

Dates for your diary

20th February

Start of Spring Term 2

24th February

Cherry Class Parent/Child lunch

1st March

Cherry Class cake sale

2nd March

World Book Day (Whole School and Nursery)

Acorns Nursery visit to local library

3rd March

PTA Non uniform day (Mother's day gifts)

7th March

Year 1 visit to Marwell Zoo

10th March

Mother's day Shhhop

16th March

Reception visit to Rushall Farm

Alice in Wonderland Theatre Production (in school) – KS1

17th March

Red Nose Day Assembly led by Hazel Class – Hazel Class parents only

23rd March

Nursery parents – Speech and Language workshop

24th March

Hazel Class Parents lunch

28th March

Parent Consultations 3.30pm-6pm

30th March

Parent Consultations 5.30pm-8pm

31st March

End of Spring Term 2
School/Nursery closes 1.45pm

School News

We hope you all had a good half term! We have had a brilliant start to Spring Term 2!

Please do continue to send your child in on a Monday with their full PE Kit and Outdoor Learning kit and leave them here for the remainder of the week so they have everything to hand when required.

Nursery workshops

Our Nursery parents were invited in for an informal toileting workshop this week. We hope that those of you that could attend have taken away some excellent hints and tips to help make toileting a smooth process.

Our next workshop for Nursery parents is running on 23rd March and will focus on speech and language. If you have not signed up yet and would like to attend, please do ask your nursery staff for a letter and return the attached slip to the office.

Parent and child lunch

This week we welcomed Cherry Class parents into school to join their children for lunch. The children really look forward to sharing this special time with you.

Rowan and Hazel, please keep your eyes peeled for your invitations later in the school year!

Smart Watches

We would like to remind parents that while smart watches and fitness trackers are now the go to type of watch, we cannot allow children to wear watches that include a camera function. Please check that your child's watch complies with this rule.

Parking

Please can we remind everyone not to block our neighbours drives when dropping off and collecting, no matter how long you intend to stay. The local police do spot checks every now and then and we wouldn't want anyone to receive a fine.

Next week

Next week, on Wednesday, Cherry Class will have a cake sale on behalf of the PTA. We also have World Book Day to look forward to on the Thursday. Please do not feel pressured into buying a whole new outfit for the day. Accessories and homemade outfits are all that is required.

Then, next Friday, the PTA will be running a non-uniform day in exchange for gifts for Mother's day. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

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**

**Cherry Class Cake Sale
Wednesday 1st March**

**Non uniform Day Friday
3rd March**

**Mother's Day Shhhop
Friday 10th March**

Little Acorns Class

What a lovely welcome back from half term. It's been wonderful to see the children and hear about their adventures from the break.

This term our topic is 'Are eggs alive?' We have been enjoying the small world farmyard and have been thinking about animal names and the noises they make. We have also been reading the story 'Oh Dear' by Rod Campbell.

We enjoyed lots of singing, especially the family favourite - 'Old McDonald'. The children have also enjoyed cutting and sticking mixed materials onto differently shaped paper at the creative table.

We talked about different fruit and vegetables and why they are important, and the children enjoyed some food-based puzzles.

Outside, the sensory tray was a big hit! It was wonderful to see the children investigating independently with the different textures and smells.

Well done, Little Acorns.

Acorns Class

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful break. This term in nursery our topic is 'Are Eggs Alive?' We started the topic by talking about what we already know about eggs. The children were very enthusiastic, telling us that they like eating eggs. The children also told us that eggs come from chickens and dinosaurs! Over the course of the term, we will be looking at which animals do and do not lay eggs.

Our book this week is 'Farmer Duck'. We talked about the characters in the story and where the story is set. The children then enjoyed painting the different animals from the story.

We are trying really hard with our name writing. We practise twice a week, making sure we hold our pencil using the 'Beaky Bird' grip.

In maths we have looked at a fives frames. We put a different number of dots in the frame and the children were very quick at recognising the amount without any dots, always having to count.

Next Thursday is World Book Day. Each year group will come in dressed up as characters from books by their author of the term. Our author this term is Jez Alborough. His books are centred around animals ...dogs, monkeys, giraffes, bears to name a few. If you need any suggestions please ask nursery staff.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have been learning the sounds air, ear, ure and er in phonics. We have been working on our handwriting with the letters h, b, p and k (which we refer to as down and back up again letters, in case you hear your child call them that!)

To start off our new topic of 'Things that grow' we have been reading the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We acted out being Jack and imagined what we might see at the top of the beanstalk. We drew pictures and wrote sentences about it. We have also looked at beans and seeds and planted some beans and peas of our own.

In maths we have been learning about measures. We have been comparing our heights, measuring and comparing length, thought about days of the week and what we do on each day and then we have started to think about time in terms of what could we do in different amounts of time e.g. how many star jumps can you do in one minute?

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

It's been a busy first week of the half-term in Year 1. Our new topic is 'Animals Around the world'.

In English we have been learning and orally rehearsing the story of 'Cinnamon' – a story set in Asia, about a princess and a tiger. See if your child can recall the main details and events of the story. All the children made their own 'story map' and they worked in groups to discuss the sequence of the story to create a 'story mountain' as a plan for writing.

Our grammar focus this week was learning the rules to add the suffix -ing to the end of verbs. Can your child explain how to add -ing to the verbs 'cut' and 'think'?

In maths we have been revising different methods to support our addition and subtraction. We have used part-whole models, tens frames, pictures and number lines.

We were learning how to classify / group animals by common features in science this week. The children worked in pairs to decide their own ways of sorting a selection of animal pictures. They were then introduced to the 6 main animal groups of **reptiles, mammals, bird, fish, amphibians and invertebrates**. We began to learn some features of each group.

In art, we started to create a water colour background for a sketch of a hare. Our focus artist was 'Albrecht Durer' and his painting of the 'Young Hare'.

In history, we really enjoyed watching some video clips to learn about the life and important work of the naturalist and broadcaster 'David Attenborough'.

Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

Welcome back Year 2!

We have been looking at the book 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. The children enjoyed making predictions about what might happen next. They also liked that the author has used characters from other books in his story.

In maths we have continued working on multiplication and division using the 2, 5 and 10's times tables. The children are becoming more confident with working out the number sentences and how they can record this in different ways.

Our Outdoor Learning and Geography this term will be linked as we are going to be looking at aerial views and maps and labelling a key for a map. The children had fun looking at the maps we gave them and trying to find the hidden letters.

In computing this term, we are looking at handling data and pictograms. The children will be learning about how we can input data into computers to help us store and retrieve information.

We are doing dance this term in our indoor PE sessions and we are going to be learning some Country Dancing songs which we hope to perform to the rest of the school.

Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

Welcome back!

This week the children had lots of fun flipping pancakes to see who could flip them the highest. Some of the children were very good at catching the pancakes in the pan... although lots ended on the floor!!

We have also enjoyed the Sylvanian families in the trays and made some lovely models with the duplo.

Friend



Dinner Star



Playtime



Whole School Stars

Star of the Week



Friendship Star



Playtime Star



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>