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

22nd November 2024

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

The entire school has been incredibly busy over the past few weeks, and our children have absolutely loved the pre-holiday winter weather! Snow has been a theme of fun all week, bringing an extra sparkle to the days.

Revd. Laura led a Remembrance Service on November 11th which included an opportunity for our children to lay the wreaths they made in class in our Reflective Garden.

We also celebrated Anti-Bullying Week focusing on the important theme of 'Choose Respect' It is vital that our children understand what bullying is and, more importantly, how to ensure we create a respectful and supportive environment for all. We have been discussing ways to prevent bullying and encourage kindness and empathy. For those seeking additional resources or information on how to support this message at home, please visit https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2024-choose-respect/parents-and-carers

This week, our children have enjoyed exciting trips across the Federation. **Year 4** had a fantastic Roman Day and visited Norwich Castle, while **Year 3** enjoyed a trip on Tuesday. You can find more details about their adventures further below. We are incredibly grateful for the continued financial support of the Thomas Bullock Trust whose generous contributions make these trips affordable for our school. Their funding covers the cost of entrance fees and most travel, ensuring that our children have access to these valuable learning experiences. It is such an important aspect of our rich and varied curriculum, and we are fortunate to have this funded support.

In addition to this, we have had a number of important visitors to our Federation. On Monday afternoon, our Federation Governors met for our half-termly full meeting. They acknowledged the actions and progress within our Federation school development plan and commented on the outstanding outcomes compared to national standards at Thomas Bullock CE Primary School, in all year groups.

This week also included a visit from the external SEND review team which focused on the Federation's systems and leadership but was centred at Lyng School. A similar review took place at Thomas Bullock in the Spring Term. As expected, Mrs Smith and the entire Federation SEND provision received incredibly positive feedback. The review highlighted our excellent systems, particularly our Support Plan reviews and process, our commitment to accessing external providers, and our strong training programme. The team also praised the outstanding practice demonstrated by staff and leaders across the Federation.

Looking ahead, we are excited for the upcoming Christmas and winter events and can't wait to welcome everyone in for some festive cheer.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend.

Shining Lights

Ark Class (Nursery)	**Isla** for her enthusiasm with story time and sharing her books from home, as well as her brilliant engagement with play and activities.
Antarctic Class (yr R)	**Esme M** for always showing kindness towards others. She is always a 'helping hand' for others and a brilliant role model for all.
Oceania Class (yr 1)	**Apphia** for always showing kindness and demonstrating how she can be a 'good neighbour' – be that to her learning partners on the carpet, people she works with at the table or her friends on the playground.
Africa Class (yr 2)	**Christopher** for his constant positivity in school. He is always looking for ways to help others and make those around him smile.
Europe Class (yr 3)	**Phoenix** for his hard work in 'being a good neighbour'- choosing kindness to all his classmates. Phoenix has worked on improving his presentation in work, which is clear to see!
S America Class (yr 4)	**Oliver** for showing respect and kindness in the classroom. Olly has shown great listening, a hard working work ethic and following our school values. Well done.
Asia Class (yr 5)	**Archie** for the effort he puts into his work. Archie quietly gets on with his work, presenting it neatly and trying hard with new challenges.
N America Class (yr 6)	**Hana** for her kindness, hard work and constant drive to be the very best she can be.

This week's overall attendance 91%. South America Class (yr 4) 96%

WOW MOMENTS!

Jessica (yr 4) has been doing really well in her swimming lessons; after only three lessons she is able to float on her back without a float!
Isabella S (yr R) has been chosen for the novice cheerleading competition group. She will compete for at the national finals in May.
Tom (yr 6) passed his first piano exam with the ABRSM and received some really lovely feedback on his certificate. We are super proud of him!
Esme (yr 6) Esme played her first match for Dereham Town U11 girls, she scored 3 goals and got both her team's and opposition's man of the match!
Jude (yr 2) has achieved his Stage 1 Swim England award.
Martha (yr 4) has achieved her Stage 3 Swim England award.

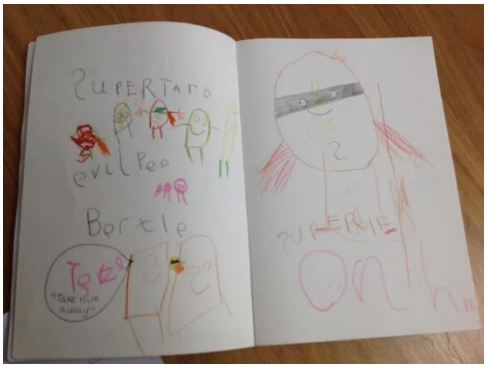
Please remember to continue to send in your ***WOW*** moments for achievements out of school
https://forms.gle/DV4RoVbQGpijcUM

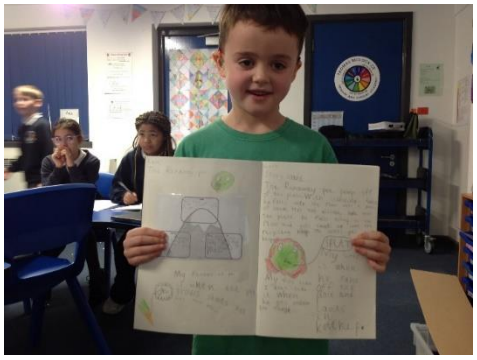
OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

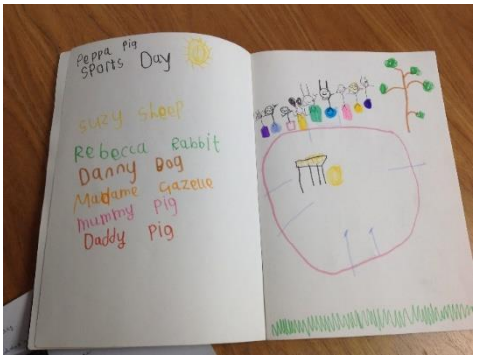
Year Group	Key Learning Questions
1	Which toys did our grown-ups play with?
2	How do we know so much about the Great Fire of London?
3	What was life like in Bronze Age Britain?
4	What can we learn about Roman Britain by investigating an archaeological site?
5	What were the Viking raids and why were they so successful?
6	What causes global warming?

Reading Ambassadors

This week, the reading ambassadors were blown away by the efforts of some members of Key Stage 1. Look at some of the first entries in their new class Reading Scrapbooks! Very impressive work, Year 1 and 2! Well done! If your child has not brought the scrapbook home yet, encourage them to ask their class teacher as we hope all children get a chance to do so by the end of the year!







Ethos Committee

Our Ethos team continues to meet and recently we have been reflecting upon our school vision that everyone can 'let their light shine'. Members have then discussed this with their own classes and with the help of some of their friends have been recording how they have been letting their light shine on some autumnal themed leaves to be proudly displayed.

KS1 PE Festival

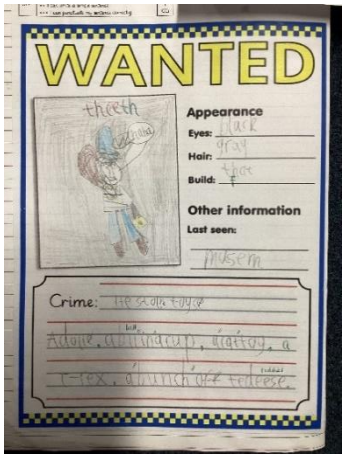
Yr 1 and 2 took part in the WNDSSP PE Festival at Dereham Leisure Centre. There were 12 schools taking part and over 130 children. The children had lots of fun trying to achieve their personal best and took part in 7 skill-based activity stations – balance ball, action dice, bean bags in hoops, relay races, parachute game and hoop circle. Well done to all of Team TB. Arlo in Yr 1 was awarded the school games value certificate for passion.

Antarctica Class (yr R)

Antarctica class had an AMAZING time at Thetford Forest, High Lodge looking at the changing seasons and taking part in the Gruffalo Hunt. We noticed so many beautiful changes in the environment and had lots of fun looking for our winter forest items on the scavenger hunt before finding the characters from our story of The Gruffalo. The children were so well behaved and we had such a fun time! We can't wait to recount our trip in class during the rest of this week.

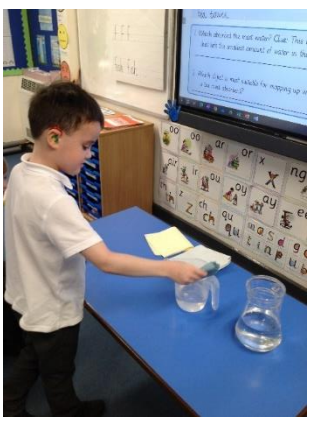
Oceania Class (yr 1)

In English the class had a visit from Police Constable Colin DaFuzz. He brought a letter with him from the manager of Norwich Toy Museum asking for our help. Sadly, they have had a burglary at the museum and a number of toys have been stolen. The letter included a still image from the CCTV and the children were asked if they would create wanted posters of the suspect. Have you seen this man?



Africa Class (yr 2)

In Art, children have been creating small versions of artwork by our artist Henri Matisse. Children have been experimenting using scissors and materials to create their collages. In Science, we have been learning about materials. Children have investigated the suitability of different materials. We set up an experiment to compare which material was the most absorbent.



Europe Class (yr 3)

Year 3 had a great time at the Time & Tide Museum, we learnt how to survive the Stone Age, creating shelter, hunting animals with tools and a Time Machine was used to bring back a Stone Age hunter!

South America Class (yr 4)

Year 4 had a great time at Norwich Castle on Monday, learning about the disagreements between the Iceni and the Romans. The children had to help an Iceni woman decide on whether she should stay loyal to the Iceni or transfer to the Roman way of life. They looked at artefacts, houses and lifestyle choices to help them make their decision.

Asia Class (yr 5)

In science Asia class have been finding out about Sir Isaac Newton's theories relating to gravity. Here they are measuring the force of gravity acting on different classroom objects using newton meters.

Christmas Tree Festival

We hope you will come along to the Christmas Tree Festival in the Church 6th-8th December. The school will be having a couple of trees on display with decorations made by the children. Our school choir will also be singing on Friday 6th December straight from school at around 4pm.
We look forward to seeing you there!

CHILDREN IN NEED

We are proud to share that the whole school embraced the superhero; theme for Pudsey Day. The student council have been actively discussing philanthropy and the charities they would like to support, helping our children understand the positive impact that charities can have and how they, too, can make a difference.

The Ark Nursery Newsletter

Last week

We have been introduced to the story of 'The Leaf Thief' – the children have all gathered round each day to hear the next part of the story revealed. They were amazed about what the leaf thief actually was! In Maths, we have been introduced to the number 2. Alongside lots of finger counting, rhymes and number recognition, we have also practised our subitising for numbers 1 and 2 now. We discussed Remembrance Day throughout the week, making our own poppy wreath from our handprints for the Remembrance Service on Friday. We also had lots of discussions surrounding Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need this week too.

This week

We have been retelling the story of 'The Leaf Thief' many times this week – the children have absolutely loved this book! We have also been making marks on our class story map too. In Maths sessions, we have continued learning about the number 2, subitising and representing the number, on 5-frames and with real life objects. We also enjoyed exploring the snow this week and finding ice in our outdoor areas! As part of Road Safety Week, the children have learnt about different crossings, how we cross a road safely and any dangers to watch out for. We have also learnt about the importance of oral hygiene and have practised brushing our teeth to keep them squeaky clean!

Next week

Next week's will be focussed on 'The Gruffalo'. We will be re-telling the story with actions, repeating phrases from the story and doing more mark making! In Maths, we will look at AB patterns (e.g. red cube, green cube, red cube, green cube). We will match actions to instrumental sounds and practise our listening skills. Very excitingly, we will also begin practising our singing ready for our Christmas Performance (further details will be sent out soon – like last year, our performance will be a recorded and edited video for all to see!)

Learning links at home

- Discuss how we can be kind to the people around us: peers, family and adults we know.
- Draw a picture and gift it to someone you love!
- Practise brushing your teeth and filling in your toothbrushing chart! Can you brush right to the back of your teeth? And your tongue?

DIARY DATES

2024/2025

December

4th Christingle Service in Church (school only)
6th Christmas Tree Festival at Church – School Choir at 3.45/4pm*
10th Yr 1 trip to Holkham Hall Christmas Experience
12th Christmas Jumper Day*
12th Reception Class Nativity in Church at 9.30am and 2pm
16th FOSS Christmas Carol Concert - The School Choir*
17th FOSS Christmas Lunchtime Shop
18th Christmas Lunch Day
19th FOSS Christmas Lunchtime Shop
19th Christmas Carol Service 2pm in Church (all welcome)
20th FOSS Christmas Party afternoon
20th last day of term

Christmas holiday 23rd December – 6th January

February

3rd – 9th Children's Mental Health Week
11th Safer Internet Day*

Half term 17th -21st February

March

3rd Yr 4 Level 1 Cycling Training
12th & 13th Yr 5 Level 2 Cycling Training
17th School Photographer – whole class photos

April

Easter holiday 7th-22nd April

May

5th Bank holiday
6th Yr R School Nursing Team Vision & Hearing, Height & Weight
12th – 16th May KS2 (yr 6) SATs week

Half term 26th – 30th May

June

2nd Inset Day – school closed

30th – 2nd July Year 6 Residential to Eaton Vale

July

22nd Last day of term

Summer holiday commences 23rd July

* New addition