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

13th June 2025

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

It has been a very busy few weeks at Thomas Bullock CE Primary and Nursery School. We have enjoyed trips in both Year 6 and Reception, celebrated Father's Day, and held the first of many transition events. We have also successfully completed our Multiplication Times Tables Tests in Year 4 and Phonics Screens in Year 1. Well done all and thank you parents for your support!

This week, we were thrilled to welcome our new Reception children into school for a sunny and joy-filled Teddy Bears Picnic, our first transition session with parents. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting the new children and seeing their wonderful array of toys. The sunshine made it the perfect day for a bear hunt, a picnic and lots of fun in our classroom. Thank you to everyone who joined us. It was a delight to meet the children and we cannot wait to see them again at their upcoming transition sessions and in September.

Over the next two weeks, we look forward to welcoming Nursery parents to our Sports Day and Picnic Lunch on Monday and all parents from Reception to Year 6, the following Monday.

We are also pleased to share our teaching team for the next academic year, along with the classes they will be leading from September. Transition meetings and discussions have already begun, and staff are currently preparing transition plans and developing a programme of activities to support your children.

Class	Teacher - Main
The Ark – Nursery	Miss M Spalding
Arctic Class- Reception	Mr J Weston
Antarctica Class – Reception	Mrs D Marjoram
Oceania Class – Year 1	Mr L Johnson
Africa Class – Year 2	Miss E King
Europe Class – Year 3	Mr J Stagg
South America Class – Year 4	Miss O Crane
Asia Class – Year 5	Miss L Newcombe Mrs N Henman
North America- Year 6	Mr A Long
PE Teacher	Mrs C Greenland
Music Teacher	Mrs A Drake
SENCO	Mrs N Smith

Other Staffing News

During the 2025-2026 Autumn Term, we will be saying farewell to our wonderful Federation School Business Manager, Mrs Ward, who will be retiring after an incredible 24 years of dedicated service. We are extremely grateful for all she has contributed over the years and she will be greatly missed by all. We are currently recruiting for this role, which will be based at Thomas Bullock CE Primary Academy. If you know of anyone who may be interested, we would be very grateful if you could share the vacancy with them. Advert: HERE

On Thursday last week we were very lucky to have a visit from Sarah who is an Oral Health Educator who shared with us ideas on **keeping our teeth healthy. The assembly** covered teeth names, toothbrushing, sugar awareness and the importance of visiting a dentist. The lively and interactive BrightBites programme aims to better educate children on why it is so important that we look after our teeth! Sarah was particularly impressed with the knowledge our children already knew and the questions they had to ask. A huge thank you to Sarah and the Dentaid Dental charity for this brilliant session, information booklets and toothbrushing packs for our children

Friends of Shipdham School

Reminder – Bag 2 School collection is next Tuesday 17th June. Please make sure all bags are dropped off first thing on this day. If you have lost or filled the original bag sent home, they will accept any kind of bin bag. Thank you for your support!

Shining Lights of the Week

Ark Class (Nursery)	**Charlotte** for being a great community member in Ark Class. She is always contributing during carpet time, following rules and routines and being a kind friend.
Antarctic Class (yr R)	**Isabella S** for always being a wonderful member of our class community and for being a wonderful role model on our trip this week
Oceania Class (yr 1)	**All of Year One** for working so hard on their phonics screening check. They read lots and lots of real and alien words. Well done everyone!
Africa Class (yr 2)	**Jacob** for working extremely hard on his handwriting and showing great motivation to continue progressing.
Europe Class (yr 3)	**Jacob** for the perseverance he has shown in all his work. When something has become tough, he has overcome this and kept a positive mindset. Keep it up!
S America Class (yr 4)	**All of Year 4** for working incredibly hard in their multiplication tables check. They have been practising consistently over a number of weeks and their hard work has paid off.
Asia Class (yr 5)	**Pria** for her perseverance in Reading Stars sessions. She is working extremely hard to locate evidence in the text to support her ideas, inferences and impressions about settings and characters.
N America Class (yr 6)	**Millie** has been praised this week for her marvellous maths problem solving.

This week's overall attendance 96.6%. Oceania Class (yr 1) 100%

OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Questions
1	What is the seaside and where is it?
2	Where in the world is Kenya?
3	When and where was Ancient Egypt?
4	Where in the world is the USA?
5	Why was this period called the Golden Age of Islam?

WOW MOMENTS!

Elsa (yr 6) During half term Elsa and her Cheerleading Team 'Code Breakers' competed at the British Nationals in Telford. Their first time competing as a team and came away with First place. Well done to Elsa and her teammates.

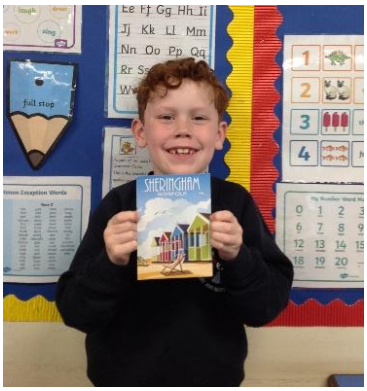
Martha (yr 2) got a new, big bike for her birthday and despite being a bit daunted by it at first, she is now riding it really confidently! Martha also received her Sapphire badge for the beam and floor awards in gymnastics this week. Well done Martha!

Freya (yr 4) has been enjoying creating some great drawings at home, one is below, don't you agree!

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

Africa Class (yr 2)

In English, Year 2 have been looking at the story 'Meerkat Mail'. We have discussed postcards and if we have received or sent them before. Africa Class have shared some of their own postcards with us from their half term adventures!



Asia Class (yr 5) Tie-dye mania!

In DT, Year 5 have been homing their sewing (and needle threading!) skills. They used backstitching to combine textiles to create bespoke tote bags and are now in the process of using a variety of tie dying techniques to achieve their intended designs. We can't wait to see the finished products!

Antarctica Class (yr R)

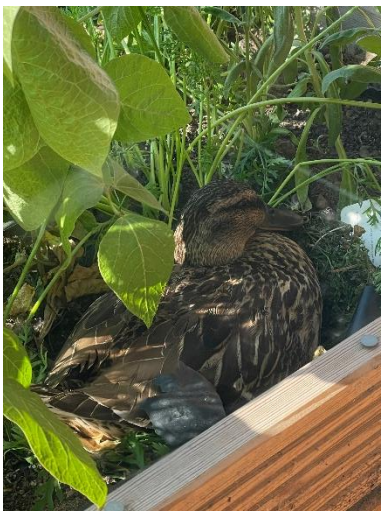
Our reception pupils in Antarctica class had a fantastic time at Gressenhall for their Traditional Tales workshop. We met lots of different story characters and helped them on the quest to find all of the museum artefacts that had been hidden by the Wicked Witch! We enjoyed potion making in the woods; chores with Cinderella; storytelling and beanstalk descents with Jack; tractor rides; quests with the Curator and much more! Our day was nicely summed up by Mollie on our return where she shared "The day was amazing - I loved it!" A big thank you to the TB trust for funding this trip for our pupils and the Norfolk Museums for a brilliant day.

Yr 3-5 Athletics Competition

On Tuesday Yr 5 took part in an Athletics competition at the UEA Sports Park. The children competed in the following events 75m sprint, 400m, Javelin, Long Jump and 2 relays. This was a great opportunity to experience competing on a professional running track. The competition was split into 2 groups and Team TB came 2nd in group B. Well done to Rory who was awarded the competition value certificate for Self-Belief.

The Ark Nursery Newsletter

This week and last week



We have had a special visitor to the planter outside of our classroom door – a mummy duck and her seven eggs! The children have been super excited to quietly check in on her through the window and we left some water out for her for over the weekend!

Linked to this, our butterflies also all emerged and we have released our final one today! It flew around, before landing on one of the children's heads! During our phonics sessions, we've continued practising our word building skills. We've consolidated our learning surrounding our focus book 'Come on, Daisy'. The children have particularly loved this book and learning about the moral of the story! We were introduced to number lines in maths and have completed various activities practising 'What comes after?' too. During our afternoons, we explored insects further, especially out in our outdoor areas. We were super lucky to receive a visit from Norfolk Wildlife Trust – alongside many other activities, the children were so engaged and loved hunting for insects and learning their names!

We also enjoyed having some of our dads and grandads in for our Father's Day Stay and Play today. Thank you so much for joining us out in the warm weather! We hope all our dad's etc enjoy their weekend and the cards lovingly made by our Ark Class children this week. We have also continued to practise for Sports Day too (this is on Monday 16th June as per prior communication).

Next week

The children are very excited to be sending out invitations to parents for our Nursery Graduation next week. We will have Sports Day on Monday and will begin talking about transitions. During our maths sessions, we will explore numbers to 5 even deeper than we have already! We will continue recapping our RWI sounds, building words, reading words and learning red words. We will begin our literacy learning on traditional tales – our focus story won't be revealed to children until they've spotted something on Monday morning when they come into class!

Learning links at home

- When you spot numbers in the environment around you, for instance door numbers on the way to school, identify them! What comes after that number?
- Sing counting rhymes that recite the numbers in order, e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive or One, Two Buckle My Shoe. Pause – what number comes next?
- Use everyday objects such as toys, fruits or blocks and ask your child to count them. Start with a small set of objects, like three crayons and have your child count them out loud. You could also ask them to pass you 'four brick' or 'five cars' as you play with them.
- Go on a number hunt! Hide numbered cards around your house or garden. Ask your child to find and collect the cards in numerical order. For example, they would search for the number 1 first, then the number 2 and so on until they find all five.

DIARY DATES

June

14th FOSS Village Yard Sale
16th Year 3 Trip to Norwich Mosque
16th Ark Nursery Sports and Picnic Lunch 11:00 – 12:30
17th FOSS Bag 2 School collection
23rd R to Yr 6 Sports Day and Picnic Lunch 9:00- 12.30
24th Yr 2 trip to Banham Zoo
25th Norfolk Show – yrs 3, 4 and 5
30th – 2nd July Year 6 Residential to Eaton Vale

July

1st Yr 5 trip to Northgate to see Wizard of Oz
5th FOSS Summer Fete
11th School Disco
15th Yr 1 Trip to Wells Heritage Centre and Beach
15th Yr 6 Production 17:45
16th Yr 6 BBQ 16:15 Production 17:45
17th Leavers and Awards Service in Church 10:00
18/21/22 – Dereham High Schools transition days
21st Move up Day
22nd Move up morning
22nd Last day of term
Summer holiday commences 23rd July

* New addition