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

6th December 2024

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

On Wednesday the children and staff enjoyed a wonderful Christingle Service in Church.
Following a lovely service by Revd. Laura and our Ethos Team, the children filled the aisles to light the Christingles whilst we sang a hymn and took part in a Christmas blessing. Prior to this, alongside Revd Laura we welcomed several members of the community into school to help the children make their Christingles in readiness for the service. We were very grateful for the extra help and we hoped they enjoyed helping the children too! A huge 'thank you' goes to Freya and Jessica's Mum for supplying sweets and sultanas and Millani and Kiaara's Dad for supplying the oranges.

Earlier in the week, Ms Findlay our Vice Chair of Governors spent the morning in school. As governor in charge of the curriculum she carried out monitoring of English with Mr Wade. They looked at writing across all year groups and found the level and standards to be exceptionally good.

The School Kitchen received a visit from Breckland Council this week to carry out a food hygiene and health and safety inspection, we are very pleased to report that they received the top grading of 5 stars. Well done Liz and Moira!

Shining Lights

Ark Class (Nursery)	**Edward** for his amazing independence. Edward has been tidying up our resources, taking responsibility for his belongings and getting himself organised at home time.
Antarctic Class (yr R)	**Emileigh** for showing great kindness towards others this week.
Oceania Class (yr 1)	**Joseph** for demonstrating this half term's value of kindness, not just this week, but all of the time. Joseph is always so helpful and his friends can always count on him.
Africa Class (yr 2)	**Georgia** for making amazing choices. She has been incredibly focused and enthusiastic in class.
Europe Class (yr 3)	**Luca** is our shining light of the week for his amazing concentration and focus in class. He has also worked super hard at his presentation.
S America Class (yr 4)	**Ellsie** for her fantastic attitude and enthusiasm towards learning. Ellsie has really let her light shine in English this week; recalling many of our key terms, identifying them in model texts and applying them to her own writing. Well done Ellsie.
Asia Class (yr 5)	**Jaylen** for persevering with his learning even when he finds it challenging. He has worked particularly hard this week adding fractions and drafting a piece of writing.
N America Class (yr 6)	**Sophia** has been praised this week for her excellent work this week with fractions. She has listened carefully, thought deeply and been successful with her work.

This week's overall attendance 93%. South America Class (yr 4) 99.2%

WOW MOMENTS!

Freddie (yr 2) completed his first grading for Ju Juitsu and was awarded his next belt. His focus and concentration was incredible!
Matilda (yr 1) took part in her first theatre active show as part of Busy Bodies Stage School. Matilda performed in front of a full Dereham memorial hall, for the show Aladdin. We are ever so proud of her.
Ellsie (yr 4) has moved up a group in swimming! Her goal is to join the Dereham Otters. Well done Ellsie!
Caiden (yr 3) played in a drum concert on Saturday night to over 50 people! He played a full song on his own perfectly!

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	How are toys today different from toys in the past?
2	What damage di the Fire of London cause?
3	What does Stonehenge tell us about prehistoric Britain?
4	What did the Romans believe, and did they bring their beliefs to Britain?
5	How did England become a unified country?
6	How does climate change affect land use?

Antarctica Class (yr R)

Today we finished writing our wish lists to Santa and walked to our local post box to post them! We were very excited to do this and said our 'Christmas wish' for Santa as we passed the envelope along the line to the post box. We are looking forward to hopefully receiving our reply over the next couple of weeks!

Africa Class (yr 2)

Year 2 have been super busy preparing for Christmas this week. We made our Christingles ahead of our Christingle service, made Christmas tree decorations and visited Reverend Laura to support our RE learning about the Nativity story. Check out our amazing Christmas Art on display too!

Asia Class (yr 5)

In Science, Asia class investigated the enquiry question: Which surfaces create the most friction? To answer the question, they measured how much force was needed to move a shoe across different surfaces whilst keeping other variables (such as the shoe and weight added) the same to ensure it was a fair test. They also took multiple readings so that their results were reliable.

REMINDERS AND NOTICES…

Wraparound Care

The booking form for Spring 1 is now open for bookings via the following link: https://forms.gle/7D6sn7XKGpHWdb8n7

Poppy Collection

We were very pleased to hear that the total amount collected for the Royal British Legion was £126.67.

Friends of Shipdham School

Just a reminder to keep selling raffle tickets, more are available from the school office if needed. All tickets to be returned by 11th December ready for the grand draw on the 13th!

Parking – School Grounds

Please do not use the school car park when dropping off children for club, currently there is limited parking and staff have allotted spaces which are being taken. Thank you.

The Ark Nursery Newsletter

Last week

Last week we based our learning on 'The Gruffalo'. We retold the story many times with actions, repeating phrases from the story and doing more mark making! In Maths, we looked at AB patterns (e.g. red cube, green cube, red cube, green cube). Very excitingly, we decorated our class Christmas tree, put up some decorations and practised for our nativity lots (like last year, our performance will be a recorded and edited video for all to see!) During our afternoons, we spent lots of time outside, we talked all about the Nativity story and enjoyed using musical instruments.

This week

We have had a busy week of learning, alongside beginning our festive fun! In Literacy, we made our own stick people and used these to retell the story of 'Stick Man'. In Maths, we consolidated our learning of AB patterns, as well as being introduced to ABC patterns. We mixed together ingredients, rolled out salt dough and pressed festive shapes into the dough to create Christmas decorations. They are currently drying out before we decorate them in the final weeks before Christmas! We were very excited to see we had been visited again this year by our class elf called Elvis. We found him sitting at the top of the tree and read a letter from him together – he has been doing some very funny things since!

Next week

Alongside lots of fun Christmas activities, we will continue practising our songs, lines and actions for our recorded Christmas performance. In amongst all the excitement, we will continue consolidating AB and ABC patterns, before we move onto consolidating our maths learning. We will also continue looking at The Christmas Story.

Next week will see even more Christmas activities, the filming of our Christmas performance and lots of opportunity for talking! Please remember to bring in a named carrier bag for all of our belongings to come home.

Learning links at home

- Design some Christmas wrapping paper – can you use a repeating ABAB pattern in your design? You might have: green bauble, red bauble, green bauble, red bauble.
- Have a grown up cut circles, triangles, squares and rectangles out of coloured paper. Can you put them together to make a snowman? Can you give him a hat? And some buttons?
- Watch our book advent videos on our school Facebook page, where staff from school read a Christmas themed book each day for advent!
- Practise putting on your own hat, scarf, gloves and coat – what do we put on first?

DIARY DATES

2024/2025

December

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

January

10th New Hall Celebration*
20th Mobile Planetarium (Yrs R-6)*

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