

### Dates for your diary

#### 1<sup>st</sup> March

Cherry Class cake sale

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> March

World Book Day (Whole School and Nursery)

Acorns Nursery visit to local library

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> March

PTA Non uniform day (Mother's day gifts)

#### 7<sup>th</sup> March

Year 1 visit to Marwell Zoo

#### 10<sup>th</sup> March

Mother's day Shhhop

#### 16<sup>th</sup> March

Reception visit to Rushall Farm

Alice in Wonderland Theatre Production (in school) – KS1

#### 17<sup>th</sup> March

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

#### 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Nursery parents – Speech and Language workshop

#### 24<sup>th</sup> March

Hazel Class Parents lunch

#### 28<sup>th</sup> March

Parent Consultations 3.30pm-6pm

#### 30<sup>th</sup> March

Parent Consultations 5.30pm-8pm

#### 31<sup>st</sup> March

End of Spring Term 2  
School/Nursery closes 1.45pm

### School News

There has been an abundance of activity in school this week!

Cherry class held their cake sale on Wednesday with the help of the PTA to raise funds for the school. The cakes certainly looked scrummy and they raised £134 for the school!

On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day! It was lovely to see all the children coming in dressed as a character from one of the stories from their author of the term. Look out for the whole school photo which will be in the Newbury Weekly News next week!

To finish off the week, the PTA organised a non-uniform day in exchange for Mother's Day gifts. They will be running a Mother's Day shhhop on 10<sup>th</sup> March and tickets are now available in the shop on ParentMail.

### School Council

We would like to introduce our new School Council.

**Maple Class:** Sophie and Ruby

**Beech Class:** Alesha and Freddie

**Birch Class:** Dennis and Ralph

**Cherry Class:** Eli and Callie

**Rowan Class:** Aoife and Rufus

**Hazel Class:** Elliott and Chloe

The members of the school council were nominated for by the children in their class. Mrs Williams looks forward to meeting with the new school council next week!

### Next week

Next week, Year 1 will visit Marwell Zoo and the PTA will be holding their Mother's Day shhhop on Friday 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **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**

What a lovely week we've had in the nursery. This week the children enjoyed learning about where eggs and milk come from, using information books about Spring and farm animals. The children learnt the names of baby farm animals such as chick, lamb, calf and foal. We all enjoyed moving our bodies like farm animals and making different animal sounds!

The children had the opportunity to re-tell the story from last week, 'Oh dear'- using props. Hearing the children re-telling the story using sentences from the book was wonderful! Outside, the children tested their balancing skills using the balance beam. In the sandpit, the children used their imagination to build big mountains to dive diggers over.

On Thursday, the children enjoyed listening to various stories in the indoor and outdoor areas. Seeing their concentration skills being used with their listening ears, quiet lips, and sitting legs was brilliant. Well done, everyone!

We would be very grateful if anyone has old spare socks to donate.

## **Acorns Class**

This week in Acorns we have been looking at a non-fiction book called 'From an Egg to Chick'. We talked about the differences between fiction and non-fiction books and then went on to look at the features of non-fiction books such as the contents page and page numbers. The children enjoyed looking through the book and learning about what happens when a hen lays an egg. We talked about life cycles and the repeating pattern of egg-chick-chicken. We also looked at other animals too!

In maths we looked at repeating patterns using cubes and compare bears. The children were very good at continuing a pattern and some children could choose 2 colours and make their own pattern!

The children all looked amazing in their dressing up outfits to celebrate World Book Day. We had lots of fun throughout the day and the children in the afternoon were very well-behaved walking to the local library. The children enjoyed looking at the books in the library and listened to a story read by the librarian. Thank you to our parent helpers for making it possible.



## Maple and Beech News (Reception)

This week we have been recapping all the sounds we have learnt so far, particularly focusing on the trickier phase 3 sounds: *ear*, *air*, *ure*, *er*. We have also been learning the letter names.

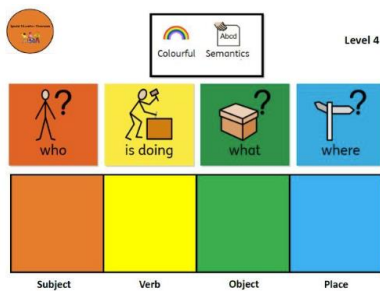
We have been telling stories linked to book week and reading lots of different books, sharing our favourite stories. We enjoyed our library visit on Thursday and then took part in the world book day parade!

In maths we have been ordering numerals to 10, recognising patterns of 9 and 10 in different ways. We started making our own number book to 10. Could you make your own one at home? Next week we will be focusing on the correct number formation.

We have been learning about farm vehicles, in anticipation of our visit to the farm. We designed our own tractors and will be making them next week with junk modelling. If you have any small cardboard boxes or anything suitable for wheels, like milk bottle tops, we would be very grateful for any donations.

## Birch and Cherry (Year 1)

In English this week, we have been 'innovating' the story of 'Cinnamon' to make our own versions of the story. The children brainstormed ideas for character changes and were supported to build sentences using 'colourful semantics'.



We also continued to learn more rules of how to add the suffix -ing to the end of verbs. Can your child explain how to add -ing to the verbs 'take' and 'come'?

In maths, we have been learning to identify numbers from 20-50 and complete number tracks, both forwards and backwards. We have also developed our understanding of the number of tens and ones in two-digit numbers. We learnt that it is easier to count a large amount of objects or pictures if we first group them into tens and ones. See if your child can count in tens and recognise numerals from 20-50.

The science challenge this week was to draw and label the parts of an animal. The children were given a selection of animals to choose from. We began by focusing on unfamiliar vocabulary. For instance, the 'gills' on a fish, the 'tuft' at the end of a lion's tail and the 'talons' on a bird.

In art, we continued to work on our own versions of Albrecht Durer's 'Young Hare' painting. This week, we focussed on the sketching of the hare and some children finished the painting with watercolours.

In geography this week, we learnt about the three main climate zones of the world: hot, cold and temperate. The children coloured in a map of the world to show these main climate zones and we discussed the use of a 'key' to label them. Next week, we will move on to discuss the kinds of animals we might expect to find in the different climate zones.

Our Year One children love to read. Thank you for all your support in hearing reading at home and well done to all the children who have visited the 'vending machine' so far. We would now like to ask for additional support to hear children read in school. If any parents/grandparents etc. have a spare hour or more during the week, either on a regular basis or as a one off, please do get in touch with a member of the Year One team.

## Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)

What an exciting week it has been for Year 2.

In our English lessons we have continued to write stories based on the book 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. The children have loved choosing characters from other stories to sneak into their writing. We have had stories that have included Matilda, Rapunzel and even The Gruffalo! We have been so impressed with the efforts that the children have put in to their writing in this unit.

In maths we have started our new unit on length and height. The children have enjoyed using rulers and metre sticks to measure the lengths of different objects around the school. They have been able to compare and order lengths and have shown a good understanding of the difference between a range of units of measurement.

In computing we have been learning about different ways to collect and represent data. This week, the children have been asking questions, collecting data in the form of tallies and then exploring how we can use pictograms to represent this. The children can use purple mash to practise this further at home if they wish.

In outdoor learning and geography, we have been learning how to read simple maps. The children have loved taking part in treasure hunts around the school and creating their own maps too!

Finally, on Thursday we celebrated World Book Day. Our author for the term is Roald Dahl and it was so wonderful to see how many children embraced this theme for their costumes. We had some truly fantastic Mr Foxes, some very scary Trunchbulls and some BFGs with very impressive ears. Thank you so much to everyone who put together a costume and helped us to celebrate this magical day.

## Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees

This week the children enjoyed dressing up in lots of different costumes and acting out their favourite movies. Some children enjoyed helping with planting flowers and seeds to help brighten up our outside area.

Thank you to Jack's mum for donating some seeds, we have planted them behind Bumblebees near our mud kitchen and will take turns to water them. We are very excited to see them grow!

**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>