



# Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary Academy

## NEWSLETTER

21st July 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you all for helping to keep our entire school open and our children learning throughout the current pandemic. It has been challenging for our staff and pupils to keep our school site covid-free and we are grateful that our families have supported us so well.

We wish you all the very best of summers and hope you have time to reflect on the year and enjoy the sunshine before readying for the year ahead.

On a final but very important note, on behalf of the staff and myself, I would also like to thank everyone for the very regular messages of support and gratitude from pupils and parents throughout this unprecedented year. We have received several recently, which are heartfelt, warm, and greatly appreciated.

It is with great pride that I lead a school where the entire community lets their light shine brightly for our school and pupils, for example having the Thomas Bullock Trust and our Governors in attendance at our Year 6 performance last night alongside our parents'.

On behalf of all the staff I would like to say how much we all appreciate your kind comments when you have taken the time to thank us. I wish everyone a wonderful and relaxing summer and we look forward to welcoming your children back to School on Monday 6th September at 8:40am.

Kindest regards  
Mrs S O'Sullivan

### **Lessons from lockdown**

Over the course of the last academic year, various adapted practices have worked very well and as a result we will be keeping many of them in place.

Parents' evenings will remain as a virtual event, given the fact that parents have reported back that doing away with the need for a babysitter and queuing, sometimes for extended periods, have all been avoided by the ability to book slots online. We will be offering opportunities for Termly parent book looks so that you can visibly see your child's progress and meet with their teachers' more regularly.

We will be ensuring social gatherings for parents and staff exist. We have been fortunate to have Sports Day, our End of Year Service and Year 6 performance all with parents in attendance.



Staff, parents and pupils have reported favourably on the prompt start in the morning, which has been enhanced with the drop and go system at the gate. Staff, in particular, feel it is easier to deliver important messages and ensure the children are ready and organised for the first morning lessons. We will be slightly altering this by offering a soft-start between 8:40 and 8:50am each day. The Senior Leadership Team and teaching staff will remain on the gates alongside Yr 6 prefects until 8:50am each day. For those requiring an earlier drop off, Fit For Sport are offering Breakfast and After School clubs- please book on their website. Parents are still encouraged to continue to contact class teachers via the office email, as this has the most prompt response. These decisions have come about as a result of valuable consultation and parent surveys alongside of staff, trust and leadership meetings.

## **PE**

On PE days we would like pupils to continue to wear their PE kit into school. This has worked exceptionally well and ensures quick transitions and much less lost property.

Tuesday	Reception and Year 2
Wednesday	Year 1
Thursday	Years 3 and 4
Friday	Years 5 and 6

Furthermore, in September, before our first day back we will share more information about our September starting plans.

## **Mid Morning Break**

We are pleased to report that the school kitchen will be serving mid morning break time snacks when we return in September

Monday	Cheese on Toast 50p
Tuesday	Hash Brown 35p
Wednesday	Sausage Roll 65p
Thursday	Crumpet 50p
Friday	Bacon Roll 75p
<b>Available on a daily basis:</b> Toast 30p, Fresh Fruit Selection 60p, Flavoured Milk Carton 70p, Milk Carton 70p, Apple or Orange Fruit Juice 45p	

## **School uniform & general appearance**

Thank you for following our school uniform. All uniform lists can be found on the School's website. Therefore, we would ask for parental support in ensuring that pupils arrive at School looking smart in school shoes, clean shirts and blouses. Hair should be tied back where necessary and not extreme in style.

<http://www.thomasbullock.dneat.org/parents-hub/uniform/>



## **Nursery Consultation**

Our Nursery consultation has now ended and we are delighted to share that we have had numerous responses all of which have been overwhelmingly positive. We will inform you of our next steps in September towards a January opening.

## **Summer Holiday Activities**

The Department for Education (DfE) is supporting catch-up programmes and fun activities for all children and young people in England. Click on the link below to find out what's available in the area over the summer holiday and at our school via Fit for Sport, which is £25.00 per day and a discount for the entire week

<https://www.fitforsport.co.uk/extended-school-clubs/find-your-school/detail/thomas-bullock-ce-primary-academy>

<https://educationcatchup.campaign.gov.uk/>

## **Sports Day**

Some photos of Year 5 enjoying Sports Day. For more photos of Sports Day click on the following link <https://vimeo.com/577569662> Earth Team (green) won overall and received the trophy in the final Assembly of the year this afternoon.



## Pensthorpe Nature Reserve

On the final day of term Africa (yr 3) and South America Class (yr 4) enjoyed a great day at Pensthorpe. Thank you once again to the Thomas Bullock Trust for fully funding the trip.



## DISCO

Children in Years R,1,2 and 5 enjoyed a end of term Disco with Mrs O'Sullivan on the decks. Year 5 had a special treat, by enjoying it in the hall.



## DIARY DATES

6<sup>th</sup> September School re-opens for Autumn Term 1

**October half term – 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October inclusive**

**INSET DAY – 1<sup>st</sup> November – School Closed**

2<sup>nd</sup> November School re-opens for Autumn Term 2

**Christmas Holiday – 20<sup>th</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> January inclusive**

6<sup>th</sup> January School re-opens for Spring Term 1\*\*

**February half term – 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> February inclusive**

21<sup>st</sup> February School re-opens for Spring Term 2

**Easter Holiday – 4<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> April inclusive**

20<sup>th</sup> April School re-opens for Summer Term 1

**May 2<sup>nd</sup> – School Closed – Bank Holiday**

**May half term – 30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

6<sup>th</sup> May School re-opens for Summer Term 2

22<sup>nd</sup> July – Last day of term.

**\*\* Please note change of date for return to school. This additional day has been set in lieu of the Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday in June which falls in half term.**

## Thank you...

- ❖ Thank you for Freya's Mum in Reception Class for organising enough Ice Pops for the children to have after a very warm Sports Day.
- ❖ **Friends of Shipdham School (FOSS)** Thank you to the small team of volunteers who work so hard to benefit the children of the school. Because they are a team of just 6 they will be hoping for more committee member or just helpers to join their team in September. Contact can be made through their Facebook page or the school office if you are interested.

The raffle took £290 which was amazing as they were only on sale for a short period of time.

Thank you too for providing refreshments for all the Sports Day sessions and for arranging for the Year 6 Leavers' T Shirts. These have become a tradition and the Year 6s' proudly wore them in school on their last day.