



—— Friday 25th September 2026 ——

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers.

Harvest Festival

The children have been busy creating Harvest artwork, learning poems and songs in preparation for our Harvest Festival next Tuesday (29.09.26). Each class will be performing to their peers. There is still time to bring donations in for our displays which will be donated to Trussell Food Bank in west Berkshire.

Meet the Teacher

Mrs Bland's - YR-Y2 5:00pm-5:45pm

Garland - Y3-Y6 6:00-6:45pm

There will be a presentation in your child's class on the curriculum teaching and end of year expectations followed by a short conversation with the teacher to see how your child has settled in to their new class.

A Parent mail is being sent out for you to RSVP

We will also be collecting parental consents on the evening.



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 25th September 2026

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter



Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery News



Dates for your diary

From 14th -29th Sept
Harvest donations

Tues 29th Sept
Meet the Teacher
Evening



DT structures – can the wall withstand the teddy



Week commencing 25 Sep 2026

Class	Attendance %
Beech	95.5%
Maple	90.6%
Cherry	96.3%
Hazel	95.2%

Mrs Bland's School Stars

Acorns - Zoha
Beech - Jacob
Maple - Violet
Cherry - Josie
Hazel - Jovan

Star of the Week

Acorns - Amalia
Beech - Maizy-Beatrice
Maple - Jessica
Cherry - Teodor K
Hazel - Aida

Friendship Star

Acorns - Evie
Beech - Musa
Maple - Effy
Cherry - Marley
Hazel - Lilly

Playtime Star

Little Acorns



This term in Little Acorns, our topic is 'Can I Have a Dog Yet?' Our story of the week is Pets, and our rhyme of the term is Old MacDonald Had a Farm.

During our carpet times this week, we have been learning our numbers and talking about our pets, as well as discussing what pets we would like to have. It would be lovely if you have any pictures of your pets that the children can bring in or share on Seesaw for us to look at and discuss during our group times.

The role-play area this week is a veterinary surgery, and the children have really enjoyed pretending to be vets, looking after and caring for a variety of different animals. At the craft and mark-making table, the children have been choosing their favourite animals to colour, and we have also been having a go at drawing self-portraits to be displayed on our topic board.

Outside in the garden, the children have been exploring the water tray with the frogs and singing 'Five Little Speckled Frogs'. They have also been making homes for animals using a range of natural materials, showing great creativity and imagination.

We have had a wonderful week and are looking forward to more exciting learning next week!



Acorns



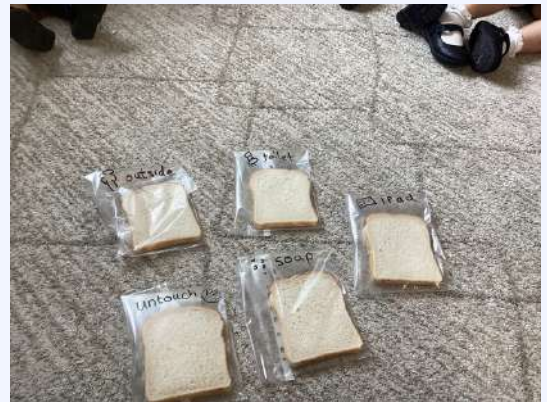
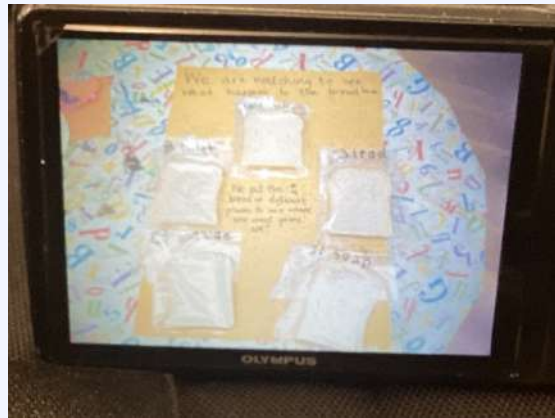
This week in Acorns, we have been reading the story, *My Family, Your Family*. We have been talking about who lives in our house and what our homes look like. To build on this learning, could you please upload a picture of your house to Seesaw for us to look at next week during our literacy sessions?

We have also been talking about what makes us special and celebrating the differences between us. This week, we have been learning about our school values. We discussed each value and talked about how we can demonstrate them in Nursery. Lots of children earned stickers this week for showing perseverance when things were tricky. We were very proud of them!

During Outdoor Learning, we learned about the season of autumn and explored the signs of autumn we can see around us. We then collected sticks to make nests for birds. The children worked together in groups to build their nests and afterwards shared their creations with the class, explaining how they had made them and describing their shape.

In Science, we have been learning about germs and discussing how small they are. Last week, we saw how germs (represented by glitter) would not stay on our soapy fingers. This week, we have set up an experiment to demonstrate the importance of washing our hands and keeping our equipment clean. Keep an eye on Seesaw to see what happens next, and ask your child to explain what we did and what we discovered!

We have had another busy and exciting week in Acorns and look forward to sharing more of our learning with you next week.



Beech & Maple (Reception)



This week in Reception, we have been busy preparing for upcoming festivals. We created some amazing Christmas artwork for our PTA cards and are learning a poem and song for the Harvest Festival Assembly next week.

In Maths, we have been helping our class puppet to count accurately, making sure we line up the objects and say one number for each item. We have also continued working on our subitising skills, rapidly recognising quantities up to 4.

In Phonics, we have added the sounds 'i', 'n', 'm' and 'd', along with the tricky words 'a' and 'l'. We have also been playing lots of games to help us hear the sounds within words and recognise the sounds we can hear at the beginning of words. To develop our writing skills, we have been drawing rainbows and circles and practising isolating individual fingers to strengthen our fine motor skills.

We read books about the importance of brushing our teeth and used giant teeth and toothbrushes to practise how to brush them correctly. In our doctor's surgery role-play area, we also enjoyed acting out the roles of doctor and patient.

Thank you for uploading photos of your child as a baby. The children have loved trying to work out who was who and thinking about how much they have changed. On Seesaw this weekend, there will be an activity to upload a family photo so that we can begin talking about the people who are special to us.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Cherry (Year 1)



Another fun-filled week in the land of Cherry!

This week, we explored the story mountain and wrote a three-part story. We are using a story map to help us with this. Using our new Maths fluency programme, we looked at numbers to 10 that contain 5 as a part and a bit more. Part of this was using Numberblocks Series 3, Episode 13: Five and Friends. The children might want to practise this at home.

Harvest Assembly preparations are well underway. The cress has been planted, and we are rehearsing our song, naturally using a text map again! Our Music assemblies are also filled with fun Harvest songs. Are they humming the Paintbox song, Cauliflowers Fluffy, at home yet?

In addition to planting our egg-cress in Outdoor Learning, there was a lot of imagination on display. The children enjoyed using gym movements to slide along the ground with the tubes, brewing potions, and making music with kitchenware. The delightful sounds and creativity were wonderful to observe.

Science was the winner this week! We explored taste using different flavoured popcorn and lemons. Can the children tell you about all four tastes they explored?

In Art, the children used their pointillism skills to design and create the annual Christmas cards, which will be coming home very soon, ready to be ordered!

What's cooking in Outdoor Learning!



Cress has been planted for Harvest assembly



Master Reader Vocabulary -

Cesspit
Privies
Cauldrons
Siege



Hazel (Year 2)



Well done, Year 2! What a lovely week we have all had!

In English, we continued our topic on fact files and wrote our model text about palaeontologists. We all worked really hard, and everyone did a great job remembering their neat handwriting, capital letters and full stops.

In Maths, we have been learning about partitioning, which is a key word the children have been exploring. Can they tell you what partitioning means? We have been partitioning numbers into tens and ones and representing them using Dienes equipment, as well as drawing part-whole models.

In PE with Danny this week, we continued developing our basketball skills, learning how to defend the ball and move around safely.

In History, we learned all about Queen Matilda. We discovered that she was not particularly well liked and that she did not remain on the throne for very long. Year 2 had great fun acting out some key moments from her life.

In PSHE, we learned all about emotions. We shared some lovely reminders about how we are all unique and how being different makes us special.

Well done, Year 2, for another fantastic week of learning. Keep up the great work!



Friday 25th September 2026

Burghfield Common Federation

Newsletter



Garland Junior School News



Dates for your diary

From 14th -29th Sept
Harvest donations

Tues 29th Sept
Meet the Teacher
Evening

Week commencing 25 Sep 2026



Paul Nash, We Are Making A New World (1918). Imperial War Museum, London.

Class	Attendance %
Chestnut	97.6%
Sycamore	99.0%
Ash	89.3%
Hawthorn	92.4%
Aspen	100%
Willow	97.6%
Oak	87.8%

Garland Junior School Awards

Values Certificate

Chestnut - Mia W
Sycamore - Flavia
Ash - Molly
Hawthorn - Immy
Aspen - Louie
Willow - Noah
Oak - Chloe

Reading Stars

Chestnut - Sophie
Sycamore - Annabelle
Ash - Rosella
Hawthorn - Cassidy
Aspen - Aneesa
Willow - Leo
Oak - Abigail

Music Star

George - 3S

Music Star

For
Last week
Imogen - 5A

WOW Award

Chestnut - Georgie
Sycamore - Matthew
Ash - Nate
Hawthorn - Freddie
Aspen - Zaneer
Willow - Yousuf
Oak - Amelie

Top Doodlers

Chestnut - Austin
Sycamore - Anabiya
Ash - Youssef
Hawthorn - George
Aspen - Jahniah
Willow - Jack
Oak - Meleka

PE Star

Indianna - 6W

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

Yousuf H

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, we have had an amazing time in Year 3!

In English, we worked independently on writing a setting description and used everything from our writing toolkit to make our work exciting and engaging. The children impressed us with their wonderful vocabulary, including words such as emerging, lurking and swiftly.

In Maths, we learned about flexible partitioning and explored finding 1, 10 and 100 more and less, using practical equipment to help support our understanding. We have been particularly impressed with the children's mathematical language and their ability to explain their thinking.

In Art, we continued our cave art sketches, and they are looking fantastic. We also enjoyed learning our autumn poem, which we are excited to perform in the Harvest Assembly next week. We've had great fun creating an autumn-themed piece of artwork using watercolours and doodles!

Finally, a reminder that Outdoor Learning will take place on Monday 28th.

Well done, Year 3, for another fantastic week of learning. Keep up the hard work!



Master Reader Vocabulary -

weary
fate
hypnotic
ghastly
chasm
shrill

Ash & Hawthorn (Year 4/5)



It has been another busy and exciting week! In Maths, we have been working with number lines up to 10,000, including estimating where numbers belong.

In English, we wrote our own rhyming poems about winter, inspired by the book we are currently reading, Ice Palace.

In Geography, we learnt how volcanic mountains are formed over many years and explored the processes that take place beneath the Earth's surface.

On Friday, we enjoyed our first outdoor learning session, where we played games to help us remember the outdoor learning rules and how to stay safe.

In Music, we learnt some simple sign language to accompany our Harvest song.

In Art, we continued developing our pointillism skills by experimenting with mixing colours to create different effects. It has been a fantastic week of learning and exploring!



Aspen (Year 5)



This week, we have thoroughly enjoyed completing our independent setting descriptions of Kensuke's Island. The writing has been outstanding, and everyone should be incredibly proud of their efforts to include all the skills we have mastered over the past three weeks. It has been wonderful to see how much the children's writing has developed!

We have also reached a very exciting part in our shared reading of Kensuke's Kingdom. Michael has met someone! We have made predictions about who we think this mysterious person might be and what could happen next. Will our predictions be right?

In Maths, we have been consolidating our understanding of comparing, ordering and rounding numbers up to 1,000,000. The children have worked hard to apply their place value knowledge to increasingly challenging questions. During PSHE, we thought about the qualities that make a good friend and reflected on the positive qualities that we each bring to our own friendships.

In Computing, we have begun creating quizzes based on a specific theme. We have enjoyed starting to put our ideas into practice and are looking forward to developing our own quizzes over the coming weeks.

In DT, we completed our spaghetti truss bridges. This certainly required lots of patience and resilience as we worked carefully to strengthen our structures and overcome problems along the way. The children persevered brilliantly and produced some outstanding results, as you can see from the pictures!

In PE, we enjoyed learning different types of rolls and combining these with balances to create sequences. On Wednesday, we continued developing our rugby skills and enjoyed putting these into practice.

Well done, Year 5, for another fantastic week of learning. We are incredibly proud of all your hard work and determination!

**Master Reader
Vocabulary -**
Tantalisingly
Beacon
Inexorably
Vestige
Cache
Inferno



**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 practising negative numbers, using formal methods to add and subtract, and identifying multiples and common multiples.

In English, the children have completed their independent writing based on a short video, focusing particularly on figurative language and effective dialogue. We have also been learning words containing the long vowel sound /igh/ spelt 'y' and exploring the prefix 'in-'.

In Reading, we have continued our class book, War Horse, exploring Joey's first experiences of war and discussing how Michael Morpurgo's choice of language impacts the reader.

Our History learning has taken us through the key events of World War I as we created a timeline, including Britain entering the war, the first use of gas weapons and the signing of the Armistice. In Science, we classified flowering and non-flowering plants using tables and flow diagrams.

We have continued developing our gymnastics skills in PE, working on controlled balances individually and in pairs. In Art, we began adding pastel colours to our Paul Nash-inspired World War I landscapes.

In RE, we explored Christian beliefs surrounding Jesus' resurrection and life after death, which led to some interesting class discussions and debate. For Extended Learning, we explored the Isle of Wight and began finding out more about our upcoming residential trip.

Finally, as part of our Harvest celebrations, we learned John Clare's poem Autumn and created colourful pastel artwork inspired by its themes and imagery.

Well done, Year 6, for another fantastic week of learning. We are very proud of all your hard work and enthusiasm!



**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

Please note that these dates may be subject to change. If any changes were to be made, we would endeavour to give you as much notice as possible

Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 600 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Tinned veg

Pasta Sauce

UHT Milk

Coffee

Cereal

Tinned tomatoes

Sugar

Sponge puds

Toilet roll

Shower gel

westberks.foodbank.org.uk

Registered charity in England: 1151996





**THE BURGHFIELD COMMON
FEDERATION PTA**

**EARLY YEARS
FOUNDATION STAGE
CAKE SALE**



**AT MRS BLANDS
NURSERY ENTRANCE**

**FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER
3.25PM**

**THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING THE PTA**

st Mary's Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

ECO FESTIVAL



Promoting Care for our Planet

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2026



**Bee
Keeping**

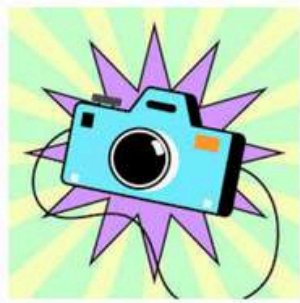
11-4PM



Solar Panels

**Talks, Stalls, Displays,
Children's Activities &
Refreshments
throughout the day.**

**Go to our website or Facebook
page - St Mary's Burghfield
to find out more.**



st Mary's Burghfield
Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others



Photo Competition

"Energy"

To run alongside our

EC FESTIVAL

[3rd October, 11am - 4pm]

Please send us your favourite photo that you have for the theme "ENERGY".

Open to all ages,
so let's see your wonderful photos.

Come and see all the entries displayed on screen during the festival.



Please send them through to
ecophotocompetition@stmarysburghfield.org

Autumn CRAFT EVENING

Friday 9th October, 7–9pm

Come along and enjoy some crafting
with like minded people, learning new
crafts and having fun whilst doing it.

Tickets are £15 per person which
includes all materials and refreshments



Reserve your places via

fundraising @ stmarysburghfield.org

