



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

1st March 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the Nightingale Federation

We hope you all had a good half term week and despite the cold and wet week back the children have been enjoying some outdoor learning! Mrs Garrod and years R, 1 and 2 have been battling the rain and sleet with lots of shelter building and using tarps to keep the rain off. Today, they had ducks to name and think about shelters for. They looked at the sparrows in the hedges and at a nest and a nest box and discussed which birds might use them. They also talked about nests only being for raising chicks. There were lots of running around games to keep warm! Hopefully - as today is the meteorological start of spring - we will have better weather for the next half term.

In Music this week with Mrs Drake our Music Teacher, Reception, year 1 and 2 have all been learning Spring Songs, it was lovely to hear some beautiful singing coming from the classes. Year 3 have been learning about chords through the use of chime bars. Year 4 have been drumming using Djembe drums which are rope-tuned skin-covered goblet drums played with bare hands, originally from West Africa. Look out on our social media platforms for some videos taken. Year 5 have been doing 'call and response' songs in group work and Year 6 have been creating their own radio jingle for a new chocolate bar with ukuleles!

On Tuesday, our Reception classes from Lyng and Thomas Bullock have a trip to the Dereham Library planned together. This will be our first opportunity for our Federation to join together on a school trip!

We would also like to invite you to come and read with your child or just enjoy a book at the end of the day- 3pm on World Book Day.

We are also planning a whole school open day afternoon event on Monday March 25th. We will share more details in the coming weeks but would love for you to share this date with our community- your neighbours, friends and families.

Finally, Year 5 are off on their residential to Horstead next week. We have been visiting Horstead for several years and we know they will have a great time. We will include a write up of their stay and photos in next week's newsletter – have fun year 5!

PARKING

We received this week an email from the clerk to the Parish Council which we have been asked to share:

Unfortunately I have had several complaints regarding parents now parking in Fieldfare Loke. This is a really narrow road and access to the care home is being blocked and also parking on the grass verges, which is ruining the surface. It would be highly unlikely that an emergency vehicle could access the Loke at dropping off and picking up times. Please could you kindly put something in your newsletter.

We hope that our families will be understanding of sensible parking and be extra vigilant on drop off and pick up times around all the roads leading to our school.



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



Shining Lights of the Week!

Ark Nursery	Eddie for settling so well into our class and routines. Eddie has been a keen learner and is showing great progress in his phonics knowledge and pencil grip.
Antarctica Class (R)	Esme for being a responsible member of our class. She is always first to offer help to others and get herself organised! Esme has also shown a great responsibility for her own behaviour and attitudes to learning.
Oceania Class (yr 1)	Charlie for settling in so well to life in Oceania Class. He has transitioned seamlessly into Year One at Thomas Bullock and we're so happy to have him as a member of our team!
Africa Class (yr 2)	Jacob for coming back to school with an amazing attitude to learning. He has taken great responsibility for his own learning and has worked particularly hard in Phonics.
Europe Class (yr 3)	Jack is always ready to give his best. He thinks deeply and then offers a well considered response to questions. It's been a real pleasure to see his light shine this week.
S America Class (yr 4)	Halli for being a responsible member of our class by ensuring she is organised and prepared for each lesson; as well as taking responsibility for her own learning. She is a great role model in our class.
Asia Class (yr 5)	Jake for his focus and determination during the assessments. He has shown excellent progress in his maths. Well done!
North America (yr 6)	Lacey is our shining light this week for trying really hard in all lessons. She is always kind to others and is a great friend.

This week's overall attendance 96%

North America Class (yr 6) 96.5%

WOW MOMENTS!

Isabelle S (yr 6) was selected to take part in her first netball match for Thetford Netball Club against the year 7 and 8 team from Trowse. She was also selected as trainer of the week in recognition for her continued progress at training.

Matha and Charlotte (yr 1) have both gone up a stage in their swimming lessons!

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

Keeping us up to date ...

**Please remember to inform the school office of any change in circumstances –
address changes, mobile phones, medical updates.**

Thankyou!



OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Question of the week
1	How have bicycles changed since they were first invented?
2	What Is the continent of Africa like?
3	What is it like in the countries of Southern Europe?
4	What is happening to the Amazon Rainforest?
5	How are mountains formed?
6	What was the impact of the Second World War on Britain?

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 7th March

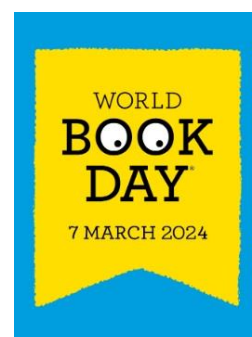
A letter will be coming home Monday with more details about World Book Day along with the £1 book voucher for each child and the activities that have been planned. As is usual, we invite all children to come to school on Thursday dressed as their favourite book character. It is always wonderful to see the children dressed up. We would like to say a big thank you to all of you ahead of the day for the effort you put into dressing up your children.

However, please don't think you have to spend a lot of money on a costume you can always adapt something you have at home and there are ideas on the World Book Day website along with lots of activities:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas/>

<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>

There will a special menu to celebrate World Book Day which is attached to this emailed newsletter



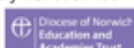
We would also like to invite you to come and read with your child or just enjoy a book at the end of the day- 3pm on World Book Day.

Reception Class Mothers' Day Celebration

The Mums of the Reception Class children are invited to come along for some drinks and biscuits, reading and phonics games with poems about Mothers' Day on

Monday 11th March at 2.30pm

If you are unable to come it would be possible to send along a Nanny but we only have room for 1 adult for 1 child





We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at these events!

Friends of Shipdham School Fundraising Initiative



The Friends of Shipdham School have signed up with easyfundraising, a free fundraising platform that lets us earn donations when you shop online. And the best part? It doesn't cost you a penny!

With 8,100+ brands to choose from, including Tesco, Sainsbury's, John Lewis & Partners, Sports Direct, ASOS, M&S, Boots, Just Eat, and Booking.com, there's something for everyone.

Here's how it works: Download the easyfundraising app, once you sign up, simply start your shopping and the retailer you shop with will send us a free donation based on your spending at no additional cost to you. Registering yourself takes just 2 minutes and all you need is your email address. And what's more, to help us get up and running, during the next two weeks easyfundraising will donate £1 to us for every new supporter who registers to support us.

Attached to the newsletter is more information to help with downloading the app.

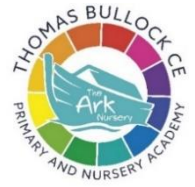


Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust Registered Office: 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich NR9 5ES
Registered in England & Wales Company no: 8737435 Tel: 01603 880853 Web: www.dneat.org



The Ark Nursery Newsletter

This week



In phonics this week, we have learnt new sounds 'u' and 'b'. During our literacy sessions, we have been repeating phrases from our story book 'Ten Little Pirates', using our maths skills to count down from 10 to 1! We went on a walk around the school site to spot the signs of spring, as well as discussing where we might hide treasure if we were pirates! We practised walking the plank outdoors too. In Maths, we have been learning all about the number 6. We have shown 6 using our fingers, sang songs and listened to stories based around the number 6 and represented 6 on a tens frame.

We were super excited to come in on Friday to see our new role play area: a farm shop! We are looking forward to adding to this area over the upcoming weeks and using this area to develop our vocabulary, oracy and question asking.



Next week

During our phonics sessions next week, we will be learning new sounds 'f' and 'e'. We have a new literacy focus story of 'The Train Ride'. Linked to this, we will be learning all about transport. Please upload any photos, linked to transport (going in the car, on a bus / train / plane etc), so we can use these during discussions and promote oracy. In Maths, we will be exploring height and length.

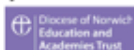
Thursday is World Book Day!

Learning links at home

- Create a mystery bag. Hide an object in a bag. Is the bag heavy or light? Discuss what could be inside the bag.
- Re-tell our story of 'Ten Little Pirates' at home. Can you remember what you saw?
- Go on a nature walk and create some art. This could be using natural materials or coming home and drawing what you saw! What colours did you see on your nature walk?



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



DIARY DATES

March

- 4th Yr 2 Geography Visitor
- 4th to 5th Yr 5 residential to The Horstead Centre
- 7th World Book Day – Dress Up Day
- 8th FOSS Bingo in WI Hall - SAVE THE DATE, time tbc
- 14th Yr 4 Level 1 Cycling
- 18th School Photographer (Class photos)
- 19th Yr 6 SATs briefing to parents 4.45pm*
- 20th Yr 5 Asian Food Tasting
- 20th Parent/Teacher Appointments
- 21st Parent/Teacher Appointment
- 25th Open Afternoon – details to be confirmed*
- 27th Yr 4 Dereham Railway *
- 27th Easter Service at Church 1.30pm
- 28th INSET Day School Closed

Easter holiday 29th March – 12th April inclusive

APRIL

- 17th Yr 2 SATs briefing to parents (time to be confirmed)*
- 23rd Year 1 Phonics briefing to parents (time to be confirmed)*

MAY

- 1st Yr 5 Trip to Gressenhall – Victorian Day*
- 6th Bank holiday
- 7th & 8th Yr 5 Level 2 Cycling
- 13th – 17th Year 6 SATs week*
- 20th – 24th Year 2 SATs week*

Half term 27th – 31st May

JULY

- 18th Last day of term
- 19th INSET Day School Closed

*New Addition