

Dates for your diary

Thursday 19th January

School Census day

20th January 2023

Birch class parent/child
lunch

12.00pm-1.00pm

(invitations sent via
Parentmail)

27th January 2023

Year R Chinese New Year
Assembly 9.30am
(reception parents invited
via Parentmail)

Governor Visit Day

7th February 2023

Year R Walk around the
Village

10th February 2023

End of Term 3

Mobile Phones



School News

Welcome back!

We hope you all had a nice break over the Christmas period, the children have certainly returned to school keen and ready to learn! It has been lovely hearing about all the things the children enjoyed doing with you all over the holidays.

Towards the end of last term we did some fundraising on behalf of the Royal British Legion with the Poppy Appeal. We thought you would like to know that as a school we raised **£157.93** which is a fantastic amount given today's financial climate. Thank you all for your support.

Applying for a school place

Just a reminder that the deadline for applying for a school place in Reception or Year 3 is this Sunday 15th January 2023. You can apply online at www.westberks.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

School Census

Please can we ask that you order your child a hot meal on Thursday 19th January as it is school census day. Children may bring a packed lunch if you think they may not eat all of the meal, but it would be nice for them to try it. Our school funding for Universal Infant school meals is based on the take up on census day.

Seed/Bulb donations

Now that we are in Spring Term we are starting to think about how we can get the school ready for the nicer weather (fingers crossed!). We would welcome any donations of bulbs/seeds that you may have and the children will plant them this term during their Outdoor Learning sessions.

Reminders

Children in Reception to Year 2 should come to school every day in their full school uniform. Every Monday children should bring their PE kit and Outdoor Learning clothes (including wellies and waterproofs) into school and should leave them here until Friday when they will be sent home to wash.

As the weather continues to be cold and wet, please ensure you send your child to school with a warm waterproof coat as we do try and get outside as much as possible regardless of the weather.

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 –

**Laura Hooke or
Charmaine Kelly**

Little Acorns Class

A very warm welcome back to our Little Acorns!

This term our topic is 'How does that building stay up? We will be looking at different types of buildings and their uses, focusing on the buildings in the village of Burghfield. We will be talking about different types of houses and what rooms we might find inside, for example, bedrooms, kitchens, and bathrooms.

It would be wonderful if you could share a picture of your child and their home. Pictures can be sent to the school email, where we can print and display your child's picture.

Please can we remind parents to bring back their child's school library book each week.

This week the children have enjoyed making bird feeders for RSPB 'The Big Bird Watch'. We have also enjoyed the story of The Three little pigs.

We have lots of new faces joining the nursery, so it's really important to name/ label your child's property to save confusion, yes, even down to wellie boots!

Many thanks

Acorns Class

Welcome back. We hope you all had a lovely break and Christmas.

This term our topic is 'How tall is that building?'

We are learning the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. This week we have learnt how to retell the story using story language signs (Pie Corbett) and using different voices to be the characters.

In maths, we have been putting the numbers 1-10 in order. The children are very good at recognising the numbers in a sequence.

In outdoor learning we found lots of sticks to build our own stick house! We also practised our rules for outdoor learning, remembering to not walk through the fire circle and to gather in a circle when the adult calls 'sticky toes'. Well done!

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in Reception we have been working on phase 3 sounds – z & zz, qu, ch and sh. We have put some phoneme (sound) spotter stories related to these sounds on Seesaw. Can you read it together and find the sounds within the words? This doesn't need to be printed out to complete the activity.

In English, we have been learning the story of, 'The Little Red Hen' off by heart and then changing the characters to make our own version of the story. We have labelled pictures and captions from the story and drawn our own story maps. We have used puppets to retell the story. We also made collaged little red hens using a variety of media.

In maths, we have been working on consolidating our knowledge of rapid number bonds to 5. We have also used the language of more than and fewer than. We have played lots of games to help us get faster at this. We have put a game idea on seesaw if you would like to practise this at home.

We looked at pictures in the story 'Peepo' and discussed the differences between long ago and now.

Please remember to put both shorts and trousers in for P.E. This term we are doing gymnastics and the children need to be in shorts for safety reasons.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

Year 1 have had a great first full week back!

Our new topic is 'To Infinity and Beyond' and we have been reading a selection of story books and engaging in the roleplay, order to extend their space vocabulary and encourage imaginative thought to add into our writing.

In English, our genre focus is narratives and we started by reading the story, 'Beegu'. The children rehearsed and retold the story orally, explored the characters feelings and emotions before rewriting it in their own words. Can the children tell you the story?

Our Maths focus has been teen numbers and the children have explored them using concrete and pictorial representations as well as looking at one more and one less.

The artist we are exploring is Joan Miro and we looked at how we can sketch different lines and abstract shapes.

Following our theme of 'Space', in History we are learning about Neil Armstrong and his epic journey to the Moon. The children were very excited to watch the live footage filmed of this journey. They will be using this knowledge in their future English writing.

Reminders:

PE is on a Monday and Tuesday. Children require both shorts for gym and long trousers for outdoor PE as well as suitable trainers and a warm jumper and coat.

Outdoor learning for Birch class is on a Wednesday and Friday for Cherry. Please ensure the children have wellies in school and some waterproof clothing.

Reading records and phonics books need to be brought into school every.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

It has been so lovely to have the children in school for the past week and two days. The children came in ready to learn and have settled so well into the new term.

In maths, we have started our new unit - money! The children have been recalling the value of each coin/note, adding up amounts of money to find a total and finally choosing different coins/notes to make a given total. As everyone seems to be using cards these days, many of the children have not used money in real-life contexts much at all - if you get the chance over the next few weeks, why not encourage your child to use their knowledge of money to help you with the weekly shop!

In English, we have started reading Roald Dahl's book, 'George's Marvellous Medicine'. The children have been loving listening to all of the disgusting ingredients that have gone in to George's medicine and enjoyed predicting what the concoction might do the grandma. They also thought about the different emotions felt by the characters throughout the story so far.

To kick off our history topic, we had a very special visitor this week. A nurse came in to school to tell the children all about her job. We learned that being a nurse is NOT very glamorous, in fact it can be quite disgusting. We got the chance to see some of the special equipment she uses and asked lots of great questions to find out more about nursing. Throughout this term we will be learning about famous nurses throughout history, including Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell. Thank you so much to Nicola for giving up her time to come in and talk to us.

Finally, in outdoor learning we learned how to safely build and put out a small fire. The children have discussed the importance of safety around the fire and how dangerous fire can be if we are not careful. At the end of the session we collected up the charcoal left over from the fire and we will be using this to create artwork next week. You can see pictures of our outdoor learning sessions on Seesaw 😊

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

Welcome back!

The children have been helpful making our new children welcome and showing them the routine. We have been busy painting this week with water colours.

The children have been very good during dinner time, using their cutlery and it has been a lovely time to sit together and talk about how our day has been.

Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Dinner Star



Playtime



Whole School Stars

Star of the Week



A large blue five-pointed star with a white border. Inside the star, the names of the Star of the Week are listed, each followed by the name of the class they belong to.

**Austin - Acorns
Jack - Maple
David - Beech
Tristan - Birch
Olivia - Cherry
Ocean - Hazel
Kaylan - Rowan**

Friendship Star



A large green five-pointed star with a white border. Inside the star, the names of the Friendship Star are listed, each followed by the name of the class they belong to.

**Rocco - Acorns
Angel - Maple
Izaiah - Beech
Luna - Birch
Kelyn - Cherry
Nehaan - Hazel
Daniella - Rowan**

Playtime Star



A large yellow five-pointed star with a white border. Inside the star, the names of the Playtime Star are listed, each followed by the name of the class they belong to.

**Teddy - Acorns
Cobie - Maple
Albie - Beech
Avneet - Birch
Aneesa - Cherry
Seb - Hazel
Annie - 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, 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 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>