Lyng Church of England Primary Academy
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Shannon O'Sullivan
Wensum Road, Lyng, Norwich, NR9 5RJ
Tel: 01603 872828 Email: office@lyng.dneat.org Web: www.thomasbullock.dneat.org/lyng-primary

NEWSLETTER 28.11.2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the Nightingale Federation,

Our Christmas preparations have started in earnest and we must say a big thank you to the FOLS team who generously gave up their time earlier this week to decorate our Christmas tree. We are all looking forward to the festivities in the final few weeks of term.

Last week, the NSPCC visited Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 to deliver their *Speak Out, Stay Safe* workshops. Children learned about identifying trusted adults, the importance of speaking out, and how to keep themselves safe. These reminders are especially valuable as the evenings are now darker earlier.

Last Thursday, Reception children from across the Federation enjoyed a wonderful visit to High Lodge for their Gruffalo Trail. The children were brilliantly behaved and fully engaged throughout the day. As we approach December, we have more exciting trips planned across the Federation, along with visits at the start of the spring term. Further details will be shared by class teachers.

If you have a child due to start Reception in September 2026 or 2027, please ensure you complete your school application in good time. Applications can be submitted through Norfolk County Council using the link below:
https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/norfolkfirstadmissions
If you need any support with the application process, please contact the school office.

We are pleased to be offering open days at both schools next week for prospective families:
Lyng's open morning will take place on Wednesday 3rd December at 9.15am. These sessions are a wonderful opportunity to tour our learning environments, meet staff, and gain a sense of our Federation's caring and ambitious ethos.

We would also like to invite parents to attend our upcoming Maths and Reading Cafés. These sessions offer a great chance to learn alongside your child, see the strategies they use in class, and pick up simple ideas to support learning at home. Please see our "notices" pages for the dates and times for each class.

Across the Federation, children are currently finishing their end-of-term Art, Design, and Writing projects. These pieces link closely to the knowledge and skills they have been developing throughout the autumn term, and we look forward to celebrating their fantastic achievements.

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Notices & Reminders

Reading and Maths Cafés

The reading and maths cafés running this half term will be as follows:

Willow Class: **Friday 5th December** 9.00 – 9.30am (Reading)

Rowan Class: **Monday 15th December** 9.00 – 9.30am (Reading)

Oak Class: **Monday 8th December** 2.30 – 3.00pm (Maths)

Further dates and sessions will be announced for the spring term.

FOLS Festive Fair – Friday 5th December

Only 1 week to go until our Festive Fair and Big Christmas Raffle!

We've had even more fantastic prizes generously donated, so please do support the event and share raffle tickets with friends and family - there's plenty to be won! Extra tickets are available from the school office.

Please remember to return any sold raffle tickets to school by Wednesday 3rd December.

We would also really appreciate some festive baked goodies for our bake sale.

Don't forget to bring cash on the day for all the fun - unfortunately, we're unable to take card payments at the event.

We'll have a brilliant range of activities including fun games, crafts, chocolate tombola, bake sale, hot drinks (including last year's much-loved loaded hot chocolates!), mistletoe, and of course… the Big Christmas Raffle.

All activities are priced between 50p and £1.

We hope you'll be able to join us at the event!

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SANTA DASH

On Friday 12th December we will be taking part in a School Games Mark Santa Dash.

The Santa Dash is all about having fun while being active. Pupils will all get the chance to run around the field (weather dependent) or playground. Children are invited to bring a Santa hat or something with a Christmas theme to wear on their head, should they wish to do

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Shining Lights

Cherry Class – Year R
Imogen is our Shining Light of the Week for her enthusiastic attitude towards her learning. She is always keen to have a go at all our learning challenges.

Willow Class – Year 1
Oscar is our Shining Light of the Week for his excellent listening and engagement in his learning this week. He has followed instructions and given every activity a go!

Willow Class – Year 2
Abel is our Shining Light of the Week for his excellent effort in his newspaper report about the Great Fire of London.

Rowan Class – Year 3
Harris is our Shining Light of the Week for his fantastic effort in learning his English, writing a fantastic portal story.

Rowan Class – Year 4
Carlo is our Shining Light of the Week for his fantastic effort in learning his multiplication tables and increasing his test scores.

Oak Class – Year 5
Albert is our Shining Light of the Week for his excellent engagement with our current How to Train Your Dragon English topic. Having now completed our narrative drafts, Albert has worked very hard to generate adventurous vocabulary and vary his sentence structures for effect. You should be proud of your efforts, Albert!

Oak Class – Year 6
Faith is our Shining Light of the Week for the excellent attention to detail and engagement she has shown our How to Train Your Dragon narrative writing. The effort she has shown to include effective writing features and adventurous vocabulary is admirable and she should be very proud of what she has produced.

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WOW MOMENTS!

Harris (Yr 3) has recently been accepted into the Norwich City Football Academy. He has already played some matches for them and scored an amazing goal!

Henry (Yr 2) successfully completed a forward flip, cartwheel and handstand at gymnastics.

William (Yr 5) William's art work has been selected for the official Cubs' Christmas card (sold in Reepham post office). In addition, William has been chosen to be a Seconder at Cubs which means he helps lead teams and assists "The Sixer".

Percy (Yr 3) Percy has achieved his stage 4 swimming certification - moving to stage 5 (at the deepest end of the pool!) Great work Percy!

Please continue to send in your "Wow" moments for achievements out of school using the link below:

https://forms.gle/q6MZXdmzvtNHvJp19

Key Learning Questions

Yr 1&2: Why did the Great Fire of London spread so quickly?

Yr 3&4: How did the Romans link together the places they ruled?

Yr 5&6: What was the Danelaw?

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Cherry Class

Cherry class have continued their Gruffalo learning and have enjoyed baking some 'Gruffalo crumble' as well as going on a very exciting trip to the forest to find the Gruffalo and his friends!

They have been talking about road safety with 'hands on' practice on the playground with our bikes. The children have also enjoyed learning about the artist Gustav Climt and trying out some of his techniques such as making swirls with gold and silver paint.

Willow Class

Over the last few weeks Willow class has been very busy! Nativity practice is well underway and the performance looks and sounds amazing, we cannot wait to show you! In Maths, we have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. In English, we have been writing newspaper reports about the Great Fire of London. In Forest school, the children had a lovely time making hedgehog hibernation hotels. Great job, Willow class!

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Rowan Class

Rowan Class have enjoyed a busy week, finishing our Portal stories in English. In Maths we have been learning our multiplication facts. In Science, we have been investigating the melting points of different materials. During P.E. we enjoyed working on our balance and coordination. During Forest Schools we created areas using pallets.

Oak Class

This week, Oak class have started to draft their story openings, inspired by How to Train Your Dragon - we have some fantastic, creative writers in Year 5 and 6! In Maths, we have continued to explore fractions, moving on to subtracting them from each other.

In History, we have learnt about the Danelaw and how the Vikings managed to live alongside King Alfred's people for a good period of time. In DT, the class have finished their Christmas Art (for display in the main corridor) before planning their resources to make their Viking longships. In Science, we have been having fun with practicals over the last two weeks, using Newton meters to measure weight and friction.

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Diary Dates 2025-26

December

2nd PINS session for parents 1.00 – 2.30pm
3rd Open Morning 9.15am – YR intake 2026
5th FOLS Festive Fair in the school hall (3.15 – 4.30pm)
8th FOLS Christmas Crafter-noon 3.15 – 4.15pm
12th KS1 Nativity (performances at 9.15am and 2.00pm)
16th Christmas Lunch
Church Service at Lyng Church 2pm – all welcome
18th FOLS Christmas Disco (in the school hall)
19th **School finishes at 12pm – last day of term**

Christmas Holiday Monday 22nd December – Monday 5th January 2026

January
6th – Back to school

February

13th Break up for half term

Half term Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

23rd Children return to school

March

27th Break up for Easter
Easter Holiday Monday 30th March – Monday 13th April

April
14th Children return to school

May

4th Bank Holiday – school closed
22nd Break up for half term

Half Term Monday 25th May – Monday 1st June

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June

1st **SCHOOL CLOSED – STAFF TRAINING**

2nd Children return to school

July

17th Break up for summer – **school finishes at 12pm**