

Thomas Bullock CE Primary Academy

NEWSLETTER

6th February 2019

Achieve good Health, and Well Being Embrace Cultural Diversity
Engage with the Arts Care for the Environment

Dear Families



Thomas Bullock Primary



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Rewards at Thomas Bullock Primary

Rewards play an important part in helping a child to progress. However, we have to take care to ensure that our reward systems send out the right message to all children so that all children develop a willingness and desire to learn. Because of this we reward mainly for two reasons;

- 1 - Effort... if a child is working their very hardest to complete their tasks, to listen, to achieve their personal best, to help others and to improve their personal best then they will be rewarded. This is the most common reason for a child being rewarded.
- 2 - School Values... if a child demonstrates the school's values to a very high degree they could be rewarded.

We rarely reward children for producing the best work in the class, even less so if they are already one of the highest achievers. However, we do reward those high achievers regularly as they are often the children who make the very highest effort to achieve their personal best.

We do not reward children for 'normal' efforts and behaviours. For example, if a child completes a given task to the expected standard on time and we know that they are capable of doing so, they are unlikely to be rewarded as this is simply expected and normal. If a child is behaving well they are unlikely to be reward as this is simply a normal everyday expectation of all children and adults.

It is important to recognise the children who make the most effort, no matter what standard they achieve. This encourages them to continue to try their hardest to improve and continue to learn as fast as they can.

To sum up, rewards are provided for those that go beyond their normal standard.

Reminders....

PARKING - As we have requested many times before parents are NOT allowed to park in the school carpark at the beginning and end of the school day. Despite our requests we have noticed a significant increase of parking problems and parents ignoring this request. The Governors will be monitoring this closely over the coming weeks as it is compromising the safety of pupils and adults.

SICKNESS - If your child is going to be off school due to illness or in late because of a medical appointment, please make sure you phone the school by 9.15am otherwise the absence will be unauthorised.

EDP & Lego Education

We have registered with the EDP to collect tokens in exchange for Lego. Tokens appear daily in the newspaper from 9th February to 3rd May. Just by collecting a 1000 tokens we will receive £50 worth of Lego. Please drop off your tokens to the school office. Thank you !

What's happening...

CHRISTMAS MARKET STALLS

On the last day of term each class ran its' own Market Stall selling Christmas products the children had made. The event was well supported by families and friends and it made a lovely end to the term. All the money has now been donated to the charities chosen by each class as follows:

Ark Class and Oceania Class together raised £50 and have sponsored 5 animals with PACT a local animal charity - An alpaca, a chihuahua, a horse, a cat and rescued wildlife.

Asia Class raised £40 which has been donated to the local branch of Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Africa Class raised £82 for Grassroots to continue supporting our sponsored child in Tanzania.

South America Class raised £84 which has been donated to the Rainforest Trust.

Europe Class and North America Class together raised £232 which has been donated to Cancer Research UK.



PE EVENTS

During January 12 children from years 1 and 2 took part in a Sportshall Athletics Festival at Easton Tennis Centre where they had the chance to try out different athletic activities.

There are several events coming up over the next couple of months, Gymnastics and Rugby festivals and a Cross Country competition for KS1 and a Hi Five Netball competition for years 5 and 6.



RAISING ASPIRATIONS IN YEAR 6

The children in year 6 travelled to Mundford Primary at the end of January to take part in the first part of a project with two other schools designed to raise their aspirations. They were in mixed teams and participated in a range of maths and spelling challenges. Later in the term they will be taking part at the other school where there will be different challenges. Finally, in the summer term the schools will visit here to take part in a range of sporting activities.

Year 3 Trip to Norwich Cathedral and Dereham Road Mosque

Year 3 had a fantastic day heading to Norwich for an RE day learning about religious buildings. The day was organised by the learning department of the Anglian Cathedral in Norwich. The children were able to explore both faiths and see the contribution that meeting together makes to faith and learning about similarities and differences between Christian and Muslim worship. Revd. Gill Wells accompanied the class and thoroughly enjoyed her day commenting how impressed she was with the children and the knowledge shown.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The following children have been chosen to represent their class on the school council this term:

Ark Class (R) Leila and Tom

Oceania Class (1) – Dolcie and Noah

Asia Class (2) – Olivia and Archie

Africa Class (3) – Chloe and Edward

South America (4) – Layla and Charlie

Europe (5) – Sophie and Lewis

North America (6) – Lottie and Tom

This term the School Council are working on how we can all look at being more eco friendly in three environmental areas.

SCHOOL CHOIR AT THE O2 Arena - Young Voices Choir 2019

For the past 20 years, Young Voices has staged the largest children's choir concerts in the world inspiring children to discover their love for music and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

On the last day of January 23 members of the school choir travelled to London to perform in one of the UK's biggest arenas The O2. This is the second year we have taken the choir to perform at this concert and once again it didn't disappoint. Several parents also joined us on the coach and some by car to be part of the audience later in the day. Arriving in time for lunch and parents going their own way for the afternoon the children were soon high up in the O2 rehearsing for the evening's performance. At 7pm the arena went dark and the concert begun. Nothing can prepare you for the sound of thousands of children singing together, it was truly amazing. There was a full 7 piece live band made up from some of the UK's leading musicians, backing singers and the internationally acclaimed conductor David Lawrence. There were performances from Sharlene Hector the lead vocalist with Basement Jaxx, Beau Dermott a Britain's Got Talent finalist in 2016 and Tony Hadley! The children completely wowed us throughout the whole evening, the atmosphere was electric from beginning to end. The children were completely engaged in dancing and swaying with their hand-held torches working together as one choir, one team and one young voice. The parents too had an amazing time absolutely loving singing along with Tony Hadley...True!! The project also raised money for the charity Teenage Cancer Trust.

A massive thank you to the Thomas Bullock Trust for paying the cost of the coach, such an amazing opportunity really wouldn't be possible without their generous support. Finally, one last message to the O2 arena and Young Voices ... 'we'll be back again next year for sure!'



CHOIR RUNS EVERY TUESDAY

3.15-4.00pm ♦ NO CHARGE ♦ NEW

Ark and Oceania Classes' visit from Norwich Puppet Theatre



This half term Reception and Year 1 have been learning about Fairy Tales. At the start of the term they had a visit from Norwich Puppet Theatre who performed the story Thumbelina. The children enjoyed watching the show and got to see how each puppet had been made and how to use them at the end of the show.

The children then continued their learning back in the classrooms where they made their own Thumbelina peg doll, pop up flower and minibeast puppet.



UPCOMING EVENTS

World Book Day Thursday 7th March

To celebrate World Book Day children can come to school dressed as their favourite book characters. The kitchen will also be providing a special lunch and further details will be provided shortly.

Red Nose Day Friday 15th March

For a donation towards Red Nose Day children can come to school dressed in something red. Let's see if we can raise lots for this extremely popular and worthwhile cause.

SCHOOL MENU

The current menu will be continuing when we return after half term. We will return on week 3 and continue through the weeks until we break up for Easter after which a new menu will come into effect.



**THANK YOU FOSS FOR OUR 5 NEW OUTDOOR BENCHES!!
IT'S GREAT TO HAVE MORE SEATING OUTSIDE—THE CHILDREN ARE
LOVING THEM**



OUR GOVERNING BODY

Our Governing Body and their responsibilities are as follows:

Acting Chair of Governors - Vicki Parfitt (Special Educational Needs, Looked After Children, Pupil Premium & Sports Premium Funding)

Vice Chair - Dee Jackson (Chair of Resources Committee, Health & Safety & Safeguarding)

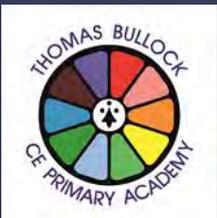
Parent Governor - Olha Robinson

Trust Appointed Governor - Dave Kent (Chair of Standards & Curriculum Committee, Thomas Bullock Trust Representative & Website)

School Governor - Aaron Hall

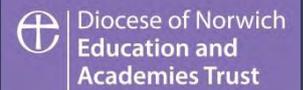
Trust Appointed Governor - Revd Gill Wells (Chair of Ethos & Community Committee, English as an Additional Language)

Although individually the Governors have their own responsibilities their focus is to work as a team, ensuring the school provides a good quality of education for all pupils. They work in partnership with the Headteacher supporting his work and that of other staff. The Governors' role is to provide strategic management, whereas the Headteacher is responsible for the day to day management of the school. As well as holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance, the Governors oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its' money is well spent.



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary Academy

Engage, Embrace, Care, Achieve



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019

Pound Green Lane, Shipdham, Norfolk, IP25 7LF • T: 01362 820300 • E: office@thomasbullock.dneat.org • W: www.thomasbullock.dneat.org

Spring Term

18th February – 22nd February inclusive – Half Term

26 th February	Yr 1 'Step On It' Road Safety Training Yr R – 'Benjamin & Bethany Bear' Road Safety Training
5 th March	KS1 Rugby Competition
7 th March	World Book Day
13 th March	Whole School Music Day Level 1 Cycling Year 4
14 th March	Yr 5 Playground Leadership Training
15 th March	Red Nose Day
19 th March	Yr 2 Gressenhall
20 th March	Yr 4 Cathedral
21 st March	Level 1 Cycling Year 4
22 nd March	Year 3 Norwich Castle Egyptian Day
25 th March	School Photographer – Class Photos
28 th & 29 th March	FOSS Lunchtime Mothers' Day Shop
2 nd & 3 rd April	Parents' Evening
5 th April	Easter Service at All Saints Church 2pm

8th April – 22nd April inclusive – Easter Holiday

Summer Term

26 th April	Yrs 5 & 6 London Trip
30 th April	Yr 3/4 Mini Tennis Competition
6th May – Bank Holiday	
7 th , 9 th , 13 th & 15 th May	Year 5 Level 2 Cycling
13 th – 17 th May	Year 6 SAT's week
27th May – 31st May inclusive – Half Term	
4 th June	Yr 3 Walsingham Trip Yrs 5/6 Girls Kwik Cricket Competition
8 th June	Community Yard Sale
13 th June	Yr R School Nurse - Height/Weight & Vision/Hearing
14 th June	Sports Day
18 th June	Triad Sports Competition
19 th June	Thomas Bullock Service at All Saints Church
13 th & 14 th June	FOSS Lunchtime Fathers' Day Shop
21 st June	Yr 6 'Big Sing'
24 th – 28 th June	Years 5 & 6 Adventure Week
27 th June	Yr 3 Norfolk Show
1 st July	Year 6 Road Safety 'Going Places' Year 4 'Seatbelt Safety'
6 th July	FOSS Summer Fete
9 th July	Yr R Tennis Festival at Easton
11 th July	End of Year Performance (Yrs 6, 5, 4 & 3)
12 th July	End of Year Performance (Yrs 6, 5, 4 & 3)
12 th July	Reserve Sports Day
17 th July	Leavers' and Awards Service at All Saints Church 10am Yr 6 informal Leavers' Assembly at School 1.30pm

25th July – 3rd September inclusive Summer Holiday (Back to School 4th September)

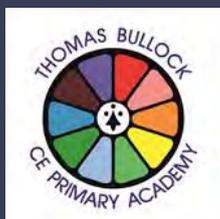
Dates correct as at 8th February 2019

Parental support for children at home

Every half term the senior leaders meet with every class teacher to discuss the progress of all children. Over the past year a particular pattern has emerged; children who make the most effort to complete home learning almost always improve faster and reach the highest standards.

We only have your children in lessons for 4 hours 45 minutes per day and for about 198 school days per year. This means that there is a limit as to what your child will achieve in school... there simply is not enough time! Therefore it is essential that they complete home learning every day so here are my top tips that might help your child achieve their very best and improve even faster...

1. **Read every day**, even if for only 5 minutes. You don't have to listen to them, especially if they are a free reader.
2. If you listen to you child read **ask them questions about the book** that start with **Why?**
3. **Time tables - they should know all of them by the end of year 4.** Children who do not achieve this will find year 5 and 6 maths very challenging! Ask your child to write the same times table down every night and mark it themselves. If they time themselves they can try to beat their score and time the next night. In two weeks they will have learnt it. If they keep going they should be able to learn all of the tables in 1 year!
4. Dedicated space for home learning that is **quiet and free of distractions.** However, some children enjoy working with music playing in the background - ask them where they would be comfortable to work.
5. Rewards - **provide a small reward...** if you do your home learning every night you will get... This is even more powerful if they can choose the reward. I have heard rewards ranging from time to watch a favourite movie to serving up a favourite meal.
6. Timetable - **create a routine by writing a timetable** that slots their home learning around other activities. For example, if your child has a favourite TV programme on a Friday night then set 15 minutes aside to do home learning when it doesn't clash with the TV programme. Putting home learning before a favourite activity can be quite motivational... 'finish your home learning then you can watch...'
7. **Talk about learning not doing.** When they come out of school ask them what they have learnt today, not what they have done. By keeping the conversation focussed on learning you create a culture of learning and an understanding and possible desire to learn.
8. **Mistakes are the best way of learning;** allow your child to make mistakes as this is a powerful and normal way to learn. Do not ask for perfection but step back and allow them to be as independent as possible and if you see a mistake coming... let it happen. Then chat about the mistake so they learn. They can then have another go, correct the mistake and improve.
9. **Time limit** - set a time limit and then tell them to stop. They work so hard at school that they need time to be a child out of school. The older they get the more time they should spend on home learning rising to about 30 mounts for year 6 children.
10. **Growth mindset..** if your child does not succeed them remind them of the **power of YET.** They haven't succeeded YET... they will succeed.



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Headteacher: Mr Paul Madsen



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Results of Parent Survey carried out in November 2018

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My child is happy at school	66%	28%	3%	3%	
My child feels safe at school	72%	23%	-	5%	
My child makes good progress at this school	55%	34%	8%	3%	
My child is well looked after at this school	60%	31%	7%	2%	
My child is taught well at this school	62%	30%	6%	2%	
My child receives the appropriate amount of homework for their age	47%	36%	14%	3%	
The school ensures that the children are well behaved	52%	33%	9%	4%	2%
The school deals effectively with bullying	36%	38%	18%	7%	1%
The school is well led and managed	43%	41%	6%	5%	5%
The school responds well to any concerns I raise	52%	23%	17%	5%	3%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	42%	39%	11%	8%	
I understand the role and responsibilities of the Governing Body and DNEAT	27%	41%	22%	7%	3%
I know how to contact the Governing Body if needed	35%	43%	9%	11%	2%
Would you recommend this school to another parent	55%	31%	6%	5%	3%

A total of 64 (33%) surveys were returned.

Summary of Comments

There were several very positive and nice comments about the school and the education and opportunities their children receive.

There were a couple of negative comments about poor communication and also about a situation which could have been handled better. These views have been addressed.