



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

9th October 2020

 Diocese of Norwich
Education and
Academies Trust

Headteacher's Reflections from the week

It has been a fantastic week at Thomas Bullock, starting Monday with a picture in the EDP of our fabulous pupils 'letting their light shine' and enjoying their learning.

We had our first café Monday, thank you to those of you who joined. It is great to hear your thoughts and take-away suggestions. This week we heard from parents that children are happy, have come back into school settled and are happy with the speed of staggered starts and collections. We have taken on suggestions regarding a weekly round-up of news where possible and adding a weekly reading star; watch this space. Our next Parent Café will take place on Monday 23rd November at 2:15pm.

News! I am able to say that thanks to additional support from DNEAT, the Thomas Bullock Trust and Shipdham Parish Council, we are making an investment in 100 new touchscreen Chromebooks. Due to the pandemic these will take a while to arrive, but they are on their way! Thomas Bullock pupils will therefore have 1 device to every 2 pupils. Our goal is to get to 1 device per pupil in school and with entirely touch based devices in EYFS and Year 1. We will need further investment to get there, but we are well on our way to developing a truly interactive STEAM education for our pupils, building real capital culture and ensuring our pupils have the best opportunities in the future.

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

Oceania Class – Eva and Harry
Asia Class – Elsa and Arthur
Africa Class – April and Gethin
South America Class – Evie and Jacob
Europe Class – Ruby and Jameson
North America Class – Arin and Leo

The theme of the term is continuing with Eco Schools and also focusing on pupils' wellbeing. The children received their badges in the class celebration today.

Save the date- Next week we have two exciting events happening in Early Years:

New EYFS Joiners: On Monday 12 October, Mrs Marjoram and I have an open event scheduled at 4pm for new starters. Please join us if you have a child joining in Reception in 2021 and please let friends know too! A link for Zoom will be put on the school website on the day

Phonics Event: After Parents Evening on Wednesday 14 October, Mrs Marjoram has planned a virtual phonics event for Ark Class at 6:30pm. Please join us via a link sent on Class DoJo.



Parents' Evening Reminder: 2pm-6.15pm Wednesday 14th October. Appointment slips are being returned with your child, please look out for these and contact the school office if you have not received one back. The Zoom link will be sent via Class DoJo on the day.

Harvest: As previously mentioned we will be collecting for the Dereham Foodbank and boxes will be out the front for any donations all next week.

New School Governor: We are delighted to announce we recently welcomed a new community governor, Pauline Bennett-Mills. She has written a short introduction:

"My husband and I moved to Shipdham six years ago after I retired from teaching. I have enjoyed over forty years in various school settings and was a headteacher in North London during my final nineteen years, a school governor, new Head's mentor and school inspector. I look forward to working with the children, staff and parents at Thomas Bullock School at this time of unsettling but exciting change."

We are excited to see the challenge and support she provides for our governing body and our continuously improving school.

A few safety reminders:

Thank you for wearing masks. Please do continue to wear a mask at pick up and drop off. Please can we also ask that you do not drive through the drive circle and please do not turn on Pound Green Lane. Our children are walking across this road and we want to keep them safe! Thank you for your help.

Thank you again for your support. Please do continue to check the website, our social media accounts and your emails for information, pictures and news.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Shannon O'Sullivan
Headteacher

Donation of Books

Kai in Europe Class is seen here presenting some books to Mrs O'Sullivan which he won after entering a competition with The Dereham Lions during the summer holiday.

Well done Kai and thank you!

