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

7th November 2025

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

We hope you all had a lovely half-term. It has been wonderful to see the children return to school so positively and excited for their Autumn 2 learning. Thank you to everyone who has sent in home learning projects; they have been fantastic, and it is lovely to see how enthusiastic the children are about their new topics.

We would also like to thank everyone who completed the parent surveys. We really appreciate your feedback, and we will share the results once they have been collated.

Our after-school sports activities have also been going very well, and it has been lovely to see how much the children are enjoying taking part. Please be reminded that these are to be booked via Arbor in the 3.15-4.15pm time slot.

This term, we are looking forward to welcoming families into school for a range of events, in the upcoming weeks. We have also begun adding Christmas and Winter Holiday activities to the school calendar, so please do check it regularly for updates.

Shining Lights of the Week

Ark Class (Nursery)	**Ayda S** for always being kind and honest to others. You show others how important it is to tell the truth and to be kind and fair. You are a shining example to others and we are very proud!
Arctic Class (yr R)	**Charlie** for her excellent listening skills and tidying up. Even though Charlie has not used many of the toys in class she has been tidy up Arctic Classroom and keeping it amazing.
Antarctica Class (Yr R)	**Elsie-Rose** for an amazing first week back to school! Elsie has listened to adults brilliantly and been a superstar helper to others.
Oceania Class (yr 1)	**Mollie** for having a fantastic first week back after half term, full of learning and fun! She has tried incredibly hard in all of the lessons this week, especially Phonics!
Africa Class (yr 2)	**Daisy** for coming back to school incredibly keen to learn. She is always engaged, enthusiastic and eager to learn each day.
Europe Class (yr 3)	**Callie** for her perseverance in and out of the classroom. She has overcome problems through a positive attitude. Callie felt nervous to compete in the girls football competition but overcoming this meant she had an excellent day.
S America Class (yr 4)	**Luca** for his enthusiasm towards learning and engagement in all areas. He has shown incredible focus and dedication and settled well on the return from half term.
Asia Class (yr 5)	**Jess** consistently listens carefully, works hard, and eagerly applies what she has learned to her independent work. We are so proud of her fantastic effort and dedication to learning!
N America Class (yr 6)	**Rory** for his renewed enthusiasm and vigour in our reading star lessons-keep it up.

This week's overall attendance 98%. South America Class (yr 4) 99.6%

OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Questions
1	What different types of toys are there?
2	What was London like in 1666?
3	How do artefacts inform us about prehistory in Britain?
4	How do we know who lived in Roman Britain?
5	Who were the Vikings?
6	How does the climate of a place influence how its land is used?

WOW MOMENTS!

Matilda (Yr 2) Matilda has been volunteering for British legion selling poppies in the supermarket. Well done Matilda!

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

Anti- Bullying Week

This week is Anti-Bullying Week, and we are starting the week with **Odd Socks Day** on **Monday 10th November**.
All children are welcome to come to school wearing odd socks with their usual school uniform. No donation is required, thank you.

We will also be supporting **Children in Need** on **Friday 14th November**.
Children can come to school wearing **spots** or **yellow** if they'd like to join in. Donations can be sent into school or made online using the QR code attached to this email, which sends your contribution directly to **Children in Need**.

Thank you so much for your support!

Thomas Bullock CE Primary and Nursery Academy Open Day

Prospective parents of Pre School and Nursery children due to start school September 2026 are invited to our open sessions on:

Tuesday 2nd December at 2pm
There will be a short presentation and tour of the school.
Refreshments will be available.
If you are unable to attend but would like to visit
please contact the school office to arrange a suitable time 01362 820300.

Online Safety

Recently, we have again noticed a concerning trend involving online chats. In particular we have noticed an increase in issues relating to social media chats, especially TikTok.
TikTok is a video-sharing app focused on creativity, trends, and entertainment powered by a highly personalised recommendation system. The age rating set by the platform is 13+ and if users sign up with the correct birthdate, there are restrictions applied to them including being unable to access the chat function until they are 16 and then only allowing to chat with people they know until they are 17+. However, these restrictions are ineffective if the child is signed up to an adult account.

The dangers of being exposed to the adult version of the chat include:

- Intimate chats with anonymous strangers
- Grooming
- Sexual exploitation
- Bullying

Alongside these dangers, we have also noticed that this type of chat has an addictive nature, where sustained amounts of time communicating with strangers online increases with use.

Leave of Absence

Please continue to use the Leave of Absence forms for all term-time holiday or absence requests. These forms are available at the school reception and on our website.

We would like to remind parents that the school is fully monitored and accountable to the Department for Education (DfE) and the Attendance Team at Norfolk County Council and must follow strict guidance in line with DfE's "Working Together to Improve School Attendance" and the "National Framework for Penalty Notices for School Absence". We are unable to approve requests for term-time absence outside of this guidance. Further information can be found in the attendance section of our website, in our Attendance Policy and on the gov.uk website.

Thank you for your continued support

A Message from our SENDCo

We would like to share a reminder for the Norfolk STEPS Course which takes place in school soon.
Copied below is the information shared in our recent newsletter.
If you would like to attend, please contact Mrs Smith via the school office.
We will need to confirm numbers with the course provider next week.

Norfolk STEPS for Parents Course

We are really pleased to be offering a Norfolk Steps for Parents course which will take place in school on Tuesday 18th and Tuesday 25th of November from 9am-11am. The course will be delivered by the Schools and Communities Team and will share a therapeutic approach to behaviour management focused on around supporting children to emotionally regulate and understanding the emotions behind their behaviours. It will also provide a welcoming space to share experiences and to seek advice.
If you would like any further information about the course or would like to attend please email Mrs Smith via the school office.

DIARY DATES

November
10th-11th – Year 5 Residential to Horstead
10th – Odd Socks Day*
14th – Children in Need Day*
20th – Reception Trip to High Lodge
21st – Flu Immunisations
29th- FOSS Wreath Making evening at WI Hall

December
2nd – Open Day for Reception 2026*
5th – Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints Church Shipdham
11th – Year 1 trip to Holkham Hall Christmas Experience
11th/12th – FOSS Christmas Shop at Lunchtime
11th – Christmas Jumper Day
11th – Reception Class Nativity
17th – Christmas Carol Service at All Saints Church
17th – Christmas Lunch
18th – FOSS Christmas Party Afternoon
19th – School finishes at 12pm
19th – Last day of Term
Christmas Holiday Monday 22nd December – Monday 5th January 2026

January
5th – INSET DAY
6TH – Children return to School

February
Half Term 16th-20th February

March
School Photographer
Easter Holiday 30th March- 13th April

April
14th April – Children return to School