



# Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary Academy **NEWSLETTER**

 Diocese of Norwich  
Education and  
Academies Trust

16th October 2020

## Reflections of the Week

**What a wonderful busy week at Thomas Bullock!** Thank you all so much for joining our parents evening, even if not conventional, we hope you found our meetings supportive and helpful. We have been fortunate to also have our first Early Years online open event and parent phonics evening. Next week we will be holding our Harvest Assembly on Wednesday which will be recorded and put on the website for parents to enjoy. As we head towards half term the weather looks to be drying up, please enjoy the weekend.

## Appointment of Deputy Headteacher

We are delighted to formally inform you now, that in July from a strong pool of highly qualified applicants, including Acting Headteachers, we appointed a new Deputy Headteacher for Thomas Bullock School, due to begin in January. Please see a note to families from Mr Nick Wade introducing himself.

*I feel incredibly privileged to have been appointed as Deputy Head of such a fantastic school which is populated by a terrific community of children and adults alike. Over the past few months I have visited the school a few times, and have always been greatly impressed by the levels of hard work and courteousness I have seen demonstrated by the children here at Thomas Bullock. Each time I have been made to feel extremely welcome, and I really look forward to taking the time to get to know everyone a little better once I have started. As much as possible, I intend on making myself as visible, and will be catching up with the children and yourselves whenever I can.*

*Prior to starting at Thomas Bullock, I will have spent over 10 years at another DNEAT school, as both a class teacher, member of the senior leadership team, curriculum champion and Year 6 Leader responsible for 120 pupils. As a father of two young boys, I understand how important it is for you to be able to put your trust in a school. I welcome the challenge of being part of a team ensuring that the most important people in your lives receive a high quality education that is in equal parts enjoyable, enriching, challenging and nurturing. I have been fortunate enough to work with some great colleagues and highly motivated children, and I look forward to using this experience and knowledge to drive through positive whole school developments for the benefit of all the children here at Thomas Bullock.*

We are all looking forward to welcoming Mr Wade to our School.



## FOREST SCHOOL

In Forest School Mrs Garrod has been working with years 1,2,3 and 4. They have all explored the Forest School area in rain and sunshine. "Rain won't stop us!"

We have played several games using animals to get to know each other and help Mrs G remember names: iguanas, lions and mountain goats being among the animals the children chose.

They have been learning about fires – how to make them, light them and stay safe around them. The children also learned about the Science of fire and the three things they need to work. This also helps them learn how to extinguish a fire! We have cooked marshmallows on sticks over the fire too – a most important skill to learn.

We have looked at shelter design with Y3 and Y4 and discussed ways to make a waterproof shelter. Some ideas were very complicated and we look forward to trying them all out.

The children have also been looking at some of the wildlife present in the school grounds – different birds, insects and even a toad (which had climbed a tree!)

It's been great to see the children ready and prepared for the sessions with wellies and waterproofs. They can really enjoy all seasons when they are ready for any weather!





## Music Tuition

Music Teachers from The Norfolk Music Service have been coming in each afternoon to teach music across all year groups. Below is a summary of what the children have been learning from their music teachers.

Years 5 and 6 are learning samba drumming and have been concentrating on the key elements of music, rhythm and pulse through a variety of activities away from the instruments as well, which are essential for samba skills. They have been learning about the origins of Samba, where it comes from as well as watching musicians from Brazil in short videos.

EYFS have been learning how to play a steady beat on different parts of their body and trying out their own ideas. They have been moving the bodies to a steady beat in a song and pretended to be shoes, a Jack-in-the-box, a swing, a slide and a seesaw. They have been using their voices to make high and low sounds and faces to make happy, sad, tired and surprised expressions along with lots of dancing and actions to stories and rhymes.

Years 1 and 2 have been exploring sounds, performing body movement to a steady pulse. They have performed the Mashed Potato chant with hand actions and clap in time to a steady beat. They have been learning to chant and clap word rhymes using fruit names and to create their own ostinati. They have just started to play word rhythms on the Djembe drums.

Years 3 and 4 have been enjoying learning to play ukuleles.



### **A few of reminders ...**

As mentioned in our newsletter of 28<sup>th</sup> September we are a healthy eating school and children in R – 2 are offered a free school fruit snack each day.

Part of our policies include that any comments are shared directly with the school and adults are requested not to publish unacceptable information on social media or other public forums.

Donations for Harvest – Boxes for contributions to the Dereham Food Bank will be left outside until next Wednesday.

Thank you.

## **2020/21 Diary Dates**

### **October**

21<sup>st</sup> Harvest Celebration in Class

**Half Term - 22<sup>nd</sup> October to 1<sup>st</sup> November inclusive**

### **November**

13<sup>th</sup> Children In Need

11<sup>th</sup> Year 3 Trip to Gressenhall Rural Life Museum

### **December**

11<sup>th</sup> Christmas Jumper Day

16<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner Day

18<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

**Christmas Holiday – 21<sup>st</sup> December to 3<sup>rd</sup> January inclusive**

**The full year's term dates are on the school website.**

**Please note the last day in school before half term is Wednesday 21st October**

