

### 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

**16<sup>th</sup> March**  
Reception visit to Rushall  
Farm

Alice in Wonderland  
Theatre Production (in  
school) – KS1

### Mobile Phones



### School News

This week we have been focusing on Mental Health for 'Children's Mental Health Week and each class has taken part in a variety of activities in support of this. With that in mind, please see the details below regarding an online course that is running in the Summer Term. All details can be found on the link below:



PARENTS: 18th, 25th April & 2nd, 9th May 2023 (7.30 - 8.30pm) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/519627087607> (This link shares more about the course and booking a place)

Wow, and so we come to the end of Spring Term 1. It really has flown by! Although this last week has been cold, it has been great to see the sun shining and spotting the first few signs of Spring around school.

### Nursery Workshops

Next half term, Calcot hub will be coming in to deliver workshops to support the nursery children and their families. These workshops will have different areas of focus with an aim to provide up to date advice and guidance:

**Workshop 1 – Toileting – Thursday 23rd February at 9.00am**

**Workshop 2 – Speech & Language – Thursday 23rd March at 9.00am**

This is a lovely, informal opportunity for you to learn more about what you can do to best support your children at home. Please let the office know if you are able to attend either or both of the workshops.

### PTA Fund Raising

Our superb PTA have run some fantastic events to raise money for the school since January. The PTA Valentine Disco raised £257.56 and the Maple Class cake sale raised £76.91.

### Educational Visits

Looking ahead to Spring Term 2, Reception and Year 1 have some educational visits planned. Please see the diary dates for more details and ensure you check your Parentmail account to make payment and order lunch for these trips.

## **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**

## **Little Acorns Class**

In the final week of our topic, 'How does that building stay up?' the children enjoyed observing the differently shaped buildings around the school grounds whilst going for walks. In the small world tray, the children have explored Happyland castles. Outside, they have been working collaboratively to build beautiful sandcastles decorated with different-sized shells. In Literacy this week, we have been reading the Story 'Sandcastles' by Mick Inkpen.

The children have been learning about different emotions this week as it's child mental health week- The children all enjoyed participating in choosing a daily emotion card to help express their feelings to their friends.

Have a wonderful half-term!

## **Acorns Class**

This week in Acorns we have been learning the story of 'The 3 Billy Goats Gruff.' We read different versions of the traditional tale and discussed the characters and setting of the story. Once we were familiar with the story, we used our Pie Corbett actions to retell the story without a book! The children are very good at remembering the different actions.

In maths we were learning to count carefully, moving the items, and touching them one at a time slowly. It is a very tricky skill, but the children were good at understanding not to rush their counting!

This week we learnt about Safer Internet Day. We talked about why we use computers and how we get information from them. We also discussed that sometimes messages pop up on the screen that we don't need. We talked about what ways we can keep ourselves safe on the internet and watched a clip from 'Buddy the Dog'... you can find this clip on You Tube to re-watch with your child.

We enjoyed our last outdoor learning session with 'Smores' using the Year 1 outdoor fire circle this time!

## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have been learning the sounds ar, or, ur, ow and oi in phonics. We have been working on our handwriting with the letters r, n and m (which we refer to as one-arm robot letters, in case you hear your child call them that!)

Linked to children's mental health week we have been reading the story of 'The Colour Monster.' We painted our own colour monsters and wrote sentences describing them.

We had a fantastic walk around the local area, the children walked really sensibly and remembered all the rules about walking safely. They were really animated about all the places they knew as we walked round. Thank you to those parents and grandparents who came with us.

In maths we have been working on our quick recall of the numbers that make up 6, 7 and 8.

We hope everyone has a restful half term.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

Can you believe that we have already completed one half term?! The children have worked extremely hard and we are so proud of them.

This week they finished writing a non-chronological report in English about Neil Armstrong, using all the amazing facts they learnt in History.

In Maths, we have been working on subtraction as well as looking at fact families.

During PSHE we discussed ways in which the children can focus on keeping their bodies and minds healthy during half term and beyond. Hopefully they will share some of these suggestions with you.

As part of 'Safer Internet Week' the children showed great insight in how to keep themselves safe online and what information should never be shared.

We wrapped up our History unit about Space by completing our reports on the comparison of Neil Armstrong's walk on the Moon and Tim Peake's trip to the International Space Station.

Wishing you all a happy half term and a well-deserved rest to the children. We look forward to seeing them at the start of the Spring 2 term and hope that includes some warmer weather.

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

As always, it has been a busy week for year 2!

In English, the children have been studying a book called 'Journey'. It is a picture book about a girl who goes on an exciting adventure. The children enjoyed looking at the book and thinking about where they might go on their own adventure. We planned and wrote our own versions of the story. The children used wonderful vocabulary to describe the different settings in the story and worked hard to present their work perfectly!

In maths we have continued our topic on multiplication and division. The children have learned how to use arrays and sharing hoops as written methods for solving problems. They have also begun to think about how they can use their knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to solve problems too. If you have a spare moment, please practise counting with your child in different jumps.

In history the children have finished their topic on famous nurses who had a big impact on nursing today. They have learned about Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell. The children had some really in-depth discussions about the importance of hygiene, the discrimination against Mary Seacole and the importance of treating everyone equally. We have been so impressed by their enthusiasm for this topic.

Finally, in RE the children have been learning about Judaism. They have learned about the significance of the Sabbath day and the Shabbat meal, the differences and similarities between churches and synagogues and some of the different traditions followed by Jewish people. They have also learned about the plagues of Egypt and why Passover is still celebrated today.

We have had such a busy half term and thoroughly enjoyed our 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures' topic. We hope you all have a lovely, restful half term break and come back ready for our new topic - 'The Scented Garden.'

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

The children have been very busy doing origami at the craft table and making Valentines cards for people that we care about. Some of the children showed great patience when making some paper flowers, which were very tricky!

We have noticed that the evenings are slowly getting lighter which made us very excited as after half term we will be able to use our playground again!

**Friend**



**Dinner Star**



**Playtime**



# Whole School Stars

## Star of the Week




Tobi - Acorns  
Mason - Maple  
Isla - Beech  
Alexandra - Birch  
Hajra - Cherry  
Martim - Hazel  
Dylan - Rowan

## Friendship Star



Henry - Acorns  
Xavier - Maple  
Nicholas - Beech  
Freddie - Birch  
Alice - Cherry  
Chloe - Hazel  
Indianna - Rowan

## Playtime Star



Lucas D - Acorns  
Alanis - Maple  
Izaiah - Beech  
Yousaf - Birch  
Harmony - Cherry  
Ayesha - Hazel  
Alexander - 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>