



—— Friday 18th September 2026 ——

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers.

This week, the school photographer came to take individual photos. Many of you also came in early for sibling group photos. Staff also updated their photos! It was lovely to see how smart the children all looked, smiling for the camera!

We have Meet the Teacher coming up on 29th September. We have chosen this date, so children have time to settle into class. We have tweaked the times slightly from last year following on from parent feedback. The class teachers will start the event with a short presentation where you will learn about the learning and expectations for your child's year group. This will be followed by a chance for you to speak to your child's teacher to find out how they are settling into class.

This is an informal evening for parents/carers only. There will be a chance to discuss your child's progress and look at their work at our Consultation Evenings on 17th and 19th November.

Thank you for your harvest donations. These can still be brought in daily and will be added to our Harvest displays. The children have been busy learning Harvest and Autumnal songs and poems in readiness for our Federation Harvest Festival on 29th September.



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 September 2026

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery News



PTA'S 2ND HAND UNIFORM DONATION & SALE INFORMATION

WHEN: Next Wednesday - After School
WHERE: PTA Shed (Little Acorns Gate)

We understand how expensive school uniform can be! Did you know we stock of 2nd hand uniform (including PE bottoms and jumpers) that have been kindly donated by fellow parents. We have previously sold these at events throughout the year, at a reduced price. Going forward, not only can you speak to your PTA year group rep, you'll also be able to buy through our website. Here you can place orders for individual items AND bundles for Summer and Winter term, these are then distributed to your child's class.

There will also be ad hoc sales at the PTA shed at Blands, next Wednesday being our first. We welcome all donations of uniform in a good condition (no holes or stains). Please use the BLUE BIN Year 1 & 2 playground (bike sheds). You can also hand donations in at the Garland office or contact one of your PTA Members!

We are in particular need of Ages 6-7/ 8-9/ 9-10

Please be aware that our PTA Bin is only for Uniform Donations. If you have any teddies or other items that can be used as gifts at the Shhhops, then please let the PTA know.



Dates for your diary

From 14th -29th Sept
Harvest donations

Tues 29th Sept
Meet the Teacher
Evening

Week commencing 18 Sep 2026

Class	Attendance %
Beech	97.7%
Maple	96.4%
Cherry	97.2%
Hazel	91.4%

Mrs Bland's School Stars

Acorns - Tegan
Beech - Marley
Maple - Jaxon
Cherry - Luna
Hazel - Anastasia

Star of the Week

Acorns - Archie
Beech - Emilie
Maple - Oakley
Cherry - Gianna
Hazel - Sienna

Friendship Star

Acorns - Eliza
Beech - Esmae
Maple - Vivien
Cherry - Thea
Hazel - Jimmy

Playtime Star

Little Acorns



This term in Little Acorns, our topic is "Can I Have a Dog Yet?". It is all about families, learning to share, and looking after each other. Our story of the week is "Pip and Posy: A New Friend", and our rhyme of the term is "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." We are learning lots of different animal sounds.

During our carpet times this week, we have been continuing to practise our sitting and listening skills and have introduced our rhyming spoons.



The role-play area this week is a home corner with baby dolls, where the children can look after, dress, and feed the babies.

At the craft and mark-making table, the children have been very busy decorating their initial letters by sticking and gluing different materials onto them, ready to display on our display board.

Outside in the garden, the children have been exploring the mud kitchen, making mud cakes, and enjoying riding around the garden in the large cars.

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Acorns



This week in Acorns, the children have been learning all about what we look like and the different features we have. We used mirrors to look at our faces and talk about our eye colour and hair colour. We then painted plates to put on display.

In Maths, we have been looking at the numbers 1 and 2. We have been singing lots of number songs and looking at ways we can show 2 on our fingers. The children have also enjoyed working together to complete number puzzles.

In PE, we have been learning how to move around the hall safely. We make sure we use our eyes to look where we are travelling and listen carefully for the signal to stop. We have practised hopping, jogging and skipping around the hall.

The children were very good during their school photos. Afterwards, we put on our puddle suits and headed outdoors for our outdoor learning session. This week, we used the mud kitchen to make mud pies, adding flower petals and leaves to decorate our mud cakes.

Beech & Maple (Reception)

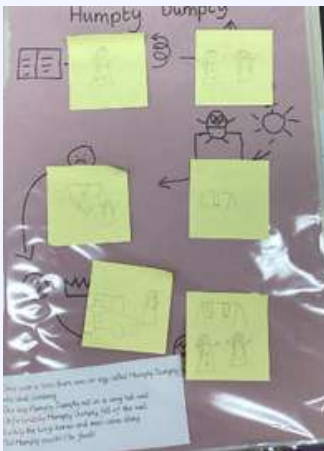


The children have been amazing this week and have coped really well with the full days, changes in routine for photograph day, and outdoor learning.

We have started to learn five-sentence stories in Literacy as part of Talk for Writing. This week, we used the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty as inspiration for a story. We are learning the story by heart, and then we will use the model to change elements of the story to create our own stories. In Phonics, we have started Phase 2 with the sounds s, a, t, and p. We have also been working on our fine motor skills, drawing vertical and horizontal lines on a variety of surfaces and practising posting coins.

In Maths, we have been working on our subitising skills: the ability to recognise small amounts without having to count them. We have played lots of quick-fire games to recognise amounts to 3 rapidly. We have drawn self-portraits using a variety of different media, including pencils, pastels, and paint, carefully observing the different colours on our faces. We have also designed and made our own lolly-stick puppets.

Thank you for uploading photos to Seesaw of your child's favourite book and teddy. The children have enjoyed looking at the different books and teddies, which has prompted lots of discussion. On Seesaw this weekend, there will be an activity inviting you to upload a baby photo of your child so that we can begin talking about the past and how they have changed over time.



Cherry (Year 1)



Another great week for Cherry Class, and it is lovely to see the children feeling more settled and showing more of their personalities while sharing a joke or telling a story from home.

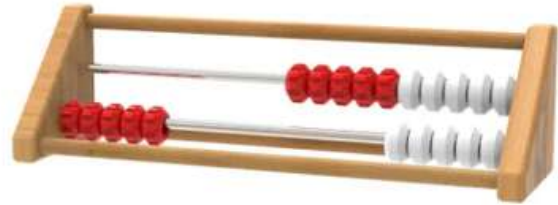
As part of our Toys topic, the children have been writing lists, labels and captions for toys. We have started using a brand-new piece of equipment in Maths, the rekenrek, and the children are doing a great job of understanding how it works. Can they remember what "reds at the ready" means?

In Science, we explored our senses. The children also had a tour of the school while learning to understand what an address is, and it was great that some of them were able to remember their own postcodes.

Our E-safety focus has been all about not sharing personal information. Ask your child if they can remember what personal information means.

In DT, we have been learning about structures, and the children were challenged to build their own walls using Duplo and wooden blocks.

During outdoor learning, we observed our class tree and had a go at some charcoal leaf rubbings.



**Master Reader
Vocabulary -**
Fortress
Quarries
Stonemasons
Carpenters

Hazel (Year 2)



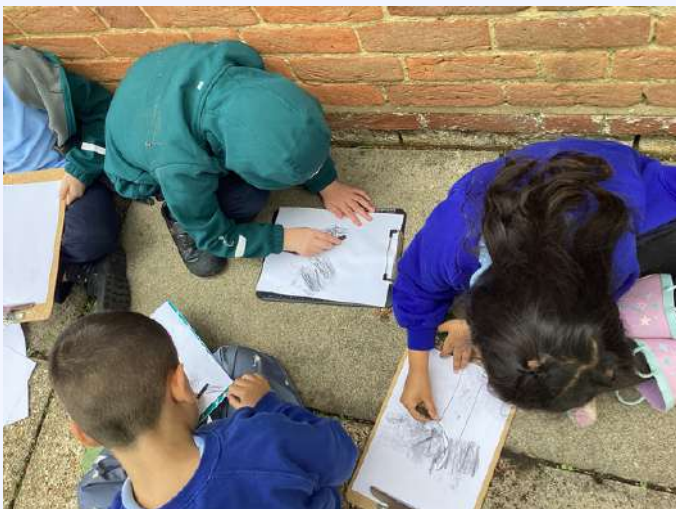
Another fantastic week in Year 2! We have started this Autumn term with so many exciting activities, and it has been lovely to see smiles on everyone's faces.

In English, we have been introduced to a new style of writing. We are learning how to write our own fact files, which is a non-fiction genre. Our model text this week has been about how to become a palaeontologist. This linked to the children's Year 1 learning, where they learnt all about fossils. I was amazed by how well the children could recall the text with actions. We even performed it for Mrs Loupos-Read!

In Maths, we have been recognising numbers from 1 to 20 and exploring their structure of tens and ones. By the end of the week, we were looking at numbers between 1 and 100! We represented these numbers using Dienes equipment and practised partitioning them into tens and ones, both practically and neatly in our books.

In Outdoor Learning this week, we got our hands messy with some charcoal! We created leaf rubbings from our class trees in the playground and pond area. We looked at the similarities and differences between the leaves. I wonder what other leaves you can spot while out and about this weekend?

In Geography, we recapped our learning from last year and looked at an aerial map of the school. We labelled features of the school on the map and discussed other special places. We learnt that everyone can have a different special place and that places can be special for many different reasons.





—— Friday 18th September 2026 ——

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter



Garland Junior School News

I am SO excited to continue the journey of kindness by expanding the Kindness Ambassador School programme to Garland Juniors. The programme has been successfully running within Mrs Blands for a couple of years now and we are ready to get started across the whole Federation with the Kindness programme for 2026/7.

We have spoken to all the children in assembly this week about the role and its responsibilities and they have had an opportunity to sign up (Garland) or speak to their teacher if they wish to be nominated as a Kindness Ambassador (2 pupils per year group). Once they have been selected, they will be immediately set to work with a brainstorming meeting to discuss how we can bring further kindness to the Burghfield Common Federation and the local community. Following this in October we will link with other 'Schools of Kindness' to share ideas..... watch this kind space!

Kind regards

Mrs Clarke - Kindness Ambassador Lead



Week commencing 18 Sep 2026

Class	Attendance %
Chestnut	96.0%
Sycamore	99.0%
Ash	94.8%
Hawthorn	96.9%
Aspen	98.4%
Willow	96.2%
Oak	93.9%

Garland Junior School Awards

Values Certificate

Chestnut - Pixie
Sycamore - Noah
Ash - Hannah
Hawthorn - Lezaal
Aspen - Sheerie
Willow - Rudi
Oak - Reuben

Reading Stars

Chestnut - Rupert
Sycamore - Kaiden
Ash - Amelia
Hawthorn - Anya
Aspen - Max
Willow - Kaylan
Oak - Rufus

WOW Award

Chestnut - Judie
Sycamore - Penny
Ash - Theo
Hawthorn - Taha
Aspen - Holly
Willow - Hanna
Oak - Clara M

Top Doodlers

Chestnut - Charlie
Sycamore - Marley
Ash - Riyan
Hawthorn - Cassidy
Aspen - Daisy
Willow - Alexander
Oak - Molly

PE Star

Salma - 3C

This week's Headteacher Values Award goes to...

Willow J

This award is presented to a pupil who consistently goes above and beyond in demonstrating our school values of kindness, perseverance, teamwork, respect, and good manners.

Chestnut and Sycamore (Year 3)



This week, Year 3 has had a fantastic week full of exciting learning.

In English, we worked together on a shared write, using prepositional phrases, powerful verbs and interesting adverbs to improve our sentences. We have been very impressed by the quality of the children's writing and look forward to seeing their independent writing next week, all about a setting of their choice.

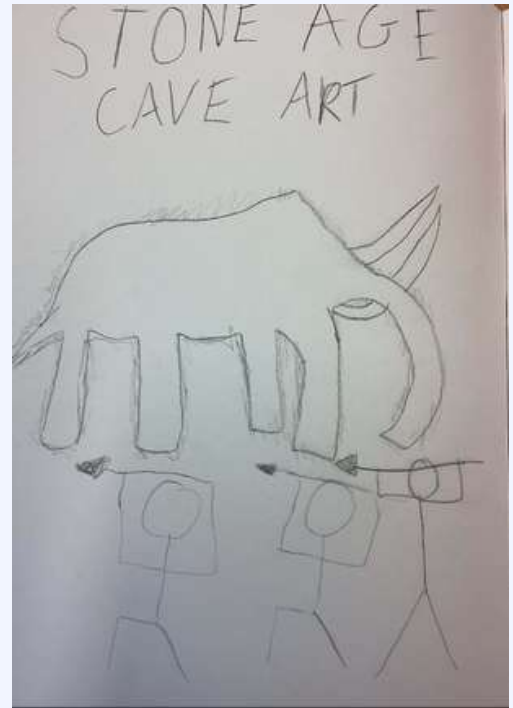
In Maths, we explored hundreds numbers and their value, using Base 10 equipment to partition them into hundreds, tens and ones.

In History, we learned about the Early Stone Age and created beautiful posters to display all our fascinating facts.

In Art, we produced a double-page spread all about cave art and created some amazing charcoal drawings of woolly mammoths, hunters and Stone Age symbols. These might even end up on our WOW walls!

We have also continued to practise our maths skills on Doodle, earning lots of stars between the two classes.

Well done, Year 3, for your hard work and enthusiasm throughout the week!



Master Reader
Vocabulary -
Ice-lacquered
longingly
tunnelled
numb
bowed



Ash & Hawthorn (Year 4/5)



This week, we have been getting creative with poetry! We wrote our own poems all about summer, using rhyming couplets to give our poems a catchy rhythm. We enjoyed experimenting with vocabulary and creating imaginative descriptions of the summer season.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value. We practised partitioning 4-digit numbers in different ways and finding 1, 10 and 100 more or less than a given 4-digit number. We have been working hard to explain our thinking and use our place value knowledge accurately.

In Science, we have been learning how animals can be categorised into different groups. We considered the features animals have and thought carefully about how these can be used to classify them.

In Geography, we have been learning how fold mountains are formed. We used our jumpers and PE kits to model tectonic plates pushing together! This helped us to see how the pressure from the Earth's plates can cause the land to buckle and fold upwards, creating mountains.

Aspen (Year 5)



We've had another busy and enjoyable week!

In English, we began our shared write, creating a setting description based on a jungle and putting our descriptive writing skills into practice. We have also read further into Kensuke's Kingdom during Shared Reading and are thoroughly enjoying discovering what happens to Michael on his adventure.

Our Science learning has been very hands-on this week, as we carried out experiments to investigate different properties of materials, including transparency, magnetism and conductivity. The practical learning continued in DT, where we had lots of fun constructing truss bridges from spaghetti. There was plenty of problem-solving involved as we worked out how to make our structures strong and stable, and we will continue developing our bridges next week.

Tuesday also brought our first Outdoor Learning session of the year. We enjoyed getting outside, playing some games together and reminding ourselves of the rules and routines that will help us make the most of our sessions.

Another fantastic week of learning, teamwork and fun!

**Master Reader
Vocabulary -**
Crescendo
Sparsely
Inquisitive
Shimmering
Raucous
Exhilarated



**Master Reader
Vocabulary -**
recruiting
moustache
thief
mounted
apprehension
regiment

Oak and Willow (Year 6)



It's been another busy and exciting week in Year 6!

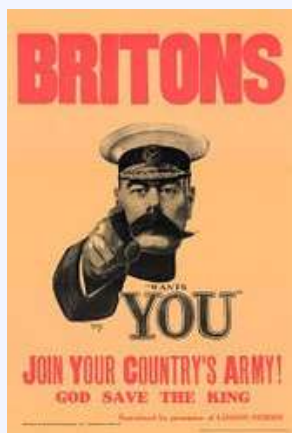
In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value by partitioning, comparing, ordering and rounding numbers. The children have worked hard to explain their reasoning and apply their knowledge to a range of challenges.

In English, we have been writing narratives inspired by The Forbidden Zone, focusing particularly on using dialogue to develop characters and advance the action. The children have produced some imaginative and engaging pieces of writing. In Reading, we have continued exploring War Horse and answering comprehension questions based on the text. There was much disappointment this week when Joey was sold to Captain Nicholls!

In Spelling, pupils have been learning about homophones and investigating words containing the short vowel sound /i/ spelt with the letter y. In History, we explored life on the Home Front during World War One, learning about the important roles women and children played in supporting the war effort. In Science, we have been categorising living things, focusing on the characteristics of vertebrates and invertebrates.

Our PE lessons have included gymnastics, where pupils practised straddle, forward and backward rolls, as well as tag rugby skills and teamwork. In Art, we have been sketching our own impressions of World War One landscapes inspired by the work of Paul Nash. In French, we have continued learning vocabulary and phrases linked to the home, while in RE we have been exploring what different faiths believe. Finally, in PSHE, we learned and practised negotiation skills and considered how to resolve disagreements positively.

Well done, Year 6, for another fantastic week of learning!



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

Dates for your Diary

New dates added in light blue

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 1 st Sep		Staff Inset Day
Wednesday 2 nd Sep		Staff Inset Day
Thursday 3 rd Sep		Autumn Term commences for Y1 -Y6 MBS YR Visit days MBS YN Home visits
Monday 08 th Sep		MBS YR in 8.55am-1.00pm all week
Tuesday 09 th Sep	6:15 pm	PTA AGM and committee meeting @ MBS
Friday 12 th Sep		Flu Vaccinations
Week commencing 14 th Sep		Children to bring in donations for Harvest Festival (will be donated to West Berks Foodbank-details to follow)
Tuesday 29 th Sep		Harvest Assembly
Tuesday 29 th Sep	5:00 - 5:45pm MBS 6:00 - 6:45pm GJS	Meet the Teacher
Monday 06 th Oct to Friday 10 th Oct		GJS Y6 Residential
Tuesday 20 th October	3:30 - 4:30 pm	PTA MBS Halloween Disco
Thursday 22 nd Oct	3:15 - 4:15 LKS2 4:30 - 5:30 UKS2	PTA GJS Halloween Disco
Thursday 22 nd Oct		End of Term 1
Friday 23 rd Oct		Staff Inset Day
Tuesday 03 rd Nov		Term 2 Starts

THE BURGHFIELD COMMON
FEDERATION PTA

PRESENTS

2ND HAND UNIFORM SALE



WEDNESDAY
23RD SEPTEMBER



STRAIGHT AFTER
DROP OFF



AT MRS BLAND'S
SCHOOL
OUTSIDE NURSERY /
BY PTA SHED



Pre-loved uniform.
Brighter futures.



CASH
AND CARD
ACCEPTED

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE PTA



st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others



Welcome 20th September 2026

You are very welcome at our worship. We hope you experience God this morning.
If you are new or visiting we would love to meet you.

	Toilets & Baby Changing facilities are situated in the Parish Centre next to the church
	Please join us for Fairtrade tea or coffee after the service in the Parish Centre
	If you would like private prayer, please go to the chancel during communion or speak to a member of clergy after the service
	If you would like to receive a gluten free wafer, please speak to the person who greeted you at the door or a churchwarden

Sunday 20th September 2026

9am Said Communion Service & via Zoom

Matthew 20.1-16

Click [Here](#) to access Zoom for 9am service. Meeting ID: 851 5308 5763 & Password: 356810 recurring link for Sunday services, for those who would like to join us virtually.

10am Sunday@10 Service – God's Wonderful World

Genesis 1

Prayer for the day

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for the harvest, may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Dates for your diary

Fri 18th Sept 6.30-8pm Youth Club in the Parish Centre

Sunday 20th Sept 9am Said Communion Service & via Zoom

10am Sunday@10 All Age Service

21st September – 4th October – FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Mon 21st Sept No Morning Prayer in Church

9.30 – 11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church

Tues 22nd Sept 3.30pm Interment of Ashes, RIP Susan Pearce

Wed 23rd Sept 9.30am Ecumenical Service held at Burghfield Methodist Church

12.30pm Cremation Service at West Berkshire Crematorium,

RIP Barbara Lock

2.30pm Interment of Ashes, RIP Simon Tasker

Thurs 24th Sept 2-5pm Whist Drive held in Church

Fri 25th – Tues 13th October – Parish Administrator on annual leave.

Sunday 27th Sept **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

10am Parish Communion Service & via Zoom

12-3pm Harvest Lunch held in the Parish Centre

Mon 28th Sept No Morning Prayer in Church

9.30 – 11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church

Fri 2nd Oct 6.30 - 8.45pm Family Film Night, see notices

Sat 3rd Oct **I am - 4pm Eco Festival**

Sunday 4th Oct Fairtrade Service with Communion in Church & via Zoom

Mon 5th Oct 8am Morning Prayer in Church

9.30 – 11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church

We at St Mary's now offer an online donation page! If you would like to donate, please click on the link: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/77b371b3-68f6-4729-a808-8fd58d9c589f> Donations to St Mary's Church can also be made via the QR code. Thank you for supporting our ministry and mission



20th September 2026 - Please Pray For

Tarragon Way, Pembroke Close, Hermits Close, Sorrel Close.

Our coffee makers and all who cater for fellowship events.

Action to reduce international debt and trade injustice.

Pray for those that have died recently –Barbara Lock

Years Mind –DorothyJoyceWatkins&JohnPenman

Notices

EcoFestival, Saturday 3rd October 11am - 4pm

Not long now until our 2026 Eco Festival. Planning began months ago and we are pleased with the talks and stalls we have joining us.

Keep an eye on our website & Facebook page in the coming weeks for updates on what you can expect to see and get involved with during the day.

We also have a Film Night taking place the night before on Friday 3rd October, tickets for this will be available soon.

Eco Festival Tombola

We are hoping to run a Tombola at the Eco Festival in October and we are asking for contributions of **Fair Trade** products such as Tea, Coffee, Wine, Preserves etc. and Eco-friendly cleaning products such as Ecover products, laundry sheets, bamboo alternative products etc and maybe a few treats too. If you have anything suitable to donate please pop it into Church when you are able to. Many Thanks.



Youth Club, Friday 18th September 6.30-8pm

Youth Club is open to all children in school years 6, 7, 8 & 9 that attend any school. Lots of fun activities and games to get involved with so tell your friends and bring them along to see what we get up to once a month in the Parish Centre.

Eco Church Prayer Forum, 24th September

Prayer together as an Eco Church Community. Join us online on Thursday 24th Sept from 12-1pm for an hour of encouragement, reflection and prayer with the Eco Church community. Led by the A Rocha UK churches team, we'll begin with a short reflection before moving into smaller breakout groups to pray together.

It's a chance to meet others from across the Eco Church community, share stories, pray for one another, and for the work of caring for creation in our Churches.

You're welcome to bring along any prayer requests from your Church's Eco Church journey. We'll share some prayer points to help guide your prayers, too. Everyone is welcome to join in. Please register through Eventbrite to receive the Zoom joining details. The link will be emailed 2 days before the morning of the event.

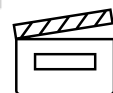
To register click this link **Book your place** →

Family Film Night, Friday 2nd October

Our next Film Night is just around the corner and FREE tickets can be reserved via the link below. This event is open to all children over the age of 6 years.

Refreshments are served during the evening.

<https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/NTEzMC0xNg/t>



Fundraising

WhistDrive, Thursday 24th Sept 2-5pm

Join us for a friendly game of cards, this month's group is taking place in Church. Refreshments served during the afternoon.

Any queries please contact Anne Pocock at fundraising@stmarysburghfield.org

Harvest Lunch, 27th September

We are looking forward to celebrating Harvest and getting together for a lovely lunch and good company on 27 September 12-3pm.

Please let Anne P or any of the fundraising team know if you would like to reserve your place. Tickets are £20 per person.

A bar will be available on the day.

Autumn Craft Evening, Friday 9th October

Join us for another fun and creative evening. Try out some new crafts in a welcoming and friendly environment.

Tickets are £15 which includes all materials required.

Email fundraising@stmarysburghfield.org to book your tickets.



Contact Information

Rector – Revd Glynn Lautenbach

07979 151598 or email: rector@stmarysburghfield.org

Parish Administrator, Tuesday - Friday, 8.45am - 12.45pm
Office & Homebased.

If you need a face-to-face meeting please email or call to arrange a date & time.

Office Mobile – 07979 871608

Email: admin@stmarysburghfield.org

To contact the **Church Wardens**:

Alison Eves – email alison.eves@stmarysburghfield.org

Michael Wood – email mike.wood@stmarysburghfield.org

Website: stmarysburghfield.org

Find us on Facebook too! Photos and news of upcoming and recent events on our page "St Mary's Church Burghfield"

Address: Church Lane, Burghfield Village, Reading,
Berkshire, RG30 3TG

The PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield is a registered charity No.
1167639