



# 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](mailto:office@thomasbullock.dneat.org) • W: [www.thomasbullock.dneat.org](http://www.thomasbullock.dneat.org)



## NEWSLETTER

8th December 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Thomas Bullock

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your support, kindness and patience this term. Our community, within and outside of our school has offered understanding, a true Christian spirit and let their compassionate light shine brightly understanding the adverse and unfamiliar situation myself, our school leaders, DNEAT and DONESC have been placed under this term.

Since the start of the year, our school has had to adjust to not having a school hall. Throughout this period our curriculum has never once faltered. The school team has ensured every sports and music lesson has continued, every hot lunch has been served and every collective worship has taken place. Our staffing team and children are second to none in the way they have adapted, without complaint.

With this in mind, I have wonderful news! The scale of actual work required to fully remove the RAAC, school roof and rebuild the school hall roof will not see this completed until late into the Spring Term, and is weather dependent, so this weekend we have an exciting addition being erected to our school site. A large outdoor temporary hall will be built on a section of our field this weekend.

This marquee hall will allow for all activities, usually ran in the school hall, to take place. It will be fully lit, heated and have all of the space required for collective worship, daily lunches, sports and school events to run. I can confirm school lunches, including our wonderful yearly Christmas lunch, will take place, in the outdoor hall, as will the Christmas parties next week.

We cannot guarantee everything will run as it always has done in the coming months, but our curriculum will continue to rigorously drive ahead for our children and a further adventure and experience awaits them too. We are excited for this next step and appreciate your continued support in the journey.

Once again thank you for always helping our school to develop and grow. Have a wonderful week and we look forward to sharing further news and pictures along the way.

Warmest regards

Shannon O'Sullivan

### Thank you to ....



Freya and Jessica's Mum for supplying sweets and sultanas and Millani and Kiaara's Dad for supplying the oranges for our Christingle Service on the last day of term.



Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust Registered Office: 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich NR9 5ES  
Registered in England & Wales Company no: 8737435 Tel: 01603 880853 Web: [www.dneat.org](http://www.dneat.org)



## The Nightingale Federation Logo

Next week, we will be sending home an opportunity to support the design of our new Federation Logo for the Nightingale Federation. We will welcome designs from both our school communities. Please look out for this opportunity.

### *Shining Lights of the Week!*

- Ark Nursery **Olivia** for her brilliant talking this week. Olivia has gained hugely in confidence whilst settling into our class, chatting away during her play as well as joining in with our learning sessions on the carpet!
- Antarctica Class (R) **Stuart** for his fabulous enthusiasm during our trip, outdoor learning and provision challenges this week. Stuart has shown great enjoyment in his achievements!
- Oceania Class (yr 1) **Grayson** for blowing us away with the progress he is making in English! He is loving his Phonics and has made huge leaps forwards with his reading. Well done Grayson!
- Africa Class (yr 2) **Romeo** for always showing excellent behaviours for learning. Romeo always has his looking eyes and listening ears ready to learn. He has also made fantastic and thoughtful contributions to class discussions this week.
- Europe Class (yr 3) **Oliver** for showing great behaviours for learning and being extremely polite and sensible to peers and adults around the school. Oliver has grown in confidence and shown a huge improvement in his independence.
- S America Class (yr 4) **Arthur** for his hard work in his English. Arthur has been extremely enthusiastic and applying skills we have looked at. It was great to hear him say, "Right, I better read my work through and edit it now." He has made so much progress, well done!
- Asia Class (yr 5) **Max** for effort he has been putting into his handwriting and English lessons this week. Max has worked really hard at improving his handwriting and punctuation.
- North America (yr 6) **James** for being enthusiastic and contributing his ideas in lessons. He is always sensible and hard-working. Well done James!

**This week's overall attendance 95.2% Asia Class (yr 2) 98.9%**

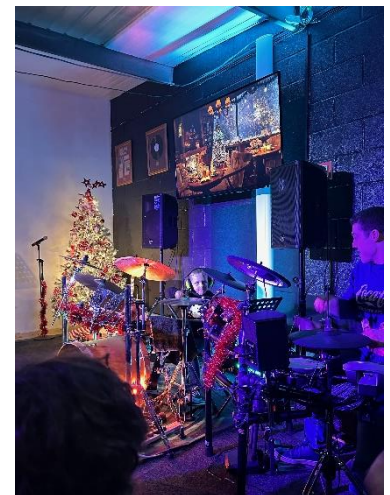
### *WOW MOMENTS!*

**Jude (yr 1)** completed Stage 3 in swimming and achieved his 10m badge.

**Caiden (yr 2)** after less than three months of having drum lessons, played in a concert on Saturday night in front of over 40 people where he played a song by Queen.

**Amelia (yr R)** received a medal for really good dancing in the dance show last weekend! Amelia performed her ballet performance on stage twice in front of lots and lots of people!

**Sophie (yr 6)** has been awarded a Blue Peter Badge specially designed by Quentin Blake for viewers who have read a book and shared their joy of reading by writing in with their thoughts – Sophie read 'The Girl of Ink and Stars'



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



# OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Question of the week
1	Can we put toys in order?
2	How did London change after the fire?
3	How did prehistoric beliefs and rituals change?
4	How did the Romans try to defend the land they took while taking more?
5	Did the Vikings rule England?
6	How can we make a difference to climate change?

## Antarctica Class (Reception)

Reception class had a brilliant first ever school trip to High Lodge in Thetford Forest exploring the changing seasons and undertake the hunt to find the Gruffalo. The children were super excited as we found the story characters along the way and were pleased to see it was a friendly Gruffalo awaiting us at the end! The children behaved amazingly well; showing respect to others, kindness and sensible listening. They even managed to miss the rain! A great time was had by all.



## North America Class (yr 6)

Year 6 have enjoyed some outdoor learning this week where they collected natural items outdoors and used these alongside pine cones to make Christmas decorations. In their D&T lesson they have begun constructing their model flood-proof houses.



## KS1 Gymnastics Festival

A few of the children from years 1 and 2 took part in a Gymnastics Festival at Norwich Gymnastics Club this week. Team TB had a chance to try out the beam, floor, vault and bars. Well done to Corey in year 2 who was awarded the value certificate for determination.



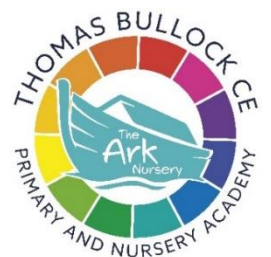
## Friend of Shipdham School

Don't forget to get your raffle tickets into school ahead of the draw on **Thursday 14th December**. There are loads of fantastic prizes to be won such as food and beauty hampers, entry to lots of attractions and days out, vouchers, a cash prize of £35 and lots more!

Can you guess the name of our Elf?? We will be outside school on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 3pm when you can try to guess the name from our squares – £1 a go. The lucky winner will get to take the Elf and some other goodies home for Christmas – don't forget to set Elf a place for Christmas lunch! We will also have hot chocolate cones and reindeer food for sale. £1.50 for hot chocolate cones and 50p for reindeer food. Fresh wreathes are available to purchase through our Facebook page or from the shop - £10 each.



# The Ark Nursery Newsletter



## This week

We have had a busy week filled with Christmas activities – so busy we have barely had a chance for photos! We've made lots of wonderful crafts and decorations that will be coming home on our last days of nursery before Christmas. We've enjoyed seeing what the naughty elf has been up to each day and counting down the days to Christmas with our advent calendar. We have been consolidating our maths learning and making Christmas marks!



## Next week

Next week will see even more Christmas activities, the filming of our Christmas performance and lots of opportunity for talking! Please remember to bring in a named carrier bag for all of our belongings to come home.

## Learning links at home

- Practise singing our songs for the Christmas performance – 'Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star' and 'Away in a Manger'. Can you sign while singing to the people at home for 'Twinkle, Twinkle', like we have been in class?
- Watch our book advent videos on our school Facebook page, where staff from school read a Christmas themed book each day for advent!
- Practise putting on your own hat, scarf, gloves and coat – what do we put on first?

## DIARY DATES

### December

- 12<sup>th</sup> Nativity (Reception Class) at 9.15am and 2pm at Church
- 14<sup>th</sup> Yr 1 Holkham Hall Christmas Experience
- 15<sup>th</sup> FOSS Lunchtime Christmas Shop
- 18<sup>th</sup> FOSS Lunchtime Christmas Shop
- 18<sup>th</sup> FOSS Christmas Party afternoon\*
- 19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Lunch Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> Christmas Concert & Christingle at Church 1.30pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

### Christmas Holiday 21<sup>st</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January

### January 2024

- 3<sup>rd</sup> INSET Day

### 4<sup>th</sup> Children return to School

### February

- 6<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 trip to Duxford\*

### Half term 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> February inclusive

### March

- 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Yr 5 residential to The Horstead Centre\*

- 18<sup>th</sup> School Photographer (Class photos)

- 28<sup>th</sup> INSET Day School Closed

### Easter holiday 29<sup>th</sup> March – 12<sup>th</sup> April inclusive

### MAY

- 6<sup>th</sup> Bank holiday

### Half term 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May

### JULY

- 18<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

- 19<sup>th</sup> INSET Day School Closed

\*New Addition