



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary Academy NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Norwich
Education and
Academies Trust

11th December 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Another busy and extremely cold week! Christmas is truly here in full spirit at Thomas Bullock Primary. We have all taken part in the Santa Dash! Staff and pupils donned their running shoes and enjoyed a dash around the playground. There were lots of amazing Christmas outfits too for Christmas Jumper Day and we have included some photos at the end of this letter.

Please read the updated information towards the end of the Newsletter regarding the reporting of COVID-19 after we break up on 18th December.

Good News

If you have not seen it already, please see that we are in the EDP! Mrs Wall suggested our pupils show the value of philanthropy by having pupils write beautiful Christmas cards for Care Homes. We thank Mrs Wall and please do see the EDP post!



Reminders:

Next week, we will be enjoying a plethora of Christmas activities and learning experiences. Please note that pupils **can wear party clothes**, for class parties, on Friday December 18th and **Christmas jumpers on-top of their full school uniform** on Wednesday December 16th for our European Christmas themed Languages Day and Christmas Dinner!

The Thomas Bullock trust has once again offered a Christmas Aid fund for families in Shipdham, who attend our school. We know that for working families, who may have had time out of work this year, Christmas may be particularly difficult. If you would like to contact us we are in a fortunate position that we may be able to offer some Christmas Financial Assistance due to the Thomas Bullock Trust's generosity.

A final reminder from the FOSS... Hot Chocolate Crackers are still available to purchase at £1.50 each. Don't forget to get your raffle tickets for the Christmas draw. Further information on the Friends' Facebook page.

Please take extra care parking outside the school at drop off and pick up times. It has been reported that it is not always safe for families to walk along the pavements. Please DO NOT drive through, or drop off children in the turning circle at either end of the school day.



Shining Lights of the Week

Ark Class	Jack for fantastic writing, including segmenting sounds to spell words independently.
Oceania Class	Edward for working so hard in Maths this week.
Asia Class	Max for working hard in all areas of his learning and getting involved in class discussions.
Africa Class	Khloe for contributing lots in class and setting a great example – for this she made it to Gold Star!
S America Class	Matilda for showing our school value of respect and working extremely hard in English.
Europe Class	Megan for persevering with her work and joining in with class discussions.
N America Class	Thomas for always getting straight on with his work and doing his best at all times.

Whole School Attendance this week 95%

New menu after Christmas

A new improved 3 week menu was emailed out earlier this week which will start on 4th January. You will notice that, by popular demand, roast dinner day is back every Wednesday! Over the last term some of the children have been eating their lunch in class and meals have been served in take away boxes. After Christmas all children will have their meals served on plates.

My School Fund

We are now part of MYSchool Fund, a new initiative from ESPO (our main supplier of educational resources) to help raise funds for school and also allowing parents to earn cashback on their purchases from Argos and Sainsburys. 1% of each person's spend goes to the school and 2% goes back the individual. It's easy to get started – visit myschoolfund.org to register for free. Our School number is 26591.

PE next week

Children do not need to come to school dressed in their PE clothes next week, as there are a couple of non uniform days, pupils will take part in PE in their regular uniform. PE has been modified next week to account for this.

Gifts for Staff

We have had several parents asking if it will be ok for their children to bring in a gift for members of staff at Christmas. We would like to stress that there is no expectation of this, especially after what has been a difficult year for many families. Appreciation shown in kind words and thoughts are just as valued by our team for their hard work this year. However, the advice from County is that any items brought in from home should be quarantined for a period of 72 hours. Therefore, to allow this to happen any gifts should be handed over no later than Tuesday next week when plastic boxes will be provided outside school.

Parent Voice

We are pleased with the response to the recent survey. The results will be on the school website next week.



Important Covid-19 Information Update - please read carefully

End of term and term dates remain unchanged

The Department for Education (DfE) announced that schools are permitted to make Friday 18th December a 'nonteaching' day. We will **not** be amending our term dates or our scheduled INSET days. Our last day of term for pupils will remain, Friday 18th December.

Corona Virus cases and alerting the school over Christmas break

This table summarises the approach on Corona virus cases over Christmas in line with DfE guidance:

Symptoms began on (or date of positive test if asymptomatic)	Between Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th December	Saturday 19 th December	Sunday 20 th December	Monday 21 st December – Monday 4 th January
Action Required	<p>Parents Inform school immediately. See below.</p> <p>School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact.</p> <p>Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days</p>	<p>Parents Inform school immediately.</p> <p>School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days</p>	<p>Parents Inform school immediately.</p> <p>School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Friday 18th December. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days</p>	<p>Unless testing was delayed following onset of symptoms, case was not in setting and therefore there is no need to contact school.</p>
<p>For a confirmed case between the close of school on Friday 18th December and Thursday 24th December parents and carers must use the following email address to inform the school:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">head@thomasbullock.dneat.org</p> <p>(Please do not email or DoJo individual staff)</p>				
Parental Responsibility	<p>Parents to notify close contact family and friends and follow advice as per NHS Covid-19 guidelines http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</p>			

In order to ensure these arrangements work effectively and minimise the risk of compromising families' Christmas break, please adhere to the following:

- Parents seek tests via testing centres rather than via postal tests as this can significantly delay confirmation of results. Results are normally forthcoming in 24 hours via test centres.
- Parents notify school if children have symptoms after schools close (as outlined above) – even when waiting for a test result, families can be advised to take necessary steps whilst awaiting confirmation.
- To minimise the risk of infection within school (and the wider community) please ensure you continue to adhere to social distancing protocol.

If there is anything you are at all unsure about regarding these arrangements please contact the school before the end of term by 10.00am Friday 18th December on 01362 820300.



Some Christmas Cheer...

