've been learning about fruit and vegetables. and how to tell the difference between the two. In RE we've thought about the importance of commitment, and the children have been thinking about something they'd like to commit to.

We are continuing to work our way through the Orange Orwell bundle with Sir Linkalot. Wishing you all a happy, restful weekend.

The Year 2 Team.

### Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

The children have been very busy working on our scarecrow. The children are very proud of our Beekeeper and hope that you will come and find it during the half term.

We have been very good at helping each other this week and year 2 enjoyed setting the table for everyone ready for dinner.

### Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Dylan R Yr 1

Dinner Star



Dylan T Yr 2

Playtime



Clara Yr 1

## Whole School Stars

### Star of the Week



**Ruby - Acorns  
Peter - Beech  
Aisha - Maple  
Jake - Birch  
Kalsoom - Cherry  
Jessica - Hazel  
Dylan - Rowan**

### Friendship Star



**Lacey - Acorns  
Max - Beech  
Isaiah - Maple  
Ayesha - Birch  
Dylan - Cherry  
Sara - Hazel  
Rose - Rowan**

### Playtime Star



**Sophie - Acorns  
Eliana - Beech  
Layton - Maple  
Nehaan - Birch  
Indianna - Cherry  
Joey - 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>