



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy

"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:14-16

Headteacher: Mrs Shannon O'Sullivan

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Back to School Newsletter 11th September 2026

Welcome back to a new school year!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our families for their amazing attitude, patience and support with remote learning.

We have been so proud of how well everyone has adapted to the changes and continued to support the children with their learning from home. The children have shown such fantastic resilience, independence and enthusiasm, and we are incredibly proud of the effort they have put into their learning.

We are now very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back together and beginning this exciting new temporary chapter at Letton Hall. We can't wait to see you all!

A huge thank you to FOSS for all of the incredible fundraising they have done through the GoFundMe page, which has raised over £22,000 so far. We are incredibly grateful for the time, energy and dedication they have put into supporting our school and our children.

Thank you to every single family who has supported us through donations, messages, offers of help or simply by being there for our school community. We have been overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity shown by our families and the wider community, we are incredibly grateful.

Every message, donation and gesture of support has made a real difference.

A big thank you also to DNEAT for the tremendous support they have provided throughout this period, including securing Letton Hall and helping us to move forward with our plans at an extraordinary pace.

Their support has been invaluable in helping us to make this next stage possible.

A very special thank you must also go to our incredible staff team. The dedication, flexibility and commitment shown by every member of staff throughout this time has been truly remarkable. From preparing and delivering remote learning, supporting families, adapting to new ways of working and helping to make all of the arrangements for our temporary move, everyone has gone above and beyond to ensure that our children have continued to feel supported, cared for and connected to their school.

We are looking forward to being together again as a school community and continuing to let your light shine!

Important Upcoming Dates

18th September- Jeans for Genes Day

Children can come to school wearing their jeans on Friday for a donation of your choice. Please note, children will still need to wear their normal School sweatshirt and polo shirt.

21st September- School Photographer-

Individual photos only, sibling photos will be taking place with the class photos next year.

28th September- Year 5 School Trip to West Stow

1st October- Year 6 NCMP Height and Weight Screening

27th November- Flu Immunisations- Year R - Year 6

A warm welcome to our Reception starters, we hope you enjoyed your first days with us.

Reception have settled into Letton Hall beautifully and have been busy exploring their new surroundings and enjoying lots of fun together.

We were so lucky to have the sun shining this week, giving the children plenty of opportunities to make the most of the wonderful outdoor space.

It has been lovely to see their happy faces and watch them embrace their new adventure so confidently.

Well done, Reception! We are so proud of you!



Remote Learning

We are incredibly proud of all of our children and the effort they have been putting into their remote learning since the start of term.

It has been wonderful to see their hard work, resilience and positive attitudes, particularly while adapting to such a different start to the school year.

You have all done amazingly well, and we are so proud of you!





Shining Lights of the Week

Oceania Class Monty for being so resilient, brave and courageous. Not only has Monty made contributions to every one of our online sessions during our home learning, he has done so in front of all of his new classmates as he joins Thomas Bullock!

Australasia Class Edward for his wonderful contributions, effort and enthusiasm throughout our remote learning. He has shown a brilliant attitude towards his learning and is always willing to share his ideas. Well done Edward!

Africa Class Martha for her fantastic efforts and contributions during our online learning. She has worked so hard and has shown a wonderful attitude towards her learning.

Europe Class Joseph for his brilliant cooperation in every online lesson. a massive well done to many others in Year 3 who has exceeded my expectations of them in the remote learning setting.

South America Class Harry for his incredible enthusiasm during every online lesson. He has worked so hard, joining in during online discussions in a positive manner. Well done.

Asia Class Hector for his amazing attitude to join in. Even though Hector is new to Thomas Bullock this year, he has thrown himself into every lesson and shown great courage to speak up in front of others that he doesn't yet know. All of which has helped encourage others to do the same.

North America Class Scarlett for the fantastic attitude she has brought to home learning this term. She is always there with a smile and something positive to contribute as well as her 'can do' attitude. Thanks.

Who Should I Contact?

For all class-based and timetable enquiries these should be directed to your class teacher in the first instance, via the school office.

For quick messages, teachers will be on the gate each morning and afternoon. If you require more detailed support, please direct enquires to- the EYFS, KS1 or KS2 Phase Leader.

To make an appointment with our SENDCo, Mrs Smith please email the school office.

*General enquiries:
office@thomasbullock.dneat.org*

Please be reminded that we request up to 72 working hours to respond.



Reminders

Medication

We are able to administer most prescribed medications in school. If your child requires medication during the school day, please complete a medication consent form, available from the school office or on our website under Parents > Useful Forms.

Medical Appointments

If your child has a medical appointment (doctor, dentist, optician or hospital), please notify the school office by email and attach a copy of the appointment confirmation where possible.

Uniform and Appearance

Our full uniform list is available on the school website:
<http://www.thomasbullock.dneat.org/parents-hub/uniform/>

A few reminders:

- Hair that is shoulder length or longer should be tied back.
- Earrings, if worn, must be plain stud earrings and children should be able to remove them independently for PE.
- Hair bands and clips should be plain, without large embellishments, and in school colours (navy or white).

Driving and Parking

To help keep everyone safe, please do not drive or park on the entrance roundabout, on the yellow lines outside school, or inside the school gates. Please park considerately, avoiding our neighbours' driveways, and take extra care when driving near the school, as many children walk to and from school.

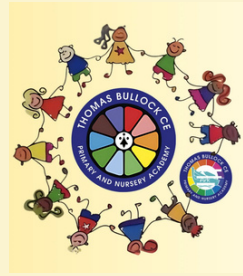
Food

All children should have a water bottle in school every day. If your child brings a snack to school, please do ensure that these are healthy and not wrapped items such as chocolate bars and crisps. We continue to be a nut free school, so please do ensure you are not sending any food with your child that contains nuts. Thank you for your understanding.

Keeping Your Details Up to Date

Please let us know if any of your contact details or circumstances change, you can also change details on your Arbor app. We will shortly be sending home the emergency contact information we hold for your child. Please check, update if necessary, and return it to school as soon as possible.

Friends of Shipdham School



A huge thank you to our incredible Friends of Shipdham School (FOSS) for everything they have done to support our school following the fire. Through their incredible fundraising efforts and the GoFundMe page, FOSS have now raised over £22,000! That is just amazing!

The time, energy and dedication that FOSS have put into fundraising for our school has been truly incredible. They have worked tirelessly to bring our community together.

We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to every single person who has donated. Every contribution, large or small, is hugely appreciated and will make such a difference to our school and our children.

We are incredibly lucky to have such a wonderful FOSS team. Thank you, FOSS, for everything you continue to do for our school. We are so incredibly grateful.

AGM
Friday 18th September at 7pm
At The Golden Dog, Shipdham

Everyone welcome!

FOSS do an amazing job raising thousands of pounds each year for the children of our school.

Please come along and support them as they make their plans for the year ahead. They are always grateful to anyone who can spare some time to help – no matter how little!

Diary Dates

AUTUMN TERM

September

18th - FOSS AGM at The Golden Dog 7pm

18th - Jeans for Genes Day- come to school in jeans with a donation

21st - Tempest Individual Photos

28th - Year 5 School Trip to West Stow

October

1st – Yr 6 NCMP height & weight checks

8th - Year 2 Trip to Sandringham

8th- Neatherd Open Evening for Year 6

22nd – Break up for half term

23rd Oct - Inset day- School Closed

October Half Term

November

2nd November – Children back to school

2nd-3rd - Year 5 Residential to Horstead*

27th November - Flu Vaccinations Yr R-6

December

1st- Year 1 Trip to Holkham Hall

Fri 18th Dec - Children finish at 12pm, break up for Christmas

SPRING TERM

January 2027

4th - Inset day

5th - Children back to school

February

12th – Break up for half term

22nd – Children back to school

March

2nd – YR NCMP- height & weight checks / vision & hearing

15th March – Class Photos

25th- Children finish at 12pm, break up for Easter

SUMMER TERM

April

12th - Inset day

13th - Children back to school

May

3rd – BANK HOLIDAY – school closed

28th – Break up for half term

June

7th - Inset day

8th - Children back to school

July

21st July - Children finish at 12pm, break up for summer

