



Friday 18th October 2024

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter

Federation News- Message from Mrs Rose

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the first half of the Autumn term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful progress the children have made so far. It has been a busy and productive few weeks, filled with many exciting learning opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom.

Year 1 had a fantastic visit to Milestones Museum, where they learned about how toys have changed over the last 100 years. Our Infant School parents were also invited to a well-attended workshop that provided details of the PSHE curriculum with a focus on positive mental health and wellbeing, and I'm pleased to share that a similar workshop will be offered for Junior School parents and carers in the summer term.

I've been receiving daily updates on the exciting adventures our Year 6 pupils are having on the Isle of Wight. Yesterday, they enjoyed a beautiful day out on the water in the sunshine, and we're eagerly anticipating their return later today.



I am incredibly proud of how well everyone has settled into their classes, embracing challenges and showing resilience. The sense of community within our schools continues to grow, and it's been wonderful to see the children supporting each other and building confidence as they learn.

Click below for your newsletter

[Mrs Bland's News](#)

[Garland News](#)

Burghfield Common Federation

OUR VISION

**Community, Curiosity,
Creativity and Challenge**

Discovering every child's sparkle and shining a light on their brilliance...



MRS BLAND'S INFANT
AND GARLAND
JUNIOR SCHOOL



— Friday 18th October 2024 —

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery News

As we draw closer to the end of half term, our learning hasn't slowed here at Mrs Bland's. It's been yet another super busy week of engaged learning across the whole school.

Tuesday saw Year 1 delight in an educational visit to Milestones Museum learning about 'Toys' past and present. All the children arrived back at school buzzing about the toys they had seen and played with, don't forget to ask them all about it!

As part of our PSHE curriculum, Harold the Giraffe from SCARF made sure Years R,1 & 2 had fun during the 2 day workshop held on Wednesday and Thursday. We would like to extend a big thank you to the parents who attended the information session on Wednesday, we hope you too learned all about how Harold helped deliver our PSHE curriculum this week.

Last week's cake sale raised a whopping £132 thank you to everyone who supported the event and enjoyed a delicious cake or two! There were lots of happy faces at this event, your support is always appreciated by the PTA and all money raised helps to further enhance educational opportunities for all the children across the Federation.



Dates for your diary

- 22/10/24 Halloween Discos
- 24/10/24 End of term (3:25pm)
- 25/10/24 Staff Inset Day
- Friday 25th October - Friday 31st October:
Half term
- 04/11/24 School re-opens for pupils
- 05/11/24 Flu Vaccinations

Quote of the Week

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started."

School Stars

Josie - Acorns
Emily - Beech
Amir - Birch
Lucas S - Cherry
Riyan - Hazel
Emma - Rowan

Star of the week

Lyla - Acorns
Oliver - Beech
Marley D - Birch
Bella - Cherry
Immy - Hazel
Xavier S-M - Rowan

Playtime star

Caleb S- Acorns
George - Beech
James - Birch
Kaiden - Cherry
Aisha - Hazel
Anya - Rowan

Friendship Star



Azreya M
Freddie S

Reading stars



Little Acorns



This week in little acorns the children have been learning the names of 2D shapes. The children have enjoyed drawing the shapes, cutting them out using the playdough and matching the shapes up by gluing and sticking them at the craft table.

They have also really enjoyed the apple printing with the paints. We have been reading the story "Pip and Posy: The Super Scooter" along with learning our nursery rhymes. The children are now very good at singing and doing the actions to our song of the term 'Open, Shut Them', ask them to sing it to you.

Outside in the garden the children have really enjoyed practising their cutting skills by using the scissors to cut and snip the leaves in the Autumn tray.

Hopefully you have all been able to access the Seesaw account. QR codes have been provided and there are a lot of lovely photos on there showing the fun activities that your children have been enjoying. Please let us know if you have any problems accessing the account.

Acorns



This week in Acorns we have been learning all about Black History Month which is celebrated in October. We have talked about how things have changed over the years and how in the past people were not very kind to each other. We talked about our school rules, one of which is 'Kindness' and how we should all be kind to each and use our words.

We learnt about the story of Rosa Parks, a brave lady who stood up to change the rules about where she 'should' sit on the bus. The children listened and asked lots of interesting questions- Was she sad? Why were people nasty? Was she scared? It can be hard for the children to understand that these things were allowed to happen, so please reassure your children that times have changed thanks to the brave people of the past. We will be looking at other key figures that changed the views of others over the next week.

In Maths we have been looking at size by thinking of tall and short, long and short, and trying to put objects in order of length and height.

In Literacy we have been concentrating on nursery rhymes and rhyming words. We sang different nursery rhymes and then tried to change the rhyming words.

In Outdoor Learning we have been making autumn tree pictures using real leaves and practising our fire circle rules ready for our first fire circle next week.



Rosa Parks- an ordinary woman who took a stand to help black people in America be treated fairly, by refusing to give up her seat on a bus.



Beech (Reception)



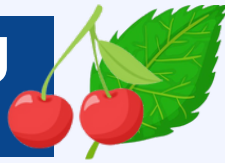
This week in Beech class we have been using the Elmer the elephant stories to think about how we are all unique and special. We also designed our own individual Elmers.

In Phonics we learnt the sounds h, b, f (and ff), l and (ll), ss, and revised all our tricky words so far. We are focusing on blending all the sounds into simple words and working on our letter formation.

In Maths we have been looking at shapes, in particular circles and triangles. We explored them in the environment, painted with shapes, made shape pictures, and identified them by touch.

Outside we have been exploring the changes that Autumn is bringing, playing with leaves – making leaf pictures showing different emotions and taking leaf rubbings.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)



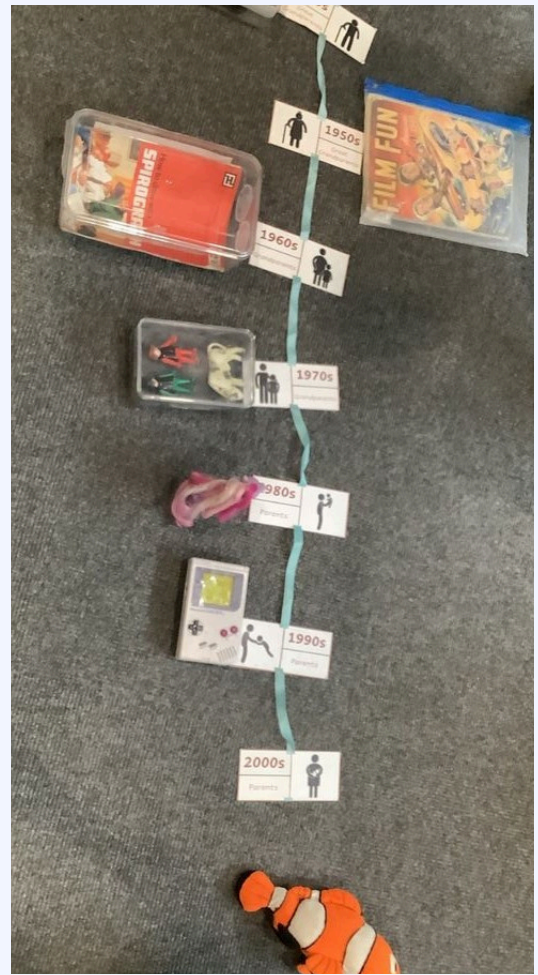
This week in phonics we have learnt more phase 5 sounds: ou (sound), au (launch), and oe (toe), and have been learning these new tricky words – Mr, Mrs, their, oh, looked, people.

In English we have been writing an information piece about toys.

In Maths we have been learning how to create fact families, using our part whole models to help use create addition number sentences, e.g. $3+2=5$, $5=3+2$, $2+3=5$, $5=2+3$.

We learnt so much on our trip to Milestones on Tuesday, playing old Victorian games and sorting toys from the past.

On Thursday we learnt about how to manage our feelings in a great workshop with Happy, Healthy Harold.



Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)



In English, we have had a very scary visit from a... DRAGON! With our next writing unit in English being narrative writing we are learning and reading the book 'George and the Dragon'. To help us feel inspired for our story writing, we started the week by doing some dragon descriptions. The dragon descriptions that the Year 2 children produced were incredible and they focused on including as many expanded noun phrases as they could.

In Maths this week we have been recapping our number bonds to 10. At the start of the week, we used ten frames to help us write number sentences for our number bonds. This then helped us notice patterns such as if $1+9=10$ so $10=1+9$. Some of us even started to use our number bonds to 10 to help us do our number bonds to 20!

In PSHE this week we had a very exciting visit from Harold the SCARF Giraffe. He taught us important things such as being grateful for ourselves, our friends and nature.

In other exciting news, DT has been very festive this week as we have made a start on our Christmas felt decorations. I bet you can't wait to see how these turn out, and we can't wait to finish them after half term!



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Burghfield Common Federation

School Newsletter



Garland Junior School News

Maths at Garland

At Garland, we recognise that Maths is essential to everyday life, critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for financial literacy and most forms of employment, and we want to ensure that our children get as much as they can out of the Maths education that we provide. We want to enable them to understand the world around them, reason mathematically when they approach problems, and have a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject.

As part of this, we strongly believe in extending children's Maths beyond their Maths lesson, and will be offering opportunities throughout the year for children to appreciate Maths outside of their daily lesson. Part of how we are doing this regularly is with DoodleMaths, which forms part of the children's homework across the school. Children should, ideally, spend 5 to 10 minutes on it 5 times a week. Our most determined children now have streaks of over 330 days in a row!



DoodleMaths allows children to work at exactly the right level of challenge to help them progress. It rewards the effort that children put in, and we have seen the increased confidence that children have in the classroom when they are Doodling little and often. To recognise children that try their best in DoodleMaths, each week there will be Top Doodlers in every class. Please help your children to get the most they can from this fantastic resource!
Happy Doodling.



Dates for your diary

- 14/10/24 Year 6 Residential - Isle of Wight
- 24/10/24 End of term (3:10pm)
- 24/10/24 Halloween Discos
- 25/10/24 Staff Inset Day

Friday 25th October - Friday 31st October:
Half term

- 04/11/24 School re-opens for pupils
- 05/11/24 Flu Vaccinations

School Awards

Values Certificate

Eliana S
Dennis T Bella-Rose H
Yenuth D Fraser S
Jahniah Evelyn B
Sonnie D Ralph M
Molly W Ella-Mae W
Annie H Seren-May H
Emily K

Reading Stars

Kelyn H
Arlo R
Holly M
Hanna R
Samuel F
Esme F
Seren-May H

WOW Award

Alexandra L
Sonnie S
Maisie F
Kayleighjayne G
Jack C
Layla C
Kirah W

Top Doodlers - 4E

Callie B
Ted M
Charlie W
Annie H
Bradden H
James G
Kayleighjayne G
Layla C

Last week some of Mrs Irons' Year 5 & 6 gardeners worked hard to build a mini greenhouse which will be used in the spring to start off seedlings for our school vegetable patch.

Leo, Archie and Blnd read and followed the instructions, and carefully screwed each part together. A real team effort!



Quote of the Week

“Everybody has talent, it’s just a matter of moving around until you’ve discovered what it is.”

Franklin and Grey-Thompson (Year 3)

Year 3 have continued writing limericks in English this week based on the story of 'Grandad's Island.' The children have impressed us with their writing, following the rhythm and rhyme pattern of the poem.

In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting two numbers. The children have been using their knowledge of place value to move towards the more formal method of column addition and subtraction. We have been very careful to make sure the numbers are in the correct place value column, ensuring that each digit lines up correctly before calculating.

In French, we have been learning greetings, including "How are you?". The children have also been answering using a range of responses.

The children have enjoyed designing their own Stone Age settlements in history. We are looking forward to making them next week!

PERIODS OF THE STONE AGE

Different Periods of the Stone Age

-Because the Stone Age lasted such a long time, historians break it down into 3 (slightly) smaller periods.

-**The Palaeolithic Period** (Old Stone Age) – around 2.5 million years ago – during this time, early hominids (close relatives of humans) started using simple stone tools. They slowly developed into modern humans.

-**The Mesolithic Period** (Middle Stone Age) – around 10,000BC– people during this time became hunter-gatherers. Britain started to become an island (before this time, it was joined with Europe).


-**The Neolithic Period** (New Stone Age) – around 4,500-2,000BC– people began farming, building villages, and making ornaments like pottery.



Edwards and Hussain (Year 4)

Mary Seacole

She was born in Kingston, Jamaica in 1805. Mary help and cared for sick people in the war so they don't get sick. people called her a hero because she save lots of sick soldiers that was in the war.



Her real name was Mary Jane Seacole. She had a bottle for the sick soldiers that was in the war, she had that so the soldiers can be warm and not cold and she believe it by her self. she was determined to do it.

she once live in London to see if any of the nurses wanted to come with her to help her.

Her father was a soldier but a Scottish one. Her mum was Jamaican and her father was scottish.

This week, Year 4 have engaged in performance poetry. In small groups, they have worked together to practise their creative performances of 'The Big Rainstorm'. The children have learnt how to use their voice, actions and sound effects to create some imaginative and effective performances.

In Mathematics, the children have continued to practise addition and subtraction with exchanging, and applied their rounding skills to estimate answers to calculations. They are continuing to work hard on their times tables.

In History, Year 4 have been celebrating Black History Month by conducting research on prominent historical events involving inspirational figures such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Mary Seacole and Nelson Mandela. As a result, the children have produced some informative fact files.

In Science, the children have continued to explore the topic of classification, with a focus on the plant kingdom. Children have used classification keys to group plants and even created their own.

In Music, Year 4 are enjoying their brass lessons and are improving every week. They have learnt some new notes and tunes, producing very impressive performances.

Brunel and Zephaniah (Year 5)

Year 5 have had a really fun and practical week despite the rain. On Monday, as part of our Outdoor Learning, we carried on thinking about survival and built a solar still. This is a method of getting water from the ground which involved digging a big hole and covering it with plastic. The idea is that water evaporates from the ground, condenses on the plastic and runs / drips into a pot in the middle of the hole.

We have also carried out some practical investigations into friction. Our main focus was trying to write a succinct and precise predication followed by designing a table for our results. We carried out our investigation with cars and ramps and even calculated an average result.

Our practical lessons have also extended into Design Technology where we have been researching bridge structures. This week we have measured the wood that we are using and will begin sawing and gluing.

In our PE lessons we have been doing gymnastics. This week we put all that we have learnt together and put simple routines together on equipment.



Parks and Wiltshire (Year 6)



Most of our Year 6 children are away on their residential visit to the Isle of Wight this week, and we look forward to hearing all about it when they return!

The 'Staycation' children have had a really fun week, enjoying craft and art activities – observational drawing and painting of autumn leaves, and creating clay tiles with designs inspired by autumn trees. They also spent the day on Thursday at the Infant school. The Year 6 children were a huge help and support to both the younger children and teachers. Possibly a future career for some?

They enjoyed extended outdoor learning and lots of opportunities to be imaginative.



**Have a lovely weekend from us all at the
Burghfield Common Federation!**

Dates for your diary

October	Tuesday 22nd	Until 4:15pm	Halloween Disco - Mrs Bland's
	Thursday 24th	3:15 - 4:15 Yrs 3 & 4 4:45 - 6:00 Yrs 5 & 6	Halloween Discos - Garland
	Thursday 24th		End of Term - Garland finish at 3:10pm Mrs Bland's finish 3:25pm
	Friday 25th		School CLOSED for pupils - Staff Inset Day
Friday 25th October - Friday 31st October: Half term			
November	Monday 4th		School re-opens for pupils
	Tuesday 5th	AM	Flu Vaccinations (both schools)
	Wednesday 6th	AM	Year 6 - Walk to War Memorial at St Mary's Church
	Friday 8th	All Day	Governor Visit Day
	Monday 11th	09:30am	Remembrance Assembly - Mrs Bland's Year 2 Rowan Class - Parents Invited
		TBC	Remembrance Assembly - Garland Details to be confirmed
	Tuesday 12th	09:00/11:00am	Garland Open Morning for Year 2 parents
	Thursday 14th		Year R - Newbury Weekly News Photo
	Friday 15th	AM	Garland Class Photos
	Wednesday 20th	3:30-6:00pm	Consultation Evening
	Thursday 21st	3:30-6:00pm	Consultation Evening
	Friday 22nd	(Details TBC)	Children in Need
Tuesday 29th	09:00/11:00am	Garland Open Morning for Year 2 parents	
December	Tuesday 3rd	09:00/11:00am	Garland Open Morning for Year 2 parents
	Tuesday 17th		EYFS Panto - <i>Cinderella</i> at The Hexagon
	Wednesday 18th	Afternoon	Federation Carol Service at St Oswald's (children only)
	Thursday 19th		Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
	Friday 20th		End of term - break up at: 1:45pm – Mrs Bland's 2:00pm - Garland NO Bumblebees or Fun Zone at either school.
Monday 23rd December 2024 - Friday 3rd January 2025: Christmas Holiday			
January 2025	Monday 6th		School re-opens for pupils