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

2nd May 2025

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

Welcome back to what promises to be an exciting and enriching summer term! It's wonderful to see our pupils enjoying the sunshine as they return to school, their enthusiasm lighting up our classrooms and playgrounds.

I'm thrilled to share some fantastic news with our school community. Thomas Bullock CE Primary and Nursery Academy has received an excellent Ofsted report, a testament to the hard work and dedication of our pupils, staff, and supportive families. We're immensely proud of this achievement and invite you to read the full report on our website. Nightingale Federation - Ofsted and School Performance

As we bask in the warm weather, I'd like to remind parents about the importance of sun safety. Please remember to apply sunscreen before school and send your child with a hat and water bottle. If your child needs to reapply during the day, please provide a non-aerosol, easy-application roll on sunscreen. Your support in keeping our pupils safe and comfortable is greatly appreciated.

This half term, we're focusing on the value of thankfulness. It's a perfect opportunity to reflect on the many blessings in our lives and express gratitude for the wonderful community we've built together.

Whilst attendance at our year 5/6 E-Safety briefing yesterday was not as well attended as we had hoped, it's crucial to remember that platforms like WhatsApp, TikTok, and Facebook are not appropriate for primary school-aged children. Let's work together to ensure our pupils' online safety. We will put another E-Safety briefing on later in the summer term for those who could not make it.

We have some staffing updates to share. Our fabulous Nursery teacher, Miss Bell-Tye, who was with us from when she was student, will be embarking on exciting travels from the next academic year. We wish her a fond bon voyage but hope it's not a long farewell. We'll be advertising for a qualified EYFS Teacher soon. On a celebratory note, Mr Weston who has been with us for over 3 years, will be joining our teaching staff from September 2025, having completed his Education degree. We're delighted to welcome him in this new capacity. We will also be saying goodbye to Miss Clifton in May. Miss Clifton has been supporting in classes and After School Club. We thank her and wish her well as she takes time to be with her young family.

Lastly, a gentle reminder to direct all communications to the school office rather than individual staff members. This helps us manage inquiries efficiently and ensures a prompt response.

Thank you to the parents who have sent in their congratulations following our Ofsted success. Your kind words mean a great deal to us all.

Shannon O'Sullivan, Executive Headteacher

Shining Lights of the Week

Ark Class (Nursery)	**Betty** for working super hard in our phonics sessions. Betty is a great role model to her peers - always listening, joining in and is putting so much effort into blending sounds to make words!
Antarctic Class (yr R)	**Brady** for his wonderful efforts in phonics, reading and writing this week! The progress has been brilliant.
Oceania Class (yr 1)	**Daisy** for always remembering her manners, saying please and thank you comes naturally to Daisy!
Africa Class (yr 2)	**Jude** for working extremely hard on his handwriting and showing great motivation in all areas of learning.
Europe Class (yr 3)	**Charlie** for settling in so well to our class routines and working hard in his work. He is now a well established member of Europe class. Well done Charlie and keep the hard work up.
S America Class (yr 4)	**Mason** for his determination, positivity and effort in English and Maths this week. His motivation has been brilliant and it is wonderful to see how proud he feels.
Asia Class (yr 5)	**Dexter** for his incredible attitude towards learning, particularly in English lessons. He always strives to punctuate his work accurately and pushes himself to use adventurous vocabulary.
N America Class (yr 6)	**Harry** for working really hard this week to explain his answers with additional detail and clarity

This week's overall attendance 97.4%. North America Class (yr 6) 99.6%

OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Questions
1	What is the United Kingdom?
2	What makes someone significant
3	Does everywhere in the world have the same climate?
4	When and where did the Ancient Maya live?
5	What was the industrial Revolution?
6	What can maps tell us about the world?

Baby Chicks!

We have had some new arrivals! We are filled with lots of excitement to welcome baby chicks to our school community as we care for them until they return to their farm. Children across the school will have time with the chicks to support their learning...year 5 are already excited! Current count is 7 boys and 2 girls...watch this space for more updates.

WOW MOMENTS!

Freddie (yr R) has completed his first rugby season at Wymondham Rugby Club and was awarded a certificate of achievement and medal at their end of season training on Sunday.
Joseph (yr 1) received a certificate & Medal for his commitment to Rugby training this Season.
Lily (yr 4) has passed her grade 2 piano exam with flying colours!
Jessica (yr 4) has passed her Stage 1 Swimming.
Caiden (yr 4) has passed his Grade 1 drum exam. He also passed with Merit! Caiden played in another drum concert as well over the Easter break!
Violet (yr 2) passed her first ski taster session and also passed her swimming stage 4 over Easter. Being very brave and moving to the deep end of the pool.
Martha (yr 2) took part in a gymnastics camp over the Easter holidays with the Norfolk Academy for Gymnastics and learnt some amazing new skills!
Albert (yr 2) and Joseph (N) both completed their eleventh 2kmn Junior Parkrun on Easter Sunday. This means they have now each completed a half marathon in total so were presented with their first milestone wristbands. They also both completed their first full parkrun (5km) the day before!
Leon (yr 2) ran 1.2 miles with his Mum – amazing!
Isabella (yr 1) performed with her dance school at the celebrity football match in Dereham last weekend

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

Bee Netball

This week some of the children in year 6 took part in a Bee Netball competition at the UEA, there were over 120 children and 16 schools taking part. Well done to team TB who came 1st and won the competition. Bailey was awarded the competition value certificate of teamwork and a special mention to Millie who scored 7 goals in one game.

North America Class (yr 6)

On the last day of the Spring term Year 6 visited the Imperial War Museum Duxford to support our learning around World War 2. We had a great time making video reports about some of the artefacts we saw there, some of us might even have a future career in the media! We were very lucky with the weather and we walked around the whole site, which was a fantastic boost to our daily step count. We saw some amazing planes, tanks and vehicles as well as part of the Twin Towers from 911 in New York.

Antarctica Class (Yr R)

Antarctica class have been enjoying lots of fantastic learning and provision enhancements this week as our post-graduate student teacher has been delivery exciting lessons within our current topic of growth and change. On Thursday, our reception pupils began an experiment where they are testing the growing conditions of some peas...they have prediction which will grow and which won't and are going to monitor the progress over the next few weeks.

Africa Class (yr 2)

Year 2 have enjoyed their first cricket session in the sunshine! In Computing they have been programming and experimenting with bee-bots, giving them instructions.

Europe Class (yr 3)

In Europe Class we have been learning about forces in Science. This week we planned and executed an experiment testing friction. We measured how far a car would go on different surfaces and ranked each depending on most to least friction.

South America Class (yr 4)

Year 4 have made some wonderful Mayan Masks over the half term break, we showed them off on Friday to introduce the start of our new History topic; The Mayan Civilisation. In Science this week, we looked at how sound travels- the children enjoyed experimenting how sound travels through solids faster using string telephones.

NOTICES

Sun Safety

As we bask in the warm weather, I'd like to remind parents about the importance of sun safety. I'd like to update you on our updated protocols across our Nightingale Federation to ensure pupils are kept safe in the warmer weather. We would encourage all pupils to have an all day suncream applied before the school day. If you would like your child to reapply this at lunch time, please bring in a clearly labelled roll-on suncream which is to be left in school for the Summer term. Staff will then distribute these at the start of lunch and supervise the children in their independent application. Staff will not apply this for your child and by sending in cream for independent application parents/carers are accepting that school staff cannot be held responsible for the application of these. Due to limiting the risk of allergies etc and for ease of application, please only send in roll-on type products; aerosols and spray are strictly prohibited. We thank you for your support in keeping our pupils safe and comfortable. It is greatly appreciated.

Road Safety

We have received a serious concern from a parent regarding unsafe driving and parking on the road by the school. Vehicles have been seen mounting and driving along the pavement, as well as parking inconsiderately—creating significant danger for our children.

Please remember:

- **Do not drive or park on pavements.**
- **Avoid blocking gates or driveways.**
- **Be mindful of children crossing and walking in the area.**

Let's work together to keep our school community safe. Thank you for your cooperation.

Wraparound Care Club

Everyone at the wraparound care clubs hope you all enjoyed a restful and fun-filled Easter! Now that the warmer weather is here, we've been making the most of it by spending plenty of time outdoors in Afterschool Club, picnicking and playing. During one of our recent garden adventures, a few children made an exciting discovery-a hidden treasure! It turns out that children who attended Thomas Bullock in 2018 had buried remembrance stones in the garden, the children were so excited with their discovery and shared the news with their classmates. Alongside all the outdoor fun, we've been focussing on supporting the children with their homework and reading, while enjoying their time with us. Let's hope the sun keeps shining.

Vacancy

We are currently advertising for a Playleader in our After School Club. Further information can be found here - » Vacancies or by speaking to Mrs Ward in the school office.

Norfolk SENDIASS
Information, Advice and Support Service

SENDIASS Advice Drop-in Online Calendar

Scan the QR Code to find out where we are going to be.

Pop along and speak to one of our Engagement and Advice Workers

We can give you advice, information and support about special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in relation to education.

We work with children, young people (0-25 years) and their parent carers.

We can give you information about SEN Support, education and health care plans (EHCP's), mediation, appeals, exclusions and suspensions, and other SEND processes.

All sessions are subject to change, any changes will be advertised on our Facebook page. Please be aware, these sessions do not offer a private room to talk, we will be based in the main areas of the library.
As we are not taking bookings, we will do our best to speak to you on a first come, first served basis

The Ark Nursery

This week and last week

We have been caring for our class tadpole (who has grown legs this week!) as well as our growing plants too, inside the classroom on the window sills and outside in our greenhouse and outdoor areas. We were super surprised to see how much our beans had grown over the Easter holidays! Linked to our literacy learning surrounding 'The Runaway Pea', we have also all planted our own pea and placed in the greenhouse to watch grow.

We have been very excited by the arrival of chicks this week too. We have talked about the chicken life cycle, watched as the chicks began to hatch and have even sat in a circle with them running around inside. We also gave them a gentle stroke too!

During our phonics sessions this week, we have learnt sounds 'y' and 'w', as well as consolidating sounds we have already learnt. We also began story mapping 'The Runaway Pea' in literacy – the children have made some impressive marks for each part of the story! In maths we have looked at positional language. We enjoyed the sunshine this week with lots of outdoor learning. The children have also been doing so well in PE!

Next week

Next week in our phonics sessions, we will learn new sounds 'z' and 'x', while continuing to consolidate all phonemes learnt so far, before we move onto special friends! We will continue our learning surrounding our story book 'The Runaway Pea', finishing off story mapping and making marks of our own. In maths, we will look at 'more than' and 'less than'. Having talked lots about plants and their life cycles, we will move onto a focus on human and animal life cycles. We will continue to care for our growing plants and make observations of this growth. Excitedly, we will also take delivery of some caterpillars which we will be able to observe as they become butterflies, before we release them outdoors!

We will begin looking at our baby photos – please upload these to Tapestry if you haven't already. Thank you!

Learning links at home

- Go on a bug hunt. What did you find? Can you draw a picture of the different insects you found?
- Make the most of the spring sunshine and get outside to do some mark making. You could use a tub of water and a paintbrush, chalks or even a broom and water.
- Help your grown up to hang the washing on the line in the spring sunshine and help to develop your motor skills at the same time, squeezing the pegs together is a great workout for your fingers!

DIARY DATES

5th **Bank holiday**
6th Yr R School Nursing Team Vision & Hearing, Height & Weight
12th – 16th May KS2 (yr 6) SATs week
21st Year 5 Victorian Day at Gressenhall
Half term 26th – 30th May
June
2nd **Inset Day – school closed**
10th Reception Class to Gressenhall
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
15th Yr 1 Trip to Wells Heritage Centre and Beach
22nd **Last day of term**
Summer holiday commences 23rd July

* New addition