

Dates for your diary

ALL TERM

Please book a week in advance

Family Friday Breakfast – book on Parentmail

Come dine with.....your child lunches – email the office to book

Monday 27th December
Christmas jars due in this week

Friday 1st December
Christmas performance costumes due in

Friday 8th December
PTA Christmas Day – tickets available on Parentmail

Tuesday 12th December
Christmas Performance (adults only)

Wednesday 13th December
PTA Christmas Shhhop 1

Friday 15th December
PTA Christmas Shhhop 2

Monday 18th December
Joint Carol Service with Garland Junior School (Children only)

Tuesday 19th December
Christmas Jumper Day and Class Parties

Wednesday 20th December
End of Autumn Term 2 (school closes as **1:45pm**)
Bumblebees finish **4.30pm**

It's Christmaaaaaaas!!!



School News

This week, the school has been a hub of activity!

The children are working hard on their performances and they are improving every day! Tickets went live yesterday at 8pm, so please do ensure you book your tickets if you haven't done so already. Please help your child to practise their lines.

We took delivery of our blank 'snowman' this week for the Englefield Snowman Trail and Bumblebees are busy designing and painting it. Once we have more details on the trail we will of course let you know.

We decked the halls on Thursday and the staff stayed late to decorate the school ready for the festive period. It was so rewarding to see the children's faces when they came back in on Friday to all the changes that had magically "appeared" over night! "It's so shiny! – ooh sparkles" said Mahnaz, Y2.

Christmas Dinner

Our wonderful catering team have been working on their Christmas lunch menu and it is now available to book on School Grid. Please select a lunch option as soon as possible so the catering team have an idea of numbers. We love our Christmas Lunch at Mrs Bland's as the whole School, including staff, gather together in the school hall for a yummy feast and fun. There are options available to cater for many dietary requirements and it would be wonderful if everyone could order a meal to try.

PTA Christmas Events

The PTA have lots of exciting things planned this year!

Friday 8th December – PTA Christmas Day!

Two ticket options – please choose **one** only

£10 - Father Christmas, present and picture, decorate a gingerbread man, jar tombola and games.

£5 - decorate a gingerbread man, jar tombola and games.

Please buy before Tuesday 5th December.

Wednesday 13th and Friday 15th December PTA Shhhop

For £3, children can choose and wrap a gift (£6 for two) for a loved one in our PTA Shhhop.

Please buy a ticket (max of 2) before 12th December.

Reminders

No mobile phones are allowed on site and this also applies to the Christmas performances. We will record them and make them available for anyone that is unable to attend. If you do bring your mobile phone on the day we will provide a box for you to pop it in until you leave.

Vacancies

If you, or anyone you know, has a Level 3 Childcare qualification and would like to be considered for a part time, temporary role in January, then we would love to hear from you! Please call us to discuss on 0118 9832332.

Doodle Calendar



[Doodlelearning/calender](https://doodlelearning.com/calender)

We're excited to announce the return of the Winter Calendar in DoodleMaths, a seasonal challenge where children can earn virtual rewards by Doodling daily!

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

Katie Thrussell

Maria Kennedy

Natasha Robinson

Mrs Bland's PTA recently held their AGM meeting which reflects on the previous years' spending.

We are always looking for volunteers. Please contact our Facebook page or any of our members if this is something you are interested in.

Little Acorns Class



This week in Little Acorns the children have been learning our numbers and looking at different foods making cakes with playdough and cutting fruits on our fine motor table.

We have been reading the story "The Little Red Hen" along with learning our nursery rhymes and number songs.

We have also started to learn our songs for our Christmas production which will take place on the Monday morning of the 11th December.

The children have been making the decorations ready to go on our tree that has been designed and made by the Acorns and Little Acorns children this will be displayed at the Christmas Tree Festival at St Marys church Burghfield on the 9th - 10th December please go down to admire our tree!

Outside in the garden the children have really loved exploring the garden to find different Autumn items on their treasure hunt list.

Acorns Class



This week in Acorns Class, we have read the story of 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson. The children enjoyed naming all the different characters and loved playing in our Gruffalo Cave in the role play area.

In Maths we have been weighing items and deciding if they are 'heavier' or 'lighter'. The children enjoyed using the balance scales to test this.

We have decorated our nursery so it is full of sparkle! The children have been busy decorating fir cones for our Christmas Tree which will be displayed at the Christmas Tree Festival at St Marys church Burghfield on the 9th - 10th December please go down to have a look!

Our nursery Nativity is starting to take shape and we have been practising lots and lots. The performance will be held on Monday 11th December at 9.30am.

Maple and Beech News (Reception)



This week in phonics we have learnt the new digraphs th, ng, ai, ee and the tricky words they and all. Maybe you could play one of the phonics play games online www.phonicsplay.co.uk (resources – phase 3).

In Literacy, we have read the Nativity story and we have been retelling the story through small world, puppets and Role play. As well as sequencing pictures in our books.

In Maths we have been working with numbers to 10, singing 10 in the bed, comparing amounts saying which is more or less and practising formation of numerals.

We have also had our first whole school nativity practises. If you cannot provide the required costumes please let school staff know.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)



This week the children have been learning about the incredible Mae Jamison, a dancer, engineer, doctor, actor and astronaut. She was the first black woman to go into space.

We have also been learning about how to weigh things in school, it would be wonderful if they could be involved in some cooking at home so that they can practice weighing thing accurately!

In yoga we practiced using our superhero brain during games, and learned how to respond to our friends when we don't win in a game.

We have of course been rehearsing for our performance and our singing is coming along beautifully for our play!



Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)



Another great week here in Year 2!

In Maths we have learnt all about money. We started the week by looking at coins and the value of all the different British coins. We noticed that they are all different shapes, sizes and colours! We then moved onto looking at the value of different notes, these were easier to identify as they say the value on them! Once we had familiarised ourselves with the value of all the different coins and notes we were then able to add up different amounts and compare values. To add up an amount of money we learnt it was easier to start with the coins/notes that had the biggest value.

In English, we have finished off writing our setting descriptions all about winter and have learnt how to do some editing of our own work! This was a great way of being able to read over our final piece as well as correct and improve any areas of it. We then ended the week with a really exciting writing activity to start off the December month... we had the choice to write letters to parents or Father Christmas! SO, watch out parents/carers for our letters that will be coming home telling you all about how naughty or nice we've been in Year 2 this year!

In the afternoons we have also been feeling extra festive because we have started whole school practices for our Christmas performance! We've also been making the school look more festive by creating some Christmas decorations.

In yoga this week we have been learning more about our lizard and super hero brains in the context of social skills. Year 2 loved the calming exercise this week called 'expanding ball' to help calm our lizard brain and for our super hero brains to take control again. Ask your child to teach you the expanding ball breathing to see if they can remember it.



Breakfast Bees and Bumblebees



This week in Bumblebees we received a big delivery! Englefield Estate dropped off our wooden snowman to paint and we have made a good start with ideas! We have also started our yummy mince pie preparation and spent the last part of the week decorating our beautiful Christmas tree!

Bumblebees Stars

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 Bland's PTA recently held their AGM meeting which reflects on the previous years' spending. Below shows the different fund raising events and where the money raised was spent. As always it shows how every donation is put towards the education of the children at Mrs Blands and how worthwhile it is to be a member of the PTA. Please contact our Facebook page or any of our members if this is something you are interested in.

