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

16th May 2025

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

This week we must pay tribute to the children in Year 6, we are incredibly proud of you all, you have shown great spirit, perseverance and positivity throughout the whole week of SATs testing continuing to smile throughout. Well done! Thank you too to our amazing team who all jumped in to support them in one way or another, stepping out of class offering wise and calming words of support to the children. A huge thank you to our dedicated year 6 team, Mr Long and Mrs Heavens who have gone above and beyond to prepare our children for these assessments, both academically and emotionally. Last, but no means least we are grateful to all the parent/carer families. Positive learning stems from positive discussions about learning at home, support with reading and interest in our children's schooling.

Thank you too to our great kitchen team for preparing breakfast each morning for year 6 this week. A variety of cereal, pain au chocolate, toast, fresh fruit and bacon rolls were enthusiastically received! Also, to the fabulous FOSS for providing a Pizza lunch specially delivered to the class today!

We wish you all a lovely weekend and are hopeful that the sunshine will return!

Reading Breakfast

Next week we invite all parents / carers or grandparents into school on Friday 23rd May to join in our Reading Breakfast.

Please do pop in between 8.30 – 8.50am if you are able, so share a book with your child and enjoy a light breakfast before we start the school day.

Wraparound Care

A reminder that the google booking form is now open to book breakfast and after school clubs for the next half term:

https://forms.gle/dnFNcG8yLEyTEVh1A

Please email the school office if ad hoc bookings are required.

Shining Lights of the Week

Ark Class (Nursery)	**Kiaara** for demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. Kiaara is always kind, polite and a great model to her peers.
Antarctic Class (yr R)	**Eddie S** for his absolutely brilliant efforts in phonics and reading lately!
Oceania Class (yr 1)	**Millie** for trying really hard in English this week in the 'short burst write' lessons building up to her version of Jack and the Beanstalk called, Millie and the Beanstalk!
Africa Class (yr 2)	**Freddie** for always using his wonderful manners to show he is thankful to his peers and adults in school.
Europe Class (yr 3)	**Dylan** for his perseverance in maths this week. When he finds something hard he has come up with solutions to deal with it. Well done, keep being you!
S America Class (yr 4)	**Sienna** for her persistent effort and determination in her English this week. She always listens carefully, tries her best and takes on feedback when writing.
Asia Class (yr 5)	**Pria** for her consistently positive attitude to all aspects of school life. She always listens carefully, tries her hardest and uses all the resources available to work as independently as possible
N America Class (yr 6)	**Lily-Grace** for her excellent attitude to SATs week-she was focused and worked really hard.

This week's overall attendance 96%. North America Class (yr 6) 99.6%

WOW MOMENTS!

Rory (yr 5) won player of the tournament at Swaffham this weekend he was amazing his confidence has grown so much and is a brilliant player!

Our very own **Harry, Rory, Theo and Oliver** along with their teammates at Dereham Saints U10 FC showed resilience and determination to win the Swaffham FC U10 Tournament last weekend. Very well done to the team!'

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	What is special about Wales?
2	Why is Nelson Mandela remembered?
3	How have the flora and fauna of different biomes adapted to life there?
4	What did the Ancient Maya believe and how did they worship?
5	How did the textile industry change?
6	How do you read an Ordnance Survey (OS) map?

Europe Class (yr 3)

In science, Europe class conducted experiments with magnets. We tested whether magnets attract all objects. After this, we created race tracks for our paper clips to move around them with a magnet underneath the paper!

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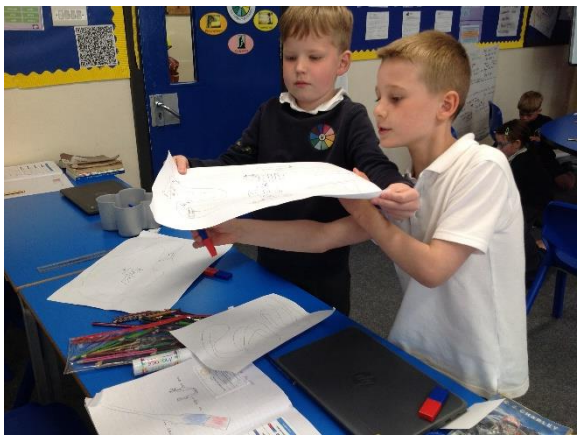
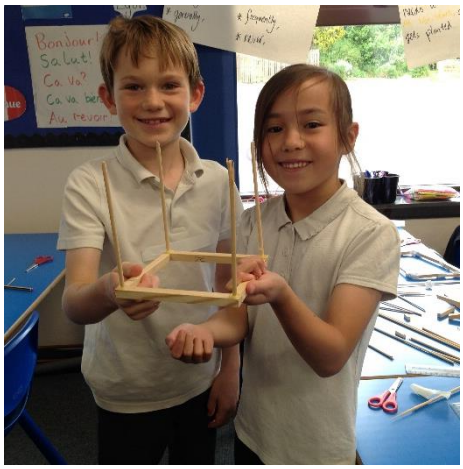
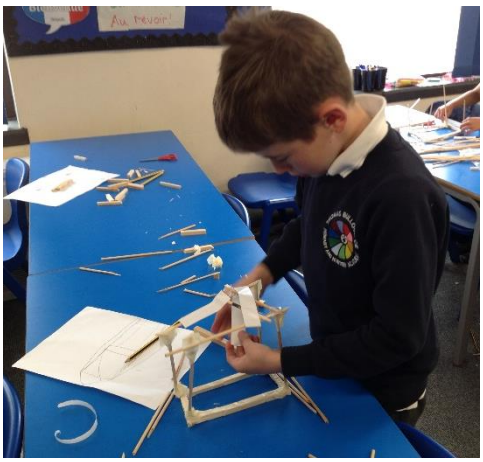


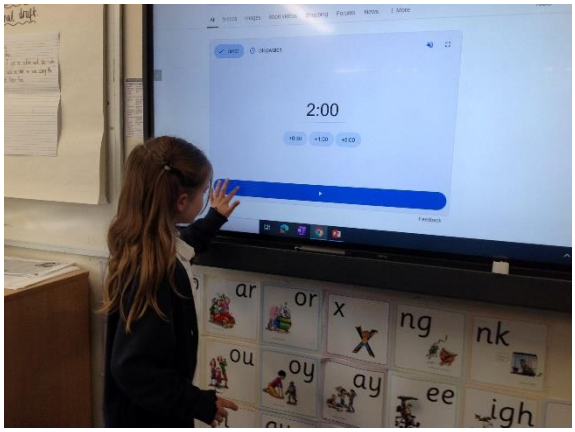
In Design and Technology we have started to create our own greenhouses, we began to build the structure with wood while using tape, saws and glue. We worked together as a team brilliantly and cannot wait to finish them off next week!





Africa Class (yr 2)

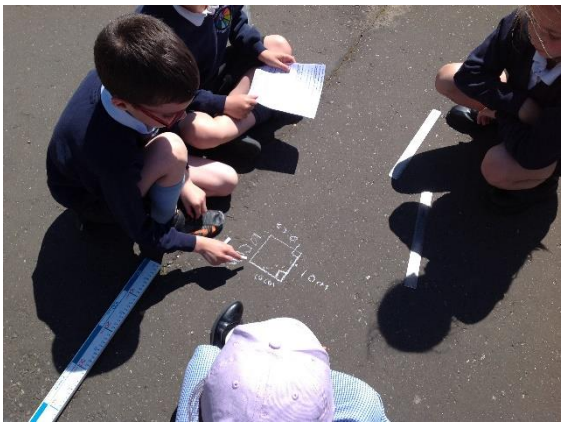
In Science, Year 2 have been investigating water wastage. They set up an experiment to test their predictions of how much water they waste by leaving a tap on whilst brushing their teeth. They filled up the bowl two and a half times!



In English, we are learning to write instructions. The children have been following instructions on how to plant a sunflower seed. A huge thank you to FOSS for kindly gifting us our plant pots, compost and sunflower seeds. Africa Class are really excited to care for them and watch them grow!

South America Class (yr 4)

The class has spent time drawing shapes with given perimeters using their reasoning skills to create both regular and irregular polygons. We loved being out in the sunshine.

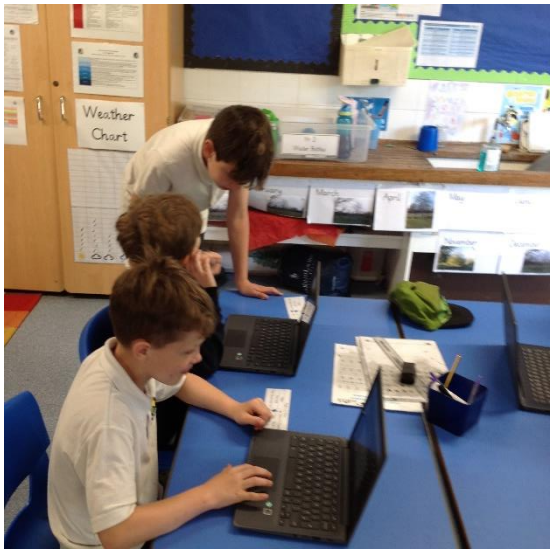


Asia Class (yr 5)

As part of their Science work on life cycles, Year 5 have been learning about pollination in plants. They had great fun dissecting and labelling the parts of a flower involved in this process!!

Digital Leaders

Our Digital Leaders have set up a KS1 Computing Club and have enjoyed supporting children in their use of chromebooks and school systems.



North America Class (yr 6)

After a week of working hard and doing our best in our SATs test we turned our efforts to working hard and doing our best to eat our own weight in pizza!! Thank you FOSS!

Friends of Shipdham School

Thank you to all our families who support the fundraising efforts of the Friends of Shipdham School, as a result each class has benefitted from having £50 to spend on class resources. So far, they have received or requested:

Nursery - Play sand, playdough stampers and pattern rollers, easy grip scissors to support fine motor development and a special PSHE story all about 'belonging'.
Reception – Maths resources, paint sticks and textured rollers for the 'dough station'
Yr 2 – Compost, seeds, plant pots and Little People, Big Dreams books
Yr 5 - 'Butterfly Kit' complete with live caterpillars.
Yr 6 - £50 book token to spend on books for the classroom.

Non-Uniform Day and Yard Sale

On Friday 6th June there will be a non-uniform day in exchange for Tombola Prizes for the School Fete.

Shipdham

Saturday 14th June 9am – 2pm

Maps showing all those participating will be available on the day for £1 from Thomas Bullock School and from the FOSS shop.

Toilets and refreshments available at the school.

£5 per yard or stall (paid in advance), all money goes to Friends of Shipdham School. Stall booking forms available from Thomas Bullock School, the FOSS shop and in the parish magazine.

Email **friendsofshipdhamschool@gmail.com** or tel. 07760161382 (Thurs – Sun) with any queries.

Payments can be made online:
Friends of Shipdham School Sort Code: 30-92-88 Account No: 01550606

The Ark Nursery

This week

In RWI Phonics this week, we have been recapping the sounds we have learnt so far, as well as learning sounds 'z' and 'x'. We started our learning surrounding our new focus book 'Oliver's Fruit Salad'. We have tasted a range of fruit and created a fruit salad, tasting this too. During our maths sessions, we recapped our 2D shapes – the children have incredible knowledge of these (even a pentagon!).

Our caterpillars are continuing to grow – we think they'll form their chrysalis soon! We have been caring for all of our flowers, fruit and vegetable plants growing, including the runaway peas we each planted last week! We have continued to explore the life cycles of a butterfly, frog, plants and even humans! We looked at our baby photos, comparing the differences from then to now. We also released our frog friend into the school pond, after noticing the changes that have occurred over the past few weeks of observing the frogspawn become tadpoles and the tadpoles grow legs to become froglets, and then grow arms and lose their tail to become a frog. All of our plants are growing by the day – we are super excited to come in and check these each day!

We've also arranged our very own nursery sports day event – Monday 16th June – please see email sent to parents for further information.

Next week

We will be learning special friends (sh and th) in our RWI phonics sessions, applying this new knowledge while segmenting and blending to read green words. We will look further at 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' and consolidate our learning from the half term in Maths, with an introduction to 3D shapes too. Tuesday is World Bee Day and alongside lots of crafts and activities, we will learn all about the importance of bees, the lifecycle of a bee and all of the different kinds of bee! We will also look at healthy eating, as well as fruits and how they grow and we will discuss adjectives to describe a range of them.

Learning links at home

- Do some planting (we have lots of seeds you can take home with you!) and talk through the different stages of planting a seed. How do we look after a plant?
- Spot 3D shapes around your home. Can you remember their names? How many faces do they have?
- Can you try a new piece of fruit at the weekend?
- Draw some of the shapes we have learnt about this week. Can you remember their names? How many sides do they have? How many corners?
- Look at the different types of fruit in the supermarket. Which ones can you name? Which is your favourite? What colours can you see?

DIARY DATES

21st Year 5 Victorian Day at Gressenhall
23rd Reading Breakfast 08:30-08:50*
Half term 26th – 30th May
June
2nd Inset Day – school closed
5th Norfolk Wildlife Trust to visit the Nursery
6th Non uniform day – donations for tombola*
10th Reception Class to Gressenhall
11th Fathers' Day Lunchtime Shop
13th Fathers' Day Lunchtime Shop
14th FOSS Village Yard Sale
16th Ark Nursery Sports and Picnic Lunch 11:00 – 12:30*
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 (provisional)*
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