



Friday 8th November 2024

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter

Federation News- Message from Mrs Rose

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school community, we've been reflecting on the significance of Remembrance and why it's important to honour those who have served and sacrificed. Our Year 2 (Rowan) and Year 6 pupils have been preparing to lead the upcoming Remembrance Assemblies at Mrs Bland's and Garland schools, respectively.



Year 6 parents are warmly invited to join the juniors for their assembly at Garland, starting promptly at 8:45 a.m. on Monday. Please aim to arrive five minutes early to be seated.

Rowan Class parents are invited to join the Infants for their assembly at Mrs. Bland's at 9:30 a.m. on Monday.

We will be observing a moment of silence at both schools as a mark of respect.

Thank you for joining us in honouring this important tradition.

Following your generous donations for our Harvest celebrations, we have received a message of thanks from the West Berks Foodbank.

"The Garland Junior School donations weighed in at 69.4 kgs. This is the approximate weight of a fully grown leopard!

Mrs Bland's Infant School donations came to 116.7 kgs, the weight of a panda!

It also means that combined, the two schools donated the equivalent of 390 meals for local people who are experiencing real hardship.

Thank you so much for supporting us again. It means a great deal."



Please remember there is a permanent food collection point at Garland, if you would like to make any further donations throughout the year.

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 8th November 2024

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery News

Welcome back to Autumn term 2! We hope that, between any Halloween sugar rushes, you managed to enjoy a restful week ready for the busy term ahead.

Some of our children met the school nursing team this week for the annual flu vaccine; the children were very brave and took it in their stride.

Rowan class are busy finalising, and practising for, their Remembrance Assembly on Monday which they are very excited to share. Rowan parents are welcome to attend for the assembly which will start at 9.30am.

Next week we will be raising funds for Children in Need. The School Council have organised lots of events throughout the day on Friday for everyone to participate in. We are sure there will be lots of excited children as they enjoy the fun events.

As the seasons change and the weather becomes more unpredictable, please remember to send your child in with a coat. We love the great outdoors here at Mrs Bland's and will endeavour to be outside refreshing those precious little minds as much as possible.



Dates for your diary

- 11/11/24 Remembrance Assembly
Rowan Class Parents Invited
- 14/11/24 Year R
Newbury Weekly News Photo
- 15/11/24 Children in Need
- 20/11/24 Consultation Evening
- 21/11/24 Consultation Evening

Quote of the Week

"Leave a little sparkle wherever you go"

School Stars

Acorns - Gabi
Beech - Alex
Birch - Zenaya
Cherry - Marley
Hazel - Sophie
Rowan - Afsa

Star of the week

Acorns - Caleb M
Beech - Hugo
Birch - Noah
Cherry - Gabriel
Hazel - Kaleb
Rowan - Nicholas

Friendship Star



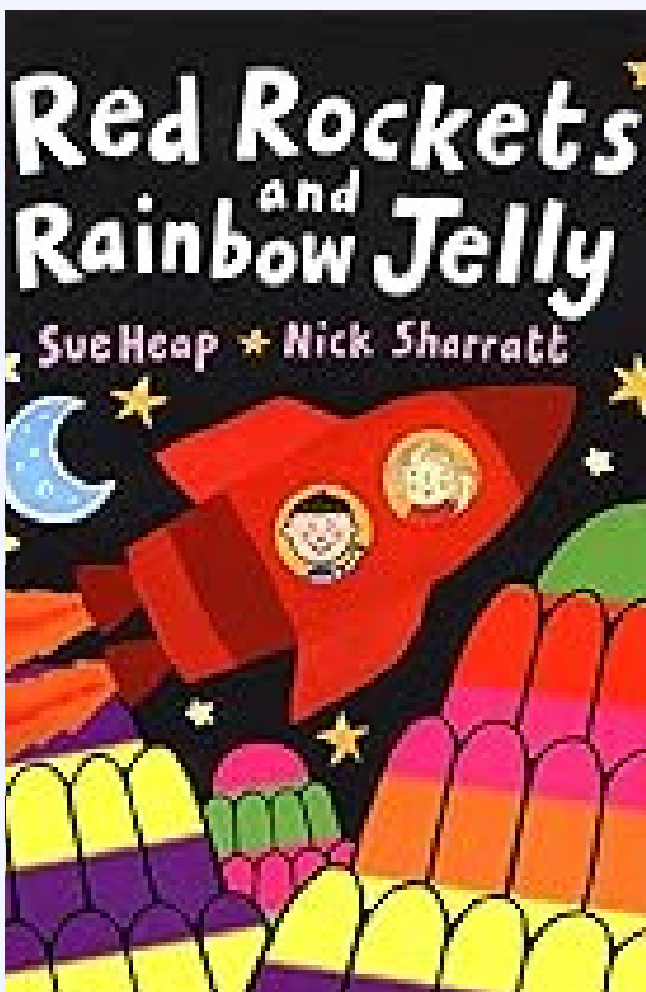
Acorns - Ellie
Beech - Lucas
Birch - Stelian
Cherry - George
Hazel - Angel
Rowan - Ava

Playtime star

Kaleb
Everley

Reading stars

Little Acorns



In Little Acorns this week, we have been looking at our rhyme for this term, *Polly Put the Kettle On*, reading the story 'Red Rockets and Rainbow Jelly', and have been talking about Bonfire Night and fireworks. We looked at dressing warm and what we need to do to keep safe, and have been dancing on the carpet with the coloured scarves to firework music and sounds.

We have also been Practising our counting by using our fingers and counting together during carpet time and when we line up to go outside and back indoors.

At the craft table this week the children have been enjoying making firework pictures using lots of lovely colours and patterns.

Our role play area this week is set up as a bonfire and fireworks, where the children can dress up in the warm hats and gloves and pretend to drink hot chocolate and eat marshmallows by the fire.

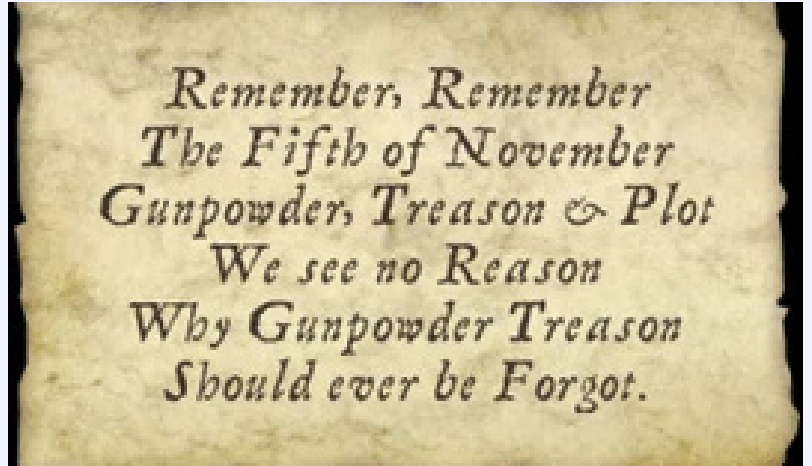
Outside, in the garden, the children have enjoyed hammering the golf tees into the pumpkins which really helps to develop their fine motor skills, and also scooping out the pumpkins to make 'pumpkin soup' in the mud kitchen.

Acorns



This term in Acorns our topic is Why Are Leaves Crispy?

This week we have been very busy learning all about firework night and why we celebrate this night. We talked about Guy Fawkes and have been learning the song... 'Remember remember the 5th of November, gun powder treason and plot!' The children enjoyed the small world area, pretending to be Guy Fawkes or the King and singing along.



In Maths we have been learning about 2D shapes. The children have been using shaped magnifying glasses to find 2D shapes around the nursery!

We have also been learning all about Remembrance Day and why we celebrate this too. We talked about how it is a sad story and we made our own poppy wreath to take to assembly on Monday. We also talked about observing a minute's silence to remember the soldiers. We have practiced this in outdoor learning by listening to the world around us.

Beech (Reception)

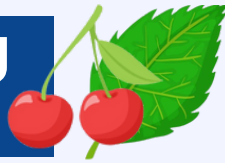


This week in Beech class we have been thinking about bonfire night and why it is celebrated. We talked about our experiences of fireworks and created our own firework pictures using chalk pastels. We learnt about the artist Jackson Pollack and used his splattering technique to make a giant class firework picture.

In Phonics we have moved on to phase 3, learning the sounds j,v,w,x,y and the tricky words 'he' and 'she'.

In Maths we have been exploring what happens when we add '1 more' or take away '1 less'. We have been recording our findings on 5 frames.

Birch and Cherry (Year 1)



Welcome back. Our Topic this term is fairy tales.

In literacy we have learnt the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have written descriptive sentences about the main characters using colourful semantics to help us.

In Maths we have been continuing to look at number bonds within 10, and addition number sentences.

In Art the children have designed a natural crown that they are going to make next week in the style of Andy Goldsworthy.

Our science topic this term is materials. We investigated what different materials we could identify around the school.

We had our first dance session and loved it.

Please note that dance is on Wednesday, PE is still on a Thursday with Danny, and Outdoor learning is now on a Friday.



Hazel and Rowan (Year 2)



What a lovely first week back we've had in Year 2!

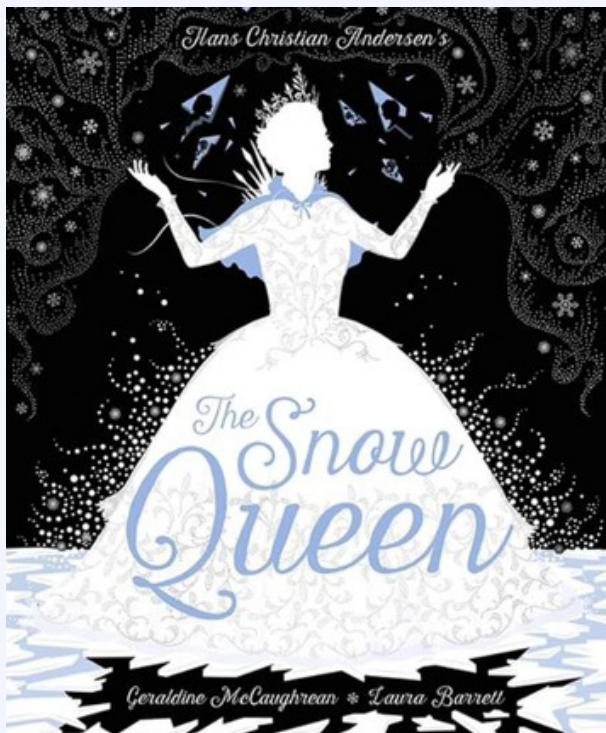
We have welcomed this new half term with our fantastic new topic - Winter Wonderland!

In English we have started working on a new book '*The Snow Queen*', of which we have already learnt through actions. We have picked apart features of a great traditional tale, all in preparation for writing our own one next week. Ask your child what their favourite part of the story is.... lots of us loved doing the impression of The Snow Queen!

Meanwhile, in Maths we've continued our topic of addition and subtraction and focused on adding and subtracting ones from two-digit numbers. We have been focusing on number lines and dienes to assist us in answering addition and subtraction number sentences. And we have added 3 one-digit numbers together using our knowledge of number bonds.

In preparation for Remembrance Sunday this week, we had a lovely afternoon designing and creating some poppies using a range of art mediums. We used a selection of paints, oil pastels, felt, tissue paper and collaging to put together our poppy. These then made a wreath for us to lay in Rowan class assembly next week.

It's been a great first week back and we are all so excited to learn more in our new topic.





—— Friday 8th November 2024 ——

Burghfield Common Federation

School Newsletter



Garland Junior School News

This week saw the first Parent Maths session taking place in The Hub. Ann is here to work with adults who would like to explore any aspect of Maths, whether it is their own understanding, or how they can help their children.

Our Parent Maths workshops are held by Ann Morrow on Wednesdays from 2.15 to 3pm in The Hub. They are informal sessions where you have the chance to ask the questions you want to know the answers to! There is no need to book, or commit to attending every session - come along when you can and remember.... Maths *is* fun!



Dates for your diary

- 08/11/24 Year 3 Cake Sale
- 11/11/24 Remembrance Assembly
- 12/11/24 Open Morning for Year 2 Parents
- 15/11/24 Children in Need
- 15/11/24 Class Photos
- 20/11/24 Consultation Evening
- 21/11/24 Consultation Evening
- 29/11/24 Open Morning for Year 2 Parents

School Awards

Values Certificate

Youssef S
Vienna B
Luna P
Charlie D
Olivia K
Clara M
Hanna R
Tyrone E

Chloe A
Layla W
Joey S
Bonnie S
Ella-Mae W
Matilda S
Isabella M
Tora M

Reading Stars

Alexandra L
Daniel M
Alexander M
Maisie F
Teal J
Dylan T
Zak S
Grace C

WOW Award

Sheerie C
Yenuth D
Charlotte B
Emily K
Ava U
Grace D
Emmanuella A
Kirah W

Top Doodlers - 5Z

Daisy G
Isabella P
Rufus P
Paul H
Darcey S
Holly C
Ruby M
Adrianna J

During WW1, much of the fighting took place in Western Europe where the countryside became devastated. Previously beautiful landscapes turned to mud where little or nothing had the chance to grow.

There was a notable and striking exception to the bleakness - the bright red Flanders poppies. These resilient flowers flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, growing in the thousands upon thousands.

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was moved by the sight of these poppies and that inspiration led him to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

The poppy was then adopted in memory of all those who had fallen. In 1921, the Royal British Legion ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November - they sold out almost immediately, and the Poppy Appeal was founded.

We have been selling poppies this week as part of the Poppy Appeal, and are very grateful for the support you have shown.



Quote of the Week

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no-one can take it away from you."

Franklin and Grey-Thompson (Year 3)

The children have had a brilliant start to the new term!

In Maths we have been continuing working on addition and subtraction, focusing on the formal column method in our books. It is wonderful to see the children working through each step with growing confidence.

We have started our new English book *Stone Age Boy* this week, and have made predictions based on the front cover and designed our own story maps.

In Geography, we have explored Google Earth, looking at different countries and their famous landmarks, and even finding our school on street view.

Christmas is already in the air as we have started auditions for our Christmas play. The children have been busy practicing their lines and performing their auditions to the whole of Year 3 and 4 and we look forward to putting it all together this term!

Finally, on Friday, we fully embraced the autumn season in Outdoor Learning. Inspired by artist Andy Goldsworthy, we have used natural materials to create fantastic art pieces.



Edwards and Hussain (Year 4)

Year 4 have been working extremely hard since returning from the half term break.

In Maths, we have been investigating 'area'. The children have been finding the area of rectilinear shapes and using their problem solving and reasoning skills to explain their understanding of the topic.

Year 4 have been really excited about the two new texts we will be reading; *The Firework Maker's Daughter* by Michael Morpurgo in our shared reading sessions, and *Anglo Saxon Boy* in English. This week we have learnt about the main characters and are preparing and writing a persuasive speech.



In Science, the children have concluded our topic of Living Things and Habitats by learning all about how we can look after our environment, and created posters to promote ways in which we can do this in society.

We are looking forward to moving on to our topic of Sound next week and learning all about Anglo Saxons in History.

Brunel and Zephaniah (Year 5)

This week, our Year 5s have been very excited to embark on a new reading journey in Master Reader, as we have started *The Girl of Ink and Stars*. Many of the children have been pleading to read more already, as they have been drawn into the mystery of a young girl living in the small village of Gromera, forbidden to go beyond its boundaries, a village that just been forced into curfew.

Alongside this, our writing has entered a new genre, as we look at persuasive letters. We have begun by unpicking the structure of formal letters, as we realise that they are not seen commonly anymore. As we continue into next week, we will be unpicking the skills that are used within the content of the letters - how the author chooses their language to persuade the recipient of an intended outcome.

In Maths, we have been applying our knowledge of multiplication and division when multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000, as well as by multiples of these powers of 10. We also took the opportunity to have a discussion about why the children thought maths might be important, what it was needed for and how they might need it later in their lives. We then posed the question 'What makes a good mathematician?', which certainly yielded some fascinating discussion, and we would encourage parents to talk with their children about this too!

In the afternoons, we have been busy as always - from 'Dancing by Chance' in PE, to beginning our exploration of our solar system in Science, to scavenging outside for signs of Autumn and Winter during Outdoor Learning.



Parks and Wiltshire (Year 6)

We have had a busy week preparing for our assembly about WW1 and Armistice which we are leading on Monday 11th November.

We were great ambassadors for Garland when we made our visit to St Mary's Church, Burghfield, on Wednesday. While there we found out about those who had lived in the parish and served in the first or second World Wars, and more recent conflicts. We were able to look at the graves of some of those who served, as well as the graves of the Bland and Garland families, after whom our schools are named.

In Science, we have been looking at how smoking and vaping can affect our circulatory system and have been estimating how much it costs!

In RE, we were great at debating which of the 5 pillars of Islam need most commitment, using thumbs in to take turns and listening carefully to the ideas of others.

We had the opportunity for our fortnightly Outdoor Learning session and thoroughly enjoyed building dens – they looked very cosy!



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

Dates for your diary

November	Monday 11th	09:30am	Remembrance Assembly - Mrs Bland's Year 2 - Rowan Class Parents Invited
	Monday 11th	08:45am	Remembrance Assembly - Garland Year 6 Parents Invited
	Tuesday 12th	09:00/11:00am	Garland Open Morning for Year 2 parents
	Thursday 14th		Year R - Newbury Weekly News Photo
	Friday 15th		Children in Need
	Friday 15th	AM	Garland Class Photos - Postponed until Summer Term
	Wednesday 20th	3:30-6:00pm	Consultation Evening
	Thursday 21st	3:30-6:00pm	Consultation Evening
	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 10th		Visit to MERL (by invitation)
	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