

## Dates for your diary

**6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> February**  
Children's Mental Health  
week

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
Year R Walk around the  
Village

Safer Internet Day

PTA Valentine School  
Disco 3.30pm 4.30pm

**10<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
End of Spring Term 1

**20<sup>th</sup> February**  
Start of Spring Term 2

**24<sup>th</sup> February**  
Cherry Class Parent/Child  
lunch

**2<sup>nd</sup> March**  
World Book Day (Whole  
School and Nursery)

**7<sup>th</sup> March**  
Year 1 visit to Marwell Zoo

## Mobile Phones



## School News

This week the PTA collected all the donations of pre-loved school uniform. We received an amazing amount of clothes and shoes and would like to thank you all for your generosity. Further details regarding the sale will be sent out in due course.

## Book Vending Machine

We have had lots of visitors at the book vending machine this week! Remember to keep logging each time your child reads to you in their Reading Record Books. When your child reads at least 4 times a week during the week, for 3 weeks in a row they will receive a token and will be able to choose a book to keep. It was lovely to see the children's happy faces when they chose their books. We will be running this initiative for the rest of the Spring term.



## School Catering

From after the Easter break, we will be running the catering for breakfast club, lunchtimes and after school club, in-house. We have been using a mixture of our own staff and two other companies for the last 3 years and think we are now in a position to provide this service. You will still order meals in exactly the same way via School Grid and be able to see the ingredients used.

We are hoping to be able to source local food suppliers and offer nutritious and delicious meals and in the longer term have open sessions for family breakfasts and cooking sessions for pupils and families. More information will follow...

## Mental Health

### Children's Mental Health Week

Next week is Children's Mental Health week. We will be doing lots of activities about how to stay healthy mentally and also get support when we need it. Chasing the Stigma (CTS) has launched the Hub of Hope - a national mental health database, bringing help and support together in one place, with a focus on grassroots organisations. It gives local organisations, based on your postcode, for a variety of different support (it can be downloaded as an app too)

<https://hubofhope.co.uk/>

## Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 7th February we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2023. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on children and young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: [saferinternet.org.uk/ SID-parents](https://saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents).

Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child. If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher, or Mrs. Pettifer, Mrs. Hodson, Mrs. Williams, our deputy Designated Safeguarding leads or Mrs. Rose, our Designated Safeguarding lead.

## **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 –**

**Laura Hooke or  
Charmaine Kelly**

### **7th February**

PTA Valentine School  
Disco 3.30pm 4.30pm

## **Little Acorns Class**

What a busy, noisy week in Little Acorns! The children have been learning all about different vehicles, their names and functions. In particular, we have been focusing on vehicles that help us, such as Fire engines, Ambulances and police cars. The children have shown excellent listening skills as we read various information books explaining all about the different vehicles in question. Lots of 'nee naahs' were heard throughout the week! The children enjoyed dressing up as firemen, ambulance staff and policemen, playing role games both indoors and outside.

The children had the opportunity to put their problem-solving skills to the test and attempted to retrieve the coloured pom-poms trapped inside differently shaped bottles. We saw some excellent thought processing and lots of twisting and unscrewing of lids and caps.

We really have encouraged the children to try to put their coats on independently this week, using the special nursery trick.... Lay your child's coat down on the floor with the hood end next to their feet. See if they can impress you this weekend with their magic skills!

Well done, Little Acorns.

## **Acorns Class**

This week in Acorns we have been learning all about different homes. In Literacy, we read a story that showed us how many different types of homes there were. The children came up with some very good ideas of who could live in the homes we saw.

"It is for an alien!" said Flavia when looking at a picture of the moon and space!

In maths, we have been learning about patterns. We used TOPMARKS on the white board to finish the pattern on the train game. We used unifix cubes to try and make our own patterns- remembering that a pattern is something that repeats again and again.

We used our knowledge of pattern in music to create patterns with different sounds and actions. The children loved playing the xylophones!

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week in English we have been working on the sounds igh, oa, oo (as in boot) and oo (as in look). We have been consolidating our work on curly letters in handwriting – c, o, a, d, g, e and s. We have retold the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff using puppets, story maps and written sentences about the story. We have used loose parts to make troll faces.

In maths, we have been working on the composition of 6, 7 and 8. That is knowing that 6 could be made up of 5 and 1, 4 and 2, 3 and 3 etc. We have been using dice patterns and dominoes to help us with this.

We have begun talking about safety when out on the road – stranger danger and road safety, linked to our walk next week.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

Another successful week in year 1 full of fantastic learning.

The children have been using their learning through History to start generating ideas for their final piece of writing next week.

We have continued to practise using our number bonds to add and explore doubles in Maths. The children have been given plenty of opportunity to use concrete resources to support their learning.

In RE, we explored another parable (The Two Sons) and the children had the opportunity to act out the story to support their understanding. We spent some time discussing the different religions we have and how learning about them develops the value of tolerance. This is so important to have within the fantastic multicultural society we live in.

The children are in the process of designing and making their alien vehicles. Any junk modelling you have in your recycling (small boxes/containers no larger than a cereal box) would be greatly appreciated to support them with this task.

### **Reminder:**

We have had several children arriving with no PE kit or parts of it missing and unfortunately, we don't have enough spare.

**Indoor:** coloured t-shirt and **shorts** (*for safety reasons it has to be shorts*)

**Outdoor:** coloured t-shirt, long warm trousers, jumper socks and appropriate trainers.

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

This week in year 2 we have been continuing our writing topic on George's Marvellous Medicine. This week the children have written diary entries from the point of view of the characters within the story. First, we looked at examples of diaries and picked out key features that we would need to include, such as first person, past tense and chronological order. Next, we practiced using these features in our own writing. Finally, we put our ideas together in to a detailed diary entry. We are so impressed with how well the children's writing has turned out. Keep it up year 2!

In maths we have continued to work on multiplication and division. The children have learned how to use arrays to solve multiplication problems, including word problems. They have also begun to think about what is meant by the word 'division' and how we can use written methods to solve division problems.

In geography, we have been comparing our local area to a non-European location very different to where we live. We have been studying the water village of Kampong Ayer, in Brunei. We have learned that the weather in Kampong Ayer is hot and wet all year round because of how close it is to the equator. We also thought about how living on a river would affect the types of houses people would live in and how they would travel. The children seem to have really enjoyed this topic so far - ask them to tell you about life in Kampong Ayer.

Finally, in art we have been looking at the work of Quentin Blake, who illustrated many of Roald Dahl's children's books. We practiced recreating some of his most famous characters in his linework style and then used water colour paints to add colour to our work. The work the children produced is fantastic.

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

The children enjoyed playing card games. We like Go Fish and used different types of cards to play it with.

The children have been having lots of fun dressing up this week in a variety of costumes! We would like to say a big thank you to the Hughes family for their very generous donation of dressing up costumes. The children had great fun sorting these out and trying them on.  
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

## Bumblebees Stars

Friend



Dinner Star



Playtime



# Whole School Stars

## Star of the Week



Bella - Acorns  
Anya - Maple  
Lezaal - Beech  
Isabelle - Birch  
Callie - Cherry  
Dina - Hazel  
Logan - Rowan

## Friendship Star



Brook - Acorns  
Autumn - Maple  
Willow - Beech  
Ralph - Birch  
Mansor - Cherry  
Sonnie - Hazel  
Kalsoom - Rowan

## Playtime Star



Amir - Acorns  
Mahnaz - Maple  
Freddie - Beech  
Viennamarie - Birch  
Zahra - Cherry  
Olivia - Hazel  
Hanna - 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>