



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy

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

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NEWSLETTER

20th December 2023

**Please click on the link below to watch a short vimeo of Christmas Activities
across school over the last few days**

<https://vimeo.com/892592230?share=copy>

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of The Nightingale Federation,

Yearly, we are overjoyed by our school community- this begins with our parents/carers. Thank you, we are so appreciative of your continued support by attending school events, helping with home learning, practising times-tables, joining FOSS/FOLS and reading daily too!

This year saw the launch of our wonderful Federation, The Nightingale Federation, where we endeavour to ensure every child 'Let's their light shine'! Our values across the Federation this term have been respect, trustworthiness, thankfulness and honesty.

This term we welcomed Governor's, SIAMs teams and School Improvement teams into both schools in the Federation. Whilst we always aim to improve, our children are to be praised on their behaviour and attitude to school along with their willingness to work together and achieve well. This includes in sporting and academic pursuits where pupils across the Federation consistently achieve very well inside and outside of school.

Across our Federation, we are truly blessed by the philanthropy of our wonderful benefactors of their time, financing and assistance. The fabulous FOSS, FOLS, the Thomas Bullock Trust and our Governors have shown initiative, support and challenge to continue our improvements. We are grateful for their support and energy.

It is important to also praise our pupils' excellent outcomes again seen in Autumn Assessments this term. Learning for our pupils will continue to be strengthened by our regular joint staff training and curriculum expertise being shared. Nationally, our Federation achieved very well in Summer 2023, we are, and continue to achieve as top schools in the nation and alongside school's locally. [Compare School's DFE.](#)

Our qualified teacher-led Nursery at Thomas Bullock continues to expand as does our wraparound care offer. In the Spring and Summer term we intend to offer stay and play sessions at Lyng as well.

A special thanks to our fabulous team of staff, teaching and non-teaching. More than ever, everyone has gone above and beyond to ensure the children are happy, safe, extremely well taught and, valued.

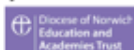
Finally, we would like to thank both pupils and parents for the lovely Christmas gifts, cards and messages; I know the staff, as well as myself, have been touched, as ever, by your kind words and generosity.

With blessings for a restful and wonderful Christmas and happy New Year.

Mrs O'Sullivan and the whole Nightingale Federation Team



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Staffing from January

We are extremely delighted to share that Andrew Long, Senior Leader and Maths Mastery Expert will be joining our team as a Federation Teacher from January 2024. Andrew has taught at St Augustines in Norwich for a number of years and is currently Year 3/4 Teacher, with excellent experience across KS2 and is also a member of the Leadership Team and in charge of the Curriculum. Andrew will be joining our KS2 team from January and will teach in Year 3, full time from Spring 2 when Miss Newcombe starts her Maternity Leave.

Summer/Autumn Parent survey

Please click on the link below to view the results of the most recent parent survey,

<http://www.thomasbullock.dneat.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Parent-survey-results-2023-WS.pdf>

Thank you...

Thank you to Eva (yr 1) and Apphia's (yr R) Mum for supplying every child in school with a book last week called 'What a Star' which includes a story, colouring and activities.

Thank you too to Gethin's (yr 6) Grandmother for arranging enough Christmas Crackers for every child to have at the Christmas Lunch yesterday, it certainly added to the Christmas fun.

Finally, a huge thank you to our wonderful Kitchen Staff for cooking an amazing Christmas Lunch. Staff joined in to serve the children in our heated marquee and everyone had a lovely time.

FOSS

The Friends of Shipdham School are very grateful to all who donated prizes and bought raffle tickets for the Christmas draw. A total of £384 was raised and the winner of the Elf was Eva and Leon's family!



Our trees at the Christmas Tree Festival in Church last weekend.

Shining Lights of the Half Term!

- Ark Nursery **Grace** is a very honest and kind member of Ark Class. She is also gaining confidence with talking aloud at carpet time. We are so proud!
- Antarctica Class (R) **Isabella & George Tu** for always showing kindness and honesty at all times. They are super role models for their peers; setting good examples to all.
- Oceania Class (yr 1) **Ernie** for always being a kind and caring, helpful and honest member of the class - a super role model for his peers.
Millani for her explanation of the importance of being honest, supporting her friends and showing them the honest path to take.
- Africa Class (yr 2) **Sienna** always uses kind, honest and respectful words. Sienna encourages her friends to do the same and is a great role model to others.
Dylan is always extremely honest and hard working. He has shown a great attitude towards learning and a growing independence in class.
- Europe Class (yr 3) **Lillie-May** for being consistently polite and showing the value of honesty. She is kind and supportive to her friends and has worked really hard across all subjects this half term.
Lewis G - for consistently showing respect, kindness and a helping hand to others. Lewis has been a fantastic role model this half term working hard in all areas of his learning.
- S America Class (yr 4) **Rosie** has the utmost respect for everyone. She is always honest, kind and offers a helping hand to whoever needs it. She is a fantastic role model for our school.
Rory is always kind, hardworking and honest. He has a positive attitude towards his work and tries his hardest in everything he does.
- Asia Class (yr 5) **Esme & Arthur** for consistently showing the value of honesty. They are both reliable and thoughtful whilst always working hard.
- North America (yr 6) **Khloe** is always honest and kind to others and is an excellent role-model for our school.
Noah H is always honest and hard working. He has a positive attitude to learning and has grown in confidence and independence this term.

This term's attendance:

Whole school 96%

Best Class Oceania Class (yr 1) 97%

WOW MOMENTS!

Theo (yr 2) scored his first goal for Shipdham Wasps and they went on to win the game 4 - 0 goals also for Reuben Proctor and George Howlett.

Alfie (yr 3) got Player of the Match on Saturday. Alfie and his team mates all played exceptionally well.



Please remember to continue to send in your **WOW** moments for achievements out of school
<https://forms.gle/DV4RoVbQGpijcUMV7>



Antarctica Class (Yr R)

Reception were very excited to perform our 'Wriggly Nativity' to families at All Saints Church in the village on the 12th December, travelling in style in their costumes on the minibuses. It provided the perfect stained-glass Nativity backdrop and set the scene perfectly. Thank you so much for Revd. Laura and the Church for allowing this to happen!



Oceania Class (Yr 1)

Year One had a magical time at Holkham Hall on last week! We saw all the beautifully decorated rooms and even had a visit from a very special someone - Father Christmas! He told us a story about a dragon with a toothache at the North Pole and how he helped him. He was very kind and gave us all a gift for Christmas as we were all on the 'good list'... well nearly all of us. Mr Johnson was on the 'naughty list' but Santa soon realised it must have been an admin error.



The Ark Nursery Newsletter

This week

We are *immensely* proud of the children's storytelling, singing and signing during our recorded Christmas performance of 'We're Going on a Star Hunt'. You can watch it here:

<https://vimeo.com/user112981601/arknurserystarhunt?share=copy>.

In-between lots of Christmas crafts and activities, we were super excited during our Christmas lunch and Christmas party. We walked our Christmas cards to the post box on Monday and took home all of our wonderful Christmas decorations, 2024 calendars and artwork this week too. We also had hot chocolates with marshmallows while watching 'The Snowman' on Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday, we made our own Christingles and then took them on a stroll to church for our annual Christingle service. What a wonderful Christmassy couple of weeks!



Next half term

We will begin teaching our RWI phonics programme, starting with 2 sounds per week. Our focus book for the first two weeks will be Owl Babies – we will be joining in with re-telling the story using actions, learning new vocabulary and mark making on story maps. In Maths, we will look at subitising (when you are able to look at a group of objects and know how many there are, without having to count!) We will be following the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch, as well as exploring owls further, linked to our literacy learning.

Have a fun-filled (and restful) Christmas and a very Happy New Year! We look forward to our return in the New Year 😊

DIARY DATES

January 2024

3rd INSET Day

4th Children return to School

February

6th Yr 6 trip to Duxford

Half term 19th – 23rd February inclusive

March

4th to 5th Yr 5 residential to The Horstead Centre

18th School Photographer (Class photos)

28th INSET Day School Closed

Easter holiday 29th March – 12th April inclusive

MAY

6th Bank holiday

13th -16th Yr 6 SATs Week

Half term 27th – 31st May

JULY

18th Last day of term

19th INSET Day School Closed

*New Addition