Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy
"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:14-16
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NEWSLETTER

13th February 2026

What a wonderful week we have had!

Thank you to everyone who attended our Book Look and Reading Café this week. It was lovely to see so many of you in school, sharing in the children's learning. Congratulations to those who took part in our swimming gala. We are very proud of them!

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you for your generosity with the cake donations. The Student Council are looking forward to sharing how much has been raised, with funds being allocated to school projects for FOSS and their chosen charity.

We wish you all a wonderful and relaxing half-term and look forward to welcoming everyone back on **23rd February**.

A huge thank you to our School Councillors and Star Ambassadors who worked so hard preparing for and running today's break time cake sale. You did a fantastic job! We would also like to say a big thank you to everyone who kindly donated cakes and treats.

Your generosity made the sale possible. new are always so grateful for the continued support from our wonderful families.

We have raised over £200 so far! Well done everyone!

Yr 5/6 Swimming Gala

Yr 5/6 took part in a Swimming Gala at UEA Sports Park. There were 12 schools taking part and nearly 100 children. It was a competitive morning of individual and relay races. All of Team TB did well coming 7th overall. Well done to Freddie in Yr 6 who was awarded the festival value certificate for Determination. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who came along to support us.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Dereham Vets for their generous book donation in support of Children's Mental Health Week. Your support helps us continue promoting wellbeing and positive mental health for children.

This week's overall attendance 92% - North America Class (Yr 6) 95.7%

This sits below National Average

Shining Lights of the Half Term

Ark Class (Nursery)	**Alfred** for always trying his best during activities and getting involved in all our learning. **Isla** for approaching all activities with enthusiasm and imaginations. We are proud of how she has expressed her individuality!
Antarctica (Yr R)	**Rosa & Woody** for showing their creative talents this half term! They are always showcasing these with pictures and creations that we love to see :)
Arctic Class (Yr R)	**Rupert** for his creativeness during our space topic. **Daphne** for producing some amazing pieces in our creation station.
Oceania Class (Yr 1)	**Freddie** for having very imaginative ideas in the classroom and making some marvellous creations during his time at our Lego enrichment club after school! **Isabella S** for her amazing accompanying illustrations to stories, diagrams in science and sketches in art which are always brilliant!
Africa Class (Yr 2)	**Aiden** for using his wonderful, creative mind in our English writing. He has been extremely motivated and independent in class, demonstrating a brilliant attitude towards learning. **Margot** for using our value of creativity in every aspect of our learning. She always takes her time to think through her wonderful ideas and produces excellent work.
Europe Class (Yr 3)	**Charlotte** for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of creativity. She always uses her wonderful imagination to produce some excellent pieces of work. Charlotte shows enthusiasm and passion in the classroom and is a pleasure to be around. **Oscar** for always using this half terms value of creativity in his classwork. Oscar will consistently produce brilliant ideas which he then implements into his work. He always shows readiness and a willingness to improve as a learner and person!
S America Class (Yr 4)	**Jacob** for the creativity he brings to every aspect of his learning. He has approached his work in many imaginative ways, particularly in maths, where he has shown great originality and confidence. **Luca** his creative mind and the positive outlook he shows when solving problems, using language, or learning a new skill. He constantly thinks in unique ways and embraces new challenges with enthusiasm.
Asia Class (Yr 5)	**Lewis** and **Izzy** for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of creativity. They always produce wonderfully imaginative artwork in Art and crafts engaging, original stories in English. We are so proud of their enthusiasm and creative spirit.
N America Class (Yr 6)	**Jaylen** for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of creativity. He always thinks deeply and creatively about his work and produces excellent final pieces of artwork. **Halli** for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of creativity. She is always demonstrating excellent problem-solving skills, finding creative solutions to many different types of problems.

WOW MOMENTS

Isabella S (Yr 1) This weekend Isabella competed in Legacy competition at the Ovo arena in Wembley. Tickets were sold out and it a huge arena but she took it all in her stride. She was the youngest to compete for her club and her team won!

Freddie (Yr 1) Freddie was awarded 'ball of the week' at Wymondham Rugby Club on Sunday for his noticeable improvement, good listening and try scoring.

Eddie (Yr 3) At the junior park run on Sunday we challenged Eddie to try to keep up with a boy who keeps a steady pace and always finishes in the top few. Incredibly, after not having done the park run for a couple of months, Eddie not only kept up with him, but finished over 20 seconds in front of him, finishing 3rd! He had an amazing run and we're really proud of him!

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 Questions
1	How has road transport changed?
2	What is the continent of Oceania like?
3	What is it like to live in Rome?
4	Do people live in the Amazon Rainforest?
5	How are volcanoes formed?
6	Why did a second world war break out in 1939?

Absence

As part of our attendance policy, if your child is absent from school, parents and carers must inform the school office. Please note that notifying your child's class teacher alone is not sufficient, and the office must also be contacted. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sickness

Please be reminded that Children with vomiting or diarrhoea must stay home for at least 48 hours after their last episode to prevent spreading infections.

Parking Reminder

Please can we remind all parents and carers to park considerately when dropping off or collecting children from school.

We have recently received complaints from local residents regarding vehicles blocking driveways and access to roads. We kindly ask everyone to be mindful of our neighbours and to park safely and respectfully at all times.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Thinking Day / Founder's Day – Monday 23rd February

Over recent years, it has become a lovely tradition for children who are members of Guiding and Scouting (Rainbows, Brownies, Scouts and Guides etc) to wear their uniforms to school to celebrate **Thinking Day**, which is held annually on **22nd February**. This special day marks the joint birthdays of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, founders of the Scouting and Guiding movements over 100 years ago.

As Thinking Day falls during the half-term break this year, we are inviting children to wear their Guiding or Scouting uniforms to school on **Monday 23rd February**, which is the closest school day.

Thinking Day is celebrated by over **10 million children across more than 150 countries worldwide**, recognising friendship, community, and the shared values of the Guiding and Scouting movements. Guiding and Scouting remain very popular locally, and we are always proud to celebrate the many children who are involved in these organisations.

If your child is a member of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Scouts or a related group, they are very welcome to wear their uniform to school on this day.

Re-arranged Norfolk Steps for Parents Sessions - online sessions for parents and carers

New dates - Friday 6th March and Friday 13th March between 12.30-2.30pm.
These sessions will be facilitated by Education and Family Workers from the School and Community Team and will now be held **online.**

The course will share a therapeutic approach to behaviour management focused on around supporting children to emotionally regulate and understanding the emotions behind their behaviours. It will also provide a welcoming space to share experiences and to seek advice. If you would like any further information about the course or would like to attend please email Mrs Smith via the school office. Meeting links and further instructions will be shared via email.

Thomas Bullock Primary and Nursery Academy

invite Parents and Children from age 2 to our

FREE SPRING STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS

Every Friday 2:00pm – 3:00pm

We will explore our fantastic new indoor/ outdoor areas through sensory stories, fine motor funky activities and lots more!

To register an interest to any of the above email office@thomasbullock.dneat.org

Funded places are available now, please contact the school office.

‚Safer Internet Day 2026 – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI

This week, our school joined others nationwide to celebrate Safer Internet Day 2026, the largest global online safety campaign. This year's theme, 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI,' focuses on teaching children and young people the skills to use AI technology safely and responsibly, and highlights available support.

From voice assistants, to chatbots, to algorithms, AI technology is playing an increasingly large role in all our lives. It is important that we find time to discuss these tools and the impact they can have on our own and our families' online experiences, including:

- the news and content we see,
- the way we work, including using AI for homework or studies,
- the risk of misuse of AI.

We encourage you to join us in celebrating by continuing the conversation about AI technology at home. Here are some helpful resources:

- You can complete the UK Safer Internet Centre's interactive quizzes with your child.
- Read the UK Safer Internet Centre's tops tips for parents and carers here.
- You can share the UK Safer Internet Centre's top tips for children and young people with your child.

You may also like to use one of these prompts to start a conversation with your child:

- What's your favourite thing to do online?
- Have you ever used an AI tool? How did it make you feel?
- What do you like about AI technology?
- Do you have any worries about AI technology?
- What advice would you give to your friends about using AI?
- Who would you talk to if you saw something worrying online?
- What more can I do to help you feel safe online?

A key part of protecting children and young people from online harms is through preventative education. By talking about this in school and at home, we can all work towards keeping children safe when they are online. Celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for you to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or our Designated Safeguarding Person/Lead.

Supporting Young Carers at Thomas Bullock

We are committed to ensuring that all students get the support they need to have a positive school experience, are happy in school and can achieve their full potential.

We know that for some students, factors outside of school can have a big impact on this, particularly if there is someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled, or has a mental health problem or an addiction. Data shows that in every class there could be as many as 2 pupils who are helping to support someone because of one of these factors – we call these students young carers.

Students can be young carers for lots of different reasons, this can include providing physical and/or emotional support. Some young carers might be doing lots of caring, others just a small amount but are impacted by the situation at home for example by worrying about the person with the health condition, or needing to do more things for themselves compared to other students. For example, if a sibling has SEND this may have a big impact on them.

We are currently working alongside Carers Matter Norfolk and The Benjamin Foundation to better improve the Young Carers support we provide in our school. This will include assemblies, PSHE lessons around this topic and more opportunities for Young Carers to talk to a member of staff and a regular group.

Outside of school, there are many support services available in the local area:
- Carers Matter Norfolk – 1-1 and family support
- The Benjamin Foundation (Watton) – Boom! groups – evening groups and trips (see flyer for details).

If you think that any of the above applies to your child, and that they might possibly be a young carer then please complete the questionnaire via the link below.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScuZREAkI07iXZwNUoixLOKKKtLx2YAErnrNUJUzENQ9DASJA/viewform?usp=header

DIARY DATES

February
13th – Last day of Half Term
Half Term – 16th- 20th February 2026
23rd – Children return to School
23rd- Thinking Day- Guide and Scout members come to school in their Guiding Uniform*
24th – Year 3 Time and Tide Museum Trip

March
2nd – Author Visit, Keith Hatton. Whole School Assembly
5th – World Book Day
9th – 13th – British Science Week
16th – School Photographer – Class Photos
17th -19th – Parents Evenings
25th – Easter Service at All Saints Church 2pm*
26th – Year 2- Amazing Africa Visitor
27th – Last Day of Term

April
30th March– 13th April - Easter Holiday
13th – Inset Day - School Closed
14th – Children return to School

May
1st – Year 1 & 2 Maths Café 2.30pm-3pm
4th- May Day Bank Holiday- School Closed
6th – Year 3 Maths Café 2.30pm-3pm
11th- 14th – KS2 National Curriculum Tests (Year 6 SATs)
Half Term Monday 25th May – Monday 1st June
June
1st – Inset Day - School Closed
2nd - Children return to school

July
17th - Break up for summer – School finishes at 12pm

*New Addition

Wishing you all a lovely Half Term!

GREAT YARMOUTH PLEASURE BEACH

YOUNG CARER FUN DAY

Wednesday 1st April - 11am-3pm

Carers Matter Norfolk & The Benjamin Foundation invite Young Carers age 8-18 for a fun day out at the Pleasure Beach.

- **free of charge**
- **transport available**

Sign up by 3/3/26 using the QR code or click here

Carers Matter Norfolk
SUPPORTING YOUNG CARERS & FAMILIES

The Benjamin Foundation

By wisdom a house is built; and by understanding it is established: By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.
Proverbs 24: 3 – 24: 4 (ESV)

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Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust

Ref: OB-130226-011

13 February 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thomas Bullock CofE Primary Academy

As Chief Executive Officer of DNEAT, I am writing to you on behalf of Mrs Shannon O'Sullivan, Headteacher of the above academy.

As a school we use various ways of communicating and celebrating the successes of our wonderful children. You and they are all part of our wider DNEAT family, and we enjoy sharing news of success with you. Over the past few years, there has been much to celebrate.

We are so thankful to the community around Thomas Bullock and to you as parents for the support you have shown to the school on its improvement journey and through the 'bumps along the way,' such as RACC! I'm sure that most of you will therefore be sad to hear, as I was, that a very small minority of parents are currently choosing to use social media to post and share negative comments about the school, around individual staff and students. This does not support finding a resolution and causes significant distress to both staff and students in our wider community.

To any parent behaving in this way, please be reminded of the agreement that was made when you join Nightingale Federation - Policies.

If you do have anything that you would like to discuss, please contact the school so that we can work together to find a resolution.

If the school or Trust feels that any individual's social media posts could be considered as harassment, or to be putting a child or staff member at risk, we will of course refer the matter to the police. We may also choose to limit avenues of communication or access to school for individuals causing distress to children or staff.

We thank you in your support in upholding the values of Thomas Bullock Primary Academy of Kindness and Respect.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Burwood
Chief Executive Officer
DNEAT

Community - Courage - Kindness - Wisdom

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