

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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NEWSLETTER

11th February 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Thomas Bullock

This week we have taken part in Mental Health Week and Safer Internet Day. Our children had special assemblies for both, and we completed activities in school. You will have had the safer internet safeguarding information shared earlier in the week. We discussed with children how to be safe online at home and in school, who to talk to when they have concerns and ensure that all children have trusted adults. Please do continue to talk to your children about online safety at home.

New Furniture! It has been an exciting week in school, we have had a huge delivery of wonderful new EYFS specialist furniture, roleplay resources, tables, chairs and even a shop and kitchen for our Nursery class and a large new roleplay zone area for Year 1. We look forward to sharing pictures of the children learning in their updated and new environments.

One of our school improvement targets is to continue to see attendance raise. You will be pleased to see it has risen again following a few low weeks due to illness in many year groups. We are pleased to hear that many of our children and families are now feeling much better coming into half-term. Considering this, we will update you on any new guidance shared by the government and Department for Education that impacts upon our return ahead of 21 February. We are hopeful to resume our free teacher led clubs from after half-term and hopefully enjoy whole-school assemblies again soon.

Another one of our school improvement targets is to improve spelling across our school, therefore we are excited to once again hold our annual spellathon 'spelling bee', details of which have also gone home today, alongside our Bidwells and places for people 'Name the development' competition. Children have been invited to win up to £100 by using their local knowledge to name a new Shipdham development. We are looking forward to seeing what names the children put forward.

You will note below that we are inviting parents into school in March to look at their children's books and celebrate their phenomenal progress before the parents' virtual evening later in the week. We look forward to seeing you then.

Have a wonderful, restful, and enjoyable half-term. We look forward to the children's return on 21 February.

Kindest regards, Shannon O'Sullivan





Shining Lights of the Week!

| Antarctica Class (yr R) | Romeo and Daisy for always showing respect to others in school. |
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| | They are wonderful role models for their peers; respecting other people |
| | and their belongings, having great manners also. |
| Oceania Class (yr 1) | Ellsie for consistently showing respect to her classmates and members |
| | of staff around the school. |
| | George Hi for being respectful of others and always showing good |
| | listening when others are talking. |
| Africa Class (yr 2) | Rocco for his amazing effort in his learning this half term and his kindness and respect to all staff and children. |
| | Sienna for showing consistent respect to others. Being polite, helpful |
| | and a fantastic learning partner to the children in the class. |
| Europe Class (yr 3) | Autumn C and Max for always showing respect to others and the spaces around them. They are both so polite, kind and helpful towards |
| | their friends and the adults in the classroom. |
| S. America Class (yr 4) | Noah H and Dolcie for always showing respect towards others and their feelings, engaged and listening carefully and making excellent progress throughout this half term. |
| Asia Class (yr 5) | Ryley H and Grace for showing respect towards others, listening carefully and making sure resources are treated correctly. |
| N. America Class (yr 6) | Willow and Finley for always showing respect to others, working hard and making excellent progress this half term. |
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WOW MOMENTS!

Edward (yr 2) has read Baby Alien's Got My Teacher by Pamela Butchart and he also wrote a review on the book. He is very proud as he read it in 5 days and is the biggest book he has read by himself – 165 pages! He is also donating a copy of the book to the school for other children to enjoy. Thank you Edward!



Bailey (yr 3) has been chosen as Captain of his football team.

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

The week's overall attendance – 92%

Parent/Teacher appointment letters sent home today for appointments on 8th, 9th and 10th March, please return appointment slips as soon as possible after half term. There will be a book look in the Hall on Monday 7th March between 2.45pm and 3.15pm for parents.

EDP Books for Schools

Following our participation in the EDP's recent Books for Schools promotion, the school collected enough tokens to qualify to receive £100 worth of free books. Thank you to everyone who collected and sent in tokens.

Please click on the link below to see what's been happening in school this week https://vimeo.com/675847512

Safer Internet Day

The children took part in lots of activities around being safe on the internet with a focus on being kind online. This linked in well with our Well- being week and our value this half term which is Respect. Many classes did some Yoga this week in their classrooms as part of a well-being activity.



North America Class (yr 6)

Year 6 had a wonderful 'living history' day at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse Museum this week. Dressed and in-role as evacuees, they discovered what life was like on the Home Front during WWII. They met and made mash potato-chocolate-truffles with a Women's Land Army girl, took cover in an Anderson shelter, learnt about rationing in a Village shop and carried out drills with the Home Guard.

Everyone had a great day and we've had some wonderfully authentic diary entries produced following the visit.





Africa Class (yr 2)

The children in year 2 visited the Church to learn all about Baptisms and how it marks the beginning of being a Christian and belonging to the Christian faith and their Church. Reverend Paul Cubit showed the children the font at Shipdham Church and explained the process of Baptisms. The children had a lovely time and Reverend Cubit emailed us to tell us how excellent they had been.





Antarctica Class (yr R)

The children in reception class have been working really hard with their writing. They have been using their phonics knowledge to write labels, captions and short sentences. All of the children have shown incredible determination and effort this week and have produced some wonderful work. They've remembered to say their sentences out loud and use their Fred Fingers when writing independently - well done everyone!







This week and after half term

Our literacy focus this week has continued with 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. With lots of absence, I have decided to continue Jack and the Beanstalk for one more week after half term to ensure we really get to know our focus book and can take part in lots of exciting activities I have planned! We have been checking our beanstalks daily and have noticed some starting to break through the soil – we can't wait to see how much they grow over half term.

After half term, we will also be recapping the sounds we have seen so far – `m', `a', `s', `d' and `t'. We will continue looking at numbers to 5, subitising, representing and comparing amounts. Our Topic focus will be Spring and Easter!

Very excitingly, we have also had some wonderful furniture delivered for our classroom – there is a sneak peak below. I am looking forward to seeing all of The Ark Nursery children being imaginative in our role play area once we return.





Learning links at home

- It is Valentine's Day on Monday! Can you draw a picture of someone who is special to you?
- Can you do some baking? You could make some play dough or a cake! Help to measure out the ingredients carefully.
- We love doing scavenger hunts at Nursery. What can you find when you go out on a walk? Upload to Tapestry so I can see your treasures too!

Have a lovely half term – I look forward to seeing you when we return 😊

DIARY DATES February half term – 14th – 18th February inclusive February 21st School re-opens for Spring Term 2 22nd Thinking Day March 3rd World Book Day 7th Parent Book Look in Hall – all classes 2.45 - 3.15pm* 8th, 9th, 10th Parent/Teacher Meetings* 17th Parent/SEN Meetings* 18th Red Nose Day 24th & 25th Lunchtime FOSS Mothers' Day Shop 31st Reception Class visit to the Dinosaur Park April 1st Easter Service at Church* Easter Holiday – 4th April – 19th April inclusive 20th April School re-opens for Summer Term 1 May 2nd – School Closed – Bank Holiday May half term – 30th May – 3rd June 6th May School re-opens for Summer Term 2 9th – 12th Year 6 SATs week* 16th – 27th Year 2 SATs* 27th Queen's Jubilee Celebration and Church* June 9th School Nursing Team – Reception class -Height, Weight, Vision & Hearing Screening and Year 6 Height and Weight Screening 11th FOSS Yard Sale 16th & 17th Lunchtime FOSS Fathers' Day Shop 29th June – 1st July – Year 6 Residential to Eaton Vale 30th Norfolk Show – Years 3, 4 and 5. July 8th Sports Day* 9th FOSS Summer Fete 13th Reserve Sports Day* 15th FOSS End of Year Children's Disco 22nd July – Last day of term. *New addition to calendar

