



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy

"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:14-16

Headteacher: Mrs Shannon O'Sullivan

Pound Green Lane, Shipdham, Norfolk, IP25 7LF • T: 01362 820300 • E: office@thomasbullock.dneat.org • W: www.thomasbullock.dneat.org



NEWSLETTER

15th September 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Thomas Bullock

This week in school I have been lucky to spend time in class seeing how are children are settling into learning, transitioning into their new class setting and welcoming new friends. This is always a joy, especially as we watch our own Nursery children confidently move into Reception alongside children from other settings who have just joined our school. I was most impressed to see the depth and quality of writing, already being produced in Year 6 yesterday. They are off to a flying start!

I thought I would share a few additions to our team and the wealth of skills and knowledge they bring to our school.

Ms Wylie

Ms Wylie, working with us in Breakfast Club each morning and as the Year 1 Teaching Assistant, joins us as a Qualified Designated Safeguarding Lead and Early Years SENCO. Many of our children already know her as she worked in another setting as a Nursery Manager prior to completing training for Primary Settings. Ms Wylie has an excellent level of EYFS and KS1 curriculum knowledge and we are delighted she has joined our team. Please do give her a wave at the gate!

Mr Weston

Mr Weston, who joined us at the end of the year, as a teaching assistant in Year 3, is also a qualified sports (and soon to be swimming) coach and again many of our children will know him from his sessions as a Rugby and Football coach. Mr Weston has supported Teaching and Learning for a number of years and is also undertaking his Teaching Degree over the next few years. We are delighted he has agreed to bring his rugby training to our school this year and is leading a KS1 Rugby Session on Monday's and KS2 Rugby Session on Tuesday's after school.

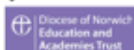
Next week we will be interviewing for a further teaching assistant following our summer advertisement. We had a huge number of qualified applicants with high academic standards for the KS2 post and will inform the community as soon as we have made a permanent decision.

Trips and Calendar Events

Our calendar is over-spilling! Please do take a look in the calendar at the number of additions and activities. We strongly believe children have an excellent curriculum at Thomas Bullock and really can let their light shine through their learning. Please also look out for our Harvest Festival and Winter events.



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Federation Names

We have had our first full week as a federation and it has been wonderful. Our team joined forces for Read Write Inc Phonics, Safeguarding and Staff training and Mrs Tinson our Chair of Governors has been to meet the Reverend, also a Governor of Lyng, and joined me in a Learning Walk of Lyng this week. With this in mind, and before the weather gets cooler, we would love to plan an activity for our children to celebrate the Federation. Therefore, we require a name! Our staff across the schools have given a number of options but we wondered if you would like to offer suggestions. Our team has been considering how we want our children to let their light shine across the Federation and consider our values-based school ethos. Please do think of names that link to these aspects!

Any suggestions need to be emailed to the school office by 12pm Thursday 21st September, 2023. Following this, we will invite children to come up with a design, which our amazing 'Artist in Residence' Miss Crane, will support us to turn into an emblem! (All incoming!)

Shining Lights of the Week!

- Ark Nursery** **Archie** is our shining light of the week for settling so well into Ark Nursery Class. Archie is increasing with confidence each day he attends & has been super chatty!
- Oceania Class (yr 1)** **Callie** - for becoming a fantastic member of Oceania Class, joining Thomas Bullock school with a smile on her face - well done Callie!
- Africa Class (yr 2)** **Kelsey** - for settling into Year 2 so well. Kelsey always shows she is ready to learn and has worked particularly hard in Phonics this week. Great job!
- Europe Class (yr 3)** **Kai** - for settling in well to year 3. He has worked hard in all his lessons particularly maths.
- S America Class (yr 4)** **Theo** - for settling into Year 4 with enthusiasm and positivity. Theo has worked hard in every lesson and is always willing to share his ideas. A fab start!
- Asia Class (yr 5)** **Harry-James** - for the positive attitude he has shown to his learning so far this term. Great start!
- North America Class (yr 6)** **Isabelle S** for listening carefully to instructions and producing work to a high standard. She has made a fantastic start to year six.

This week's overall attendance – 98.2% Oceania Class (yr 1) 100%

WOW MOMENTS!

Aiden and Lexie completed the summer reading challenge this summer
Caleb (on the right in the photo) finished 3rd in the Norfolk County Tennis Championships (U10s)



Please remember to continue to send in your **WOW** moments for achievements out of school

<https://forms.gle/DV4RoVbQGpjjcUMV7>



OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Question of the week
1	What different types of toys are there?
2	What was London like in 1666?
3	What was life like in early Stone Age Britain?
4	Who lived in Roman Britain?
5	Who were the Vikings?
6	How is our world changing?

Africa Class (yr 2)

In Maths this week the class have been using concrete resources to understand place value. They have been using tens and ones to build numbers. We have also been investigating how animals (including humans) change as they grow up. They looked at photographs of themselves when they were younger and compared them to how they look now. They also enjoyed their first outdoor learning sessions with Miss Bell-Tye. They were looking for birds around the school grounds. Using a book they tried to match feathers with the bird.



South America Class (yr 4)

The class conducted an archaeology dig of Roman artefacts and discussed what they thought that they were used for. They enjoyed exploring the artefacts and completing studies on them to find out more about the Ancient Roman Civilisation.



Asia Class (yr 5)

This week the Class have been investigating night and day in their new Science topic - The Earth in Space.



Oceania Class (yr 1)

The class have had a great time finding out about Oceania and have been making a start on their Aboriginal Art pictures this week.

Antarctica Class (yr R)

We are pleased to share a photo of our Reception Class taken this week for the first time altogether.



We would like to invite all prospective parents of children due to start school in September 2024 and any parents wishing to join our school-based Nursey to an open afternoon – details below.



Thomas Bullock CE Primary
& Nursery Academy
"Let your light shine"

NURSERY & RECEPTION 2024 OPEN DAY

Tuesday 17th October
14:00

Join us for an information session and school tour with our Headteacher and EYFS team.

For more information or to confirm your attendance please contact us:
office@thomasbullock.dneat.org
01362 820300



PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO SEE INFORMATION ON KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY
<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2023/09/08/a-parents-guide-to-keeping-kids-healthy-this-school-year/>



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We are so pleased to have achieved an Eco-Schools Green Flag with distinction. Achieving the accreditation demonstrates that as a school we have gone above and beyond to improve our local community and protect our planet. We especially thank Mrs Taylor and the Eco Committee for all their hard work and we remain hopeful that with everyone sharing the same passion, determination and dedication we are sure the climate crisis will soon be a thing of the past.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

The School Photographer will be visiting next week on 21st September to take individual pupil photographs, if they have a sibling in school they will also be photographed together.

Years 4 and 5 will be having PE, please can they come to school dressed in full uniform and bring their PE kits to change into on this occasion.

Friends of Shipdham School (FOSS)

AGM

Thursday 12th October 7.30pm
At The Golden Dog, Shipdham
Everyone welcome!

FOSS do any amazing job raising thousands of pounds each year for the children of our school. Please come along and support them as they make their plans for the year ahead. They are always grateful to anyone who can spare some time to help – no matter how little!

REMINDERS

Uniform and general appearance

Thank you for following our school uniform, the children looked smart and prepared on their return. All uniform lists can be found on the School's website. <http://www.thomasbullock.dneat.org/parents-hub/uniform/> A reminder that hair shoulder length and below should be tied back necessary and if earrings are worn at all they should be plain studs and the children should be able to remove them themselves for PE. Please ensure hair slides and bands are plain with no embellishments or bright colours and follow the school colours of navy and white.

Driving and Parking

For the safety of the children please do not park or drive through the entrance roundabout, or on the yellow lines outside school where there is bus parking. We do not have school parking facilities, therefore please do not enter and park inside of the school gates. Please be extra cautious when driving in the area around school. Many of the children walk to/from school, some unaccompanied, which we gladly encourage and their safety on our road is paramount.

Headlice

Please be reminded that lice are easily spreadable. Therefore, please regularly check your children for lice, you can do this by combing through. If live lice are found, please inform the school, and the entire family must be treated before the children come to school. Wearing long hair up helps for their protection.

Keeping us up to date

Please remember to keep us informed of any changes in circumstances. We will be sending home soon copies of the emergency contact details we hold for your child. Please update and return as soon as possible.



The Ark Nursery Newsletter

This week



The children are settling in fantastically, making new friends and enjoying all of our classroom resources! They have met lots of our lovely staff and explored our school and all of our outdoor areas.

Alongside singing many nursery rhymes and reading many stories, we have begun our focus on the book 'The Colour Monster'. Within this, we have discussed feelings and what they might look and feel like, whilst matching them to the colours we are learning about in maths! We've also talked about times when we might feel happy, sad or angry. We've look at ourselves in mirrors – pulling faces and noticing the features of our faces. We then had a go at mark making for our self-portraits! We will compare these with future self-portraits to see how our mark making changes.

We were also introduced to our date, birthday, weather and special events display and took our first photo of what we can see when we look outside of our classroom. Over the year, we will compare these monthly photos and talk about the changes we can see.



Next week

Our learning will continue to centre around the story of 'The Colour Monster' where we will continue to talk about feelings and explore colour and colour mixing. We will play lots of speaking and listening games, sing lots of songs and nursery rhymes and share stories with repeated words or phrases to encourage us to join in with retelling them.

Tapestry should now be up and running – please let Miss Bell-Tye know (at the gate or via emailing the office if you have any issues). As per the email request, please upload / email a family photo to display in our role play home corner and to help with our discussions during our 'All About Me' theme this term!

DIARY DATES

September

1st and 4th INSET days

21st School Photographer (individual and sibling photos)

5th **Children return to School**

October

3rd Yr 5 West Stow Anglo Saxon Village*

5th Phonics Workshop – Reception and Year 1 at 5pm*

10th Yr 2 Sandringham *

12th FOSS AGM at Golden Dog 7.30pm*

17th Nursery and Reception (Sept 2024) Open afternoon 2pm*

19th Harvest Festival at Church (TBC)*

Half term 23rd – 27th October inclusive

November

1st Parents' Evening from 3pm*

2nd Parents' Evening from 3pm*

6th Maths Café for Nursery and Reception parents 2.30pm*

9th Yr 3 Time & Tide Mueseum*

17th Flu vaccinations year R to 6

December

12th Nativity (Reception Class) at 9.15am and 2pm *

14th Yr 1 Holkham Hall Christmas Experience*

19th Christmas Lunch Day*

20th Christmas Concert & Christingle at Church (TBC)*

20th Last day of term

Christmas Holiday 21st December – 3rd January

January 2024

3rd INSET Day

4th **Children return to School**

February

Half term 19th – 23rd February inclusive

March

18th School Photographer (Class photos)

28th INSET Day School Closed

Easter holiday 29th March – 12th April inclusive

MAY

6th Bank holiday

Half term 27th – 31st May

JULY

18th Last day of term

19th INSET Day School Closed

*New Addition