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

23rd May 2025

Dear parents, carers and friends of Thomas Bullock CE Primary and Nursery Academy,

Enriching Experiences

We are very lucky that, thanks to the generous support of the Thomas Bullock Trust, all our children from EYFS to Year 6 enjoy a broad and exciting curriculum that includes a wide range of hands-on learning experiences. These opportunities help to build cultural understanding and enrich learning across our school. This term, pupils have taken part in a number of enjoyable trips and activities. We are very grateful to the Trust for their continued support in making these experiences possible. Next term, children will enjoy even more exciting opportunities, including trips, residentials, and performances. We are especially proud that they will be singing on stage and in the central grand ring at the Royal Norfolk Show.

Assessments:

This week our Year 2 children have been completing yearly assessments. Once again, our pupils demonstrated their knowledge and skills. In the weeks after the half-term, children in Years 1-5 will undertake phonics, multiplication tests and regular assessments. Please continue to support their learning at home through phonics practice, Doodle and TTRS multiplication practice and regular reading. Thank you for attending our parent workshops for these as appropriate or reading the guidance on our website.

Reading Breakfast

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the children and families who joined us for our Reading Morning today at Thomas Bullock and Lyng Church of England Primary Academies. It was a pleasure to see so many of you enjoying stories together, discussing books, and sharing in the excitement of reading. Your support and enthusiasm are truly valued, and it's through events like these that we can celebrate the importance of reading in our school communities.

At both of our schools, we place a high value on reading and its impact on every aspect of a child's development. Regular reading not only strengthens vocabulary, spelling, and comprehension but also nurtures imagination, emotional intelligence, and general knowledge. To support reading at home, we have book suggestions for all year groups available on our school websites. If you would like further guidance or personalised support, please don't hesitate to speak with your child's class teacher or our Federation English Leader. Your encouragement and involvement are essential in helping your child become a confident, independent reader, and we are grateful for the role you play in supporting their reading journey.

Staffing Update

On Wednesday, 21st May, we interviewed for the position of EYFS Nursery Teacher. We were pleased to meet several highly experienced and passionate candidates, and it was a strong field throughout. We are delighted to announce the appointment of Ms. Spalding, who impressed us with her expertise in early phonics and numeracy, as well as her clear alignment with our Nightingale Values. We are confident she will be a fantastic addition to our team. Mrs Garrod our Forest Schools teacher has decided to take more time with her family. Mrs Dutson our qualified Forest Schools teacher who works within out Federation will be taking over from June. We wish Mrs Garrod well.

We look forward to seeing all families back on Tuesday 3rd June. A reminder that Monday 2nd June is an inset – staff training day.

WOW MOMENTS!

Halli (yr 5) completed the Pier to Pier challenge and walked an amazing 14 miles in her Grandads Memory. She also helped to raise over £200 for the Hospice that cared for him which is an amazing achievement. She was the only one her age that completed it and smashed it under 4.5hrs!

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

Henry (yr 2) completed the long Beater Trail at Thetford Forest biking over 15 miles on his mountain bike.

Shining Lights of the Half Term

Ark Class (Nursery)

Arthur H and **Harley** for both consistently demonstrating this half terms value of thankfulness. Both Arthur and Harley are incredibly polite members of our class, always saying 'please' and 'thank you' to their peers and grown-ups. We are super proud!

Antarctica Class (yr R)

Isabella O for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. She has arrived with a smile each day this term and we're really proud of her.

Jessica for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. She has had a great determination this term and always uses her manners to show her thanks.

Oceania Class (yr 1)

Apphia for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. She always remembers her manners and is ever so polite.

Joseph for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. He's always able to think of and share things he is thankful for both at home and in school.

Africa Class (yr 2)

Avery for always taking great care when completing his learning tasks. Avery has been working extremely hard and shows great thankfulness to those who support him.

Dottie for always using her manners and showing great thankfulness to others. She always has a positive attitude and is a great role model for her peers.

Europe Class (yr 3)

Bethany for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. She always helps others as well as doing this without being asked to. Beth is often heard saying thank you to others too!

Teddy for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. He will always offer to help others as well as providing a thank you to anyone who helps him.

S America Class (yr 4)

George High is our shining light of the half term for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. George has impeccable manners, always saying thank you for help he receives in class as well as taking the time to give people compliments and thank others.

Lily is our shining light of the half term for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. Lily is always appreciative of support and guidance, listening carefully and taking on feedback. She is always kind, polite and grateful for all opportunities provided for her and will always use her manners with both please and thank you.

Asia Class (yr 5)

Lana for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. She is always very appreciative of acts of kindness from people (including adults) around her and often takes the time to personally thank others.

William for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. He is always polite, thoughtful and grateful for the opportunities provided for him and will often show his appreciation by saying thank you.

N America Class (yr 6)

Austin for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. He is always polite because it is the right thing to do and shows great care and consideration to others. Thank you very much.

Elsa for consistently demonstrating this half term's value of thankfulness. She always goes the extra mile to ensure that everyone feels respected and valued. Thank you very much.

This week's overall attendance 96.9%. Africa Class (yr 2) 98.6%

Oceania Class (yr 1)

Year One had fun in the sun finding seasonal crops 'growing' in the outdoor area! When we returned to the classroom we had to work out whether they were a fruit or a vegetable and put them into a table to present our results. We were shocked to find out that lots of our fruit comes from other countries when it is not in season here in the UK.

Asia Class (yr 5)

A fabulous day was had at Gressenhall Workhouse Museum. The class got to learn first-hand how difficult life was like as a child in a Victorian Workhouse. All the children engaged fully and were a credit to the school.

The Ark Nursery Newsletter

This week

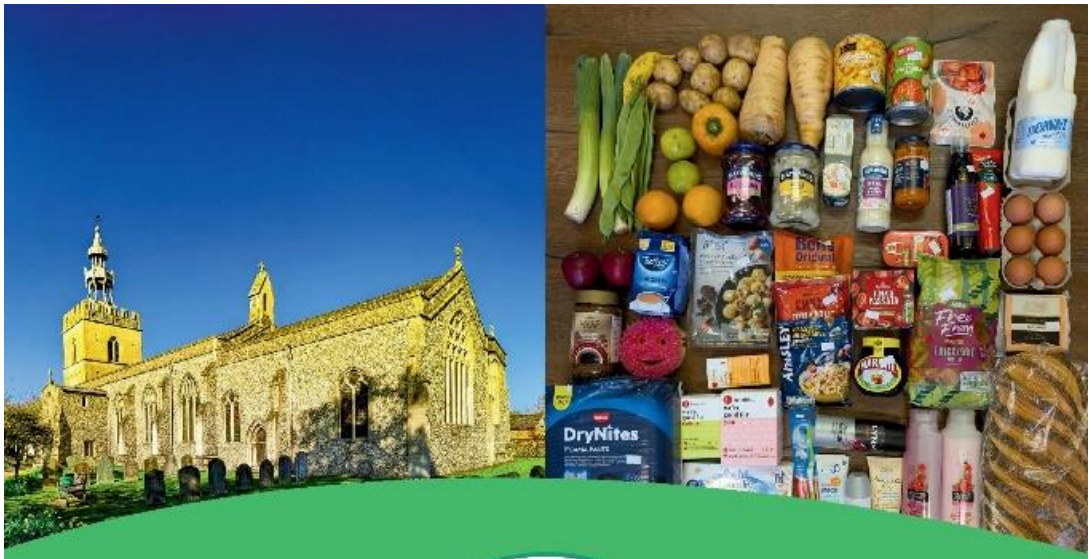
In RWI Phonics this week, we have continued learning special friends 'sh' and 'th'. We continued our learning surrounding 'Oliver's Fruit Salad', playing fruit guessing games, describing fruits using adjectives and finishing our writing jobs. During our maths sessions, we consolidated our learning from the half term and explored 3D shapes further. We've been out enjoying the sunshine lots this week, spotting insects and flowers. Our plants are continuing to grow and some are even beginning to flower. We have also just observed our caterpillars go into their chrysalis' so we are very excited to see them emerge as butterflies and release them after half term! Our farm shop role play has changed back to our home corner for the final weeks of school after half term and we have gained a garden centre role play area in our outdoor area. We have already seen brilliant interactions and kind sharing!

Next week

Keep an eye out for our summer 2 newsletter in the first week back to see our learning for the final term! We are very excited for our visit from Norfolk Wildlife Trust in the first week back.

Learning links at home

- Enjoy the half term!
- Talk to a grown up about how to stay safe in the sun.
- When you are playing outside, look at your shadow. Is it as big as you or smaller? Is it always the same size? Does it follow you or does it sometimes move in front of you? Find out as much as you can about your shadow and then tell us about it!



citizens advice Diss, Thetford & District

The Shelf Pop Up Pantry

Breckland COUNCIL

Supported by Norfolk Community Foundation

Nourishing Norfolk

What is The Shelf Pop Up Pantry?

The Shelf Pop Up Pantry is a friendly low-cost community shop bringing affordable food and household essentials across Breckland's rural communities whilst working along side a range of organisations to offer vital welfare support.

Launching on

Wednesday 30th April
9.30 - 11.15
Shipdham Church
IP25 7LX

Follow Us

DIARY DATES

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
13th Nursery – Father's Day Stay and Play 13:30-14:30*
13th Yr R – Father's Day celebration 14:15*
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