



Thomas Bullock CE Primary Academy

# NEWSLETTER

7th June 2019

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

Dear Families



## SATs Tests

A special well done to all the children in Year 6 for their mature and focussed approach to the recent SATs tests. You really kept calm under pressure, I am sure that this will have helped you to do your very best. The papers have all been despatched for external marking and we will await the results.

A mention also to the Year 2 children who have also had SATs tests recently. These are marked internally and the Year 2 teachers will feedback to you as part of your child's annual report.

## Cycle Safety

I have been especially pleased to see children at our academy learning to ride their bikes safely under the guidance of the Norfolk County Council's Road Safety Officer. Having had a nasty cycling accident a couple of years back where my helmet saved my head from injury can I urge you all to wear a helmet when you are riding your bikes? Also make sure that you lock your bike securely to keep it safe. Cycling is an excellent, environmentally friendly way to travel to school.

## E safety

The online world is a complex one. Keeping children safe is a difficult responsibility for schools and families. At school online access is carefully supervised. Filtering arrangements mean that language triggers the filter and prevents children from accessing unsuitable materials. Knowing what your child is doing online is the most effective way to keep them safe. Can I encourage you to supervise your child's online activity carefully to help keep them safe?

## End of Year Concert for KS2

I have decided that we will not be holding an end of year concert for KS2 children this year. I know this may disappoint some of you. As you will see from the calendar there are lots of things happening in school between now and the end of term. I am confident that the children will have a rich variety of experiences before the summer break. There will be an opportunity for the children in Year 6 to perform for their families in the Leavers Assembly.

## Friends of Shipdham School

A special mention to FOSS – our friends group who do so much to raise funds and provide support for our school. Having worked in many schools I can honestly say that FOSS is one of the most active groups I have encountered. Thank you for everything that you do.

## Our Growing Area

The children are really beginning to get good use out of the new growing area. A big thank you to all the staff and volunteers who have given their time and energy freely to make this project happen. Understanding about where our food comes from and the effort that it takes to produce it is an important life lesson for children. A special mention for the support that has been given through the Thomas Bullock Trust—without the finance from you it would not have been possible.

Nick Southgate



# Sports News

## SPORTS DAY

Sports Day is on Friday 14th June—weather permitting! Our second choice date is Friday July 12th. You are welcome to attend all day, if you wish you can bring a picnic lunch to share with your children. During the morning we will hold the traditional sports day races and in the afternoon there will be clockwork sports—a carousel of activities. We hope you will be able to join us to cheer the children along.

### Hi5 Netball

On 2<sup>nd</sup> April children from years 5 and 6 went to a Hi5 Netball competition at Neatherd High School. Despite the freezing cold wet weather Team TB played well.

### Mini Tennis

On 30<sup>th</sup> April children from years 3 and 4 took part in a Mini Tennis competition at Easton Tennis Centre. Both Teams played exceptionally well and thanks to Mr Lindner's coaching won most of their games. The year 4 'A' Team came 5<sup>th</sup> out of 14 teams and the year 3 'B' team came 4<sup>th</sup> which means year 3 will represent the WNDSSP in the County Finals in June.

### Kwik Cricket

On 23rd May children from years 5/6 took part in a Kwik Cricket competition at Gt Witchingham Cricket Club. An all Year 6 team had a great day. Throughout the morning teams competed in a round robin group stage to find out which teams would proceed to the later stages of the tournament. Team TB finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in their group in the morning and 6<sup>th</sup> overall out of 12 schools. On the 4<sup>th</sup> June Yr 6 girls took part in an all Girls competition at Gt Witchingham Cricket Club. Well done to all the girls, unfortunately we did not finish due to the rain but came 2<sup>nd</sup> in our group in the morning and are waiting to hear our final position.



### Yr 5 Playground Leadership

Year 5 completed their days training for the Playground Leadership and are now leading games at lunchtimes for the rest of the school to join in. Well done to the whole class who are doing an excellent job showing their leadership skills and having a positive impact on lunchtimes.



## School News

### Oceania Class trip to Banham Zoo

Year 1 visited the zoo to begin their new topic on animals. They went on a train ride around the zoo and saw lots of different animals - from tall giraffes, to tiny cockroaches. After a picnic, and a little play in the park, they went to a show called 'Amazing Animals'. In the show they got to see a range of animals up close, including lemurs, rats and birds. The animals moved around the stage, in the air and along ropes - some getting very close to the audience! It was a wonderful day!



### Europe and North America Class - Trip to London

Before half term years 5 and 6 went to London for the day. An early start at 7.30am ensured an early arrival at the Science Museum where an interesting morning was spent exploring. After lunch they moved onto the Tower of London where they visited the Armoury, saw the Beefeaters and Ravens. A late afternoon river cruise from Tower Bridge took them up the river to the Emirates Airline Cable Car which took them back across the Thames to where the coach was waiting to take them home. They arrived back in Shipdham about 9pm having had a fantastic day!



### Ark Class - Trip to Pensthorpe

Ark class had an amazing trip to Pensthorpe on Wednesday, we went on a walk around the nature reserve where they fed the birds and saw cranes, flamingos and some very quick red squirrels! They then burnt off lots of energy whilst exploring in hoots house and the wild rootz play area!



### Africa Class - Trip to Walsingham

Africa Class had a really good visit to the Shrine and Priory in Walsingham this week. The trip combined learning about the Tudors with learning about pilgrimage in the past and the present day. We visited the priory ruins, studied Tudor buildings in the market place and particularly enjoyed dressing in Tudor costume for a special lunch. Once back at school, the visit has had a brilliant impact on the children's history learning.



## **The School Kitchen**

As you may be aware the School Kitchen is run by Chartwells. Chartwells also offer 'pop-ins' to support the curriculum bringing healthy eating and cooking to life. Recently Chartwells visited years R, 1 and 2 and carried out workshops on 'Investigating Ingredients'. They read a story of 'The Hungry Caterpillar' and the children made a cocoon using a tortilla and filled it with a range of vegetables and fruit which they then ate. They learned how many fruit and vegetables they should be eating a day. Year 2's workshop explored food from their class continent Asia, there was a presentation about foods from the different countries and learning about different food groups. The children watched 3 difference dips being made, tried them and then chose their favourite to put into a wrap with various healthy food items.

All teachers were extremely impressed by the workshops delivered and the children enjoyed them very much, especially sampling the food!

Chartwells are returning later this month to work with years 3 and 4 on Global Flavours—a hands on eating experience that celebrates our global nation and the food cultures that have enriched our lives with many of our favourite foods. Years 5 and 6 workshop will be 'Fit Food' which encourages children to eat for results rather than just for pleasure, understanding the impact real food can have on the body and the importance to keep on moving!

Chartwells also invited parents in to taste some of the new items on the school menu earlier this term. There was a good turnout and everyone was impressed by the quality of the food, especially the children at After

## **My Ed - our new payment and communication system!**

Thank you for your patience while we all get used to this new payment and communication system! There has been an excellent take up from parents downloading the app - nearly 80%. Initially, the school office have been getting to grips with the payment side of things - dinner money, clubs, trips etc. This is proving to take up quite a lot of time, although hopefully this should ease off. For the time being we will still be using Class Dojo and Pupil Asset texting and email. We still require parents to telephone the school office to report a child's absence. If you have not yet downloaded the app, please can we encourage you to do this as soon as possible, we must aim to have 100% of families using the system by September. If you have any questions please call in to the school office and they will do their best to help you!

## **Missing Library Books**

We have a number of books that have not been returned to the library. Please check carefully at home to see if there are any lurking and return them to school as soon as possible.

## **Local Governing Body**

As we plan for recruitment of a new Headteacher for our Academy, DNEAT is investing considerable resources in ensuring we have experienced interim leadership. Mr. Nick Southgate is currently our interim Headteacher and we thank him for the energy and tight focus he is bringing to our current academy priorities. He works within the Trust as an Academies Group Executive Principle (AGEP) and we are very grateful that he agreed to take on this additional role. We also continue our work with our linked AGEP, Mrs. Karen Gay.

Also, I have been placed by the Trust as a Governance Improvement Associate (GIA). My task is to Chair and guide the Local Governors through this interim period as we work more as an Interim Board, until we have appointed a new Headteacher and the LGB will resume as usual.

There is time between now and January 2020, which is when we expect to have a new Headteacher in post, for us to run more than one recruitment process. This means we are really able to select the right person to lead Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary Academy.

Jan Pierson - GIA