



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy

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

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NEWSLETTER

27th September 2024

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

We have had such a busy two weeks across both schools and are really grateful for your fantastic positivity regarding our recent Phonics workshop last week and book look this week across the Federation.

In Reception, we tried something a little new this year, inviting parents to both take part in the learning around RWI and phonics and then be in the classroom for phonics workshop activities. This seems to have been really well received and we will continue this with our academic workshops up and coming! Thank you for our fabulous feedback too! Our teachers work very hard at our school and appreciate your feedback for our pupils! *"Thank you for being so positive and inspiring. Our children are very lucky to be at Thomas Bullock."*

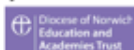
Reception Class also welcomed in parents this week for their first weekly reading session. It was great to see so many children and their grown-ups enjoying stories to start off their day. They are looking forward to seeing lots of parents again next Thursday 08:30 – 08:45.



Book Looks. Thank you as well for attending the book looks. Our children are always so proud of their class and school work. Please do leave a comment here and we will share these with them and their class teacher. [HERE](#)



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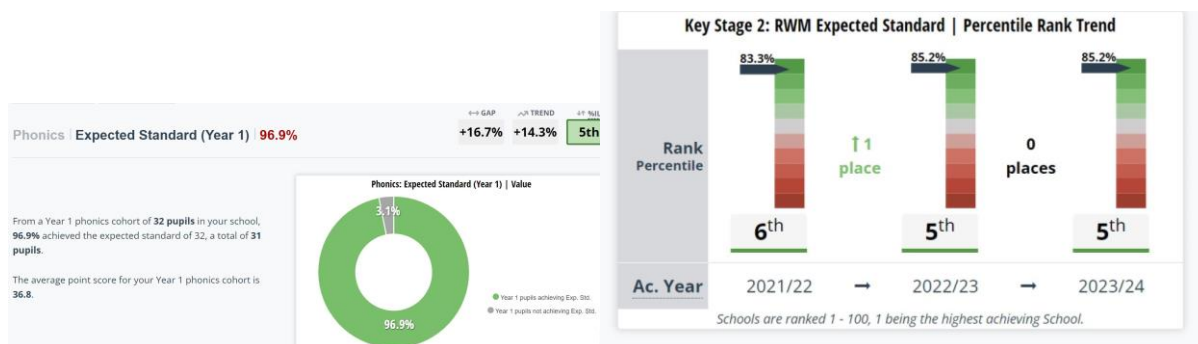
Our after school and lunchtime Enrichment Clubs started this week and have proved very popular. So popular, that in Lego and Art Clubs we have had to put in an extra member of staff so as to give all children their first choice and we also have bought more Lego and art resources! The KS2 Book Club with Mr Long was also enjoyable and Mr Stagg's running club was full of enthusiastic athletes after school on Thursday.

Here is a picture of our runners after 4 x 100m runs around the field. All 19 children ran excellently, well done!



We have taken onboard the feedback that bi-weekly newsletters would be better, therefore we will continue with this path, and when we have important information, we will continue with intermediary bulletins, as you received on 6th September with the contact and class information.

We have some great news! To be in the 5th percentile of schools for one or two years is a challenge but we are now in the 5th percentile of schools for the 3rd year in a row. This is truly demonstrating excellent progress and attainment and we are all very proud of this! We are also demonstrating excellent outcomes for pupils with academic needs, SEN and disadvantaged. Therefore, we are reaching our entire community. Our attendance is also above National. This attainment is also excellent and in the very top 5th percentile Nationally in phonics, our GLD is above National and multiplication times tables check is top 17th percentile Nationally! A big reach of our Governors and Leaders has been 'letting our light shine from Nursery to Year 6 so all achieve well!' Well done to all of our pupils, families and teachers on the excellent and consistent outcomes.



Thomas Bullock Building and Construction Work!

The children may have seen Mr Wade and I dressed in hard hats and climbing the roof on Tuesday? That is because we were completing Health and Safety curtilage checks. It was really exciting to see the huge gains made in such a short space of time. This week the steel for the roof has been delivered and the reinforcements in place. Once the steel is in-place engineers will then check the reinforced steel ring-beam, following this, the team will be able to ascertain whether we are certain to be on-track for a Christmas completion date. We have everything crossed for our fantastic building team!

Additionally, the Governors and I have long been working towards having our Trust approve our financing of new toilets for our pupils at Thomas Bullock and we are hoping to get these started during the October Half-Term or at Christmas. Beginning with Upper Key Stage, Years 5 and 6. News and pictures to follow once commencement works start.



Shining Lights

- Ark Class (Nursery) **Alfred** for his fantastic knowledge surrounding colour mixing, being a super class helper and adapting to change, as a new big brother, so well.
- Antarctic Class (yr R) **Mia** for a fabulous start to the year. She has been a brilliant role model for her peers; making good choices and supporting new friends as they settle into school-life.
- Oceania Class (yr 1) **Isabella** for her outstanding behaviour and attitude towards her learning. She has produced some fantastic written work in English this week.
- Africa Class (yr 2) **Oscar** for always choosing to do the right thing and encouraging his friends to do the same. Oscar is a wonderful role model to others.
- Europe Class (yr 3) **Arthur** for excellent efforts in his English and maths work this week. He has made great contributions in our whole- class English writing too!
- S America Class (yr 4) **Hadley** for his amazing attitude and hard work across the curriculum. Hadley has worked his socks off this week and has been a fantastic role model to others in the class.
- Asia Class (yr 5) **Halle F** for always working hard and trying her best. She has made a great start to the year. Well done!
- N America Class (yr 6) **Jake** for his excellent reasoning and sharing of ideas this week, particularly in science.

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

OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Question of the week
1	What is special about our local area?
2	Why is King John I known as 'Bad King John'?
3	Where are rivers located in the UK?
4	Why was the Roman army so successful in spreading the Roman Empire?
5	How was Anglo Saxon England ruled?
6	What was life like in Bronze Age Britain?

WOW MOMENTS!

Leon (yr 2) scored a goal in his football match on Saturday for first time then went on to score a second and he was awarded man of the match!

Eva (yr 5) auditioned for pantomime on Saturday morning and was successful!

Lewis G (4) played his second football match for Necton U 9's and scored two goals. He was also awarded 'Man of the Match ' for his exceptional performance during the game.

George Ta (1) has learnt to ride his bike without stabilisers!

Please remember to continue to send in your **WOW** moments
for
achievements out of school
<https://forms.gle/DV4RoVbQGpijUMV7>



Antarctica Class (Yr R)

The class have settled well into school life. We have been continuing to get to know each other and talking about ourselves. We have looked in the mirrors to see our features and used wonderful make making to paint self-portrait pictures – aren't they good!

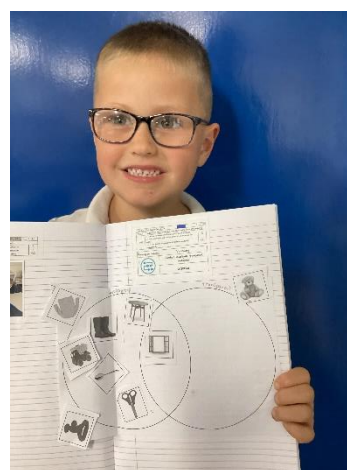
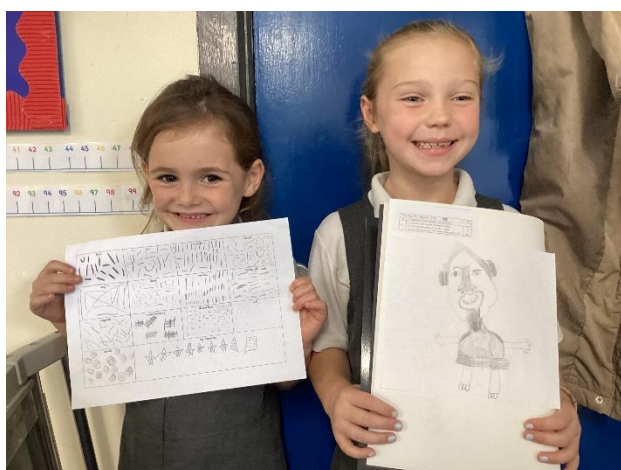
We enjoyed a fantastic first Forest School session. The children did really well at listening to and following our forest school rules and explored all of the new spaces. They were excited to find some frogs in the pond area and had a great time making music using natural and recycled materials. We can't wait until next week's session!



Antarctica Class (yr 1)

In Year One we have been looking at the artwork of Barbara Walker - she does portraits and self-portraits. We had a go at learning the skill of making different line types to draw a copy of one of her portraits.

In Science we did investigations to find out about different materials' properties. Stuart found out which materials are waterproof and which are transparent and which are both.



Africa Class (yr 2)

The class have been investigating 'How do animals change as they grow up?' The children have been showing each other their baby photos and discussing how they have changed.



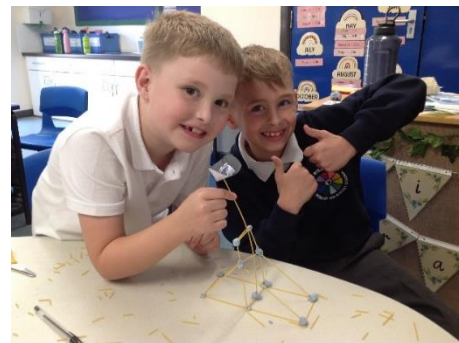
Europe Class (yr 3)

In year 3 this week we have been looking at ordering numbers. We all had a turn at becoming the numbers and ordering each other before working in our books after!



South America Class (yr 4)

In DT we created catapult prototypes out of spaghetti. We discussed the best way to build these to support us in which order we will build our catapult. We had lots of fun!



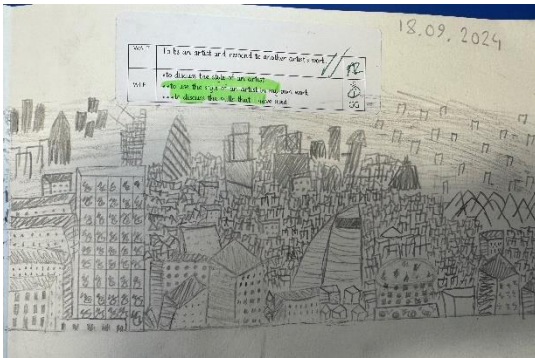
Asia Class (yr 5) – Visit to West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village

The day began exploring the museum and dressing up in clothes from the time followed by an artefact handling session where we examined Anglo-Saxon artefacts in more detail. After lunch we went to the village and explored all the houses before meeting in the main hall for a very informative Q and A session with an expert from the village.



North America Class (yr 6)

In year 6 we have been studying the artist Steven Wiltshire. We have been learning about his childhood and the difficulties he faced. Then we studied his artistic style and attempted to imitate it.



Doodle Learning

We are very excited to welcome you to:



doodlelearning 
discover possible

Name: Lesley Light
Class: Year 3
Class Username: leslig
Password: cat2

doodlelearning.com



This week, children across our Federation, have been getting to grips with the new online learning platform 'Doodle Learning'. It is fun, engaging and adapts to each child's individual learning needs to support their progress. Feedback so far from the children has been really positive with its engaging and easy to use format.

Now they have used it in school, children will come home by the end of the week with log in details (an example is shown above) for the system so they can access and use it at home. To log in to the system, the children will need to access the 'pupil log in' section from the website. An app can be downloaded onto devices to make this process even easier. The message from Doodle Learning is for the children to use the system in short but regular sessions.

Please see our Home Learning Information for more details about how we will be using the system to support your children's learning.

Reminders...

Illness - If your child is not well please phone or email the school office by 09:20 each morning to let us know, identifying the reason for absence. If we do not have a reason the absence may be unauthorised. We are quite happy for children to come into school if they are suffering from cold symptoms, however we would always advise if your child has a fever or particularly high temperature, to stay off school until this has improved. We do have guidance in the school office around common illness such as conjunctivitis, impetigo, chicken pox etc, so please do get in touch if you are unsure. We have a 48-hour sickness rule, meaning if you child has been sick, they cannot return to school until 48 hours from their last bout of sickness.

Medication - We do allow most types of medication to be administered in school but in order for us to this, you'll need to fill in a medication form. The form is available at the school office or on our website under 'parents – useful forms'.

Appointments - If your child has a medical appointment (dentist, doctors, optician, hospital) please inform the school office by email attaching confirmation of appointment.



Home Learning at the Nightingale Federation

Home learning is an integral part of education in that it:

- Promotes students' self-discipline and personal responsibility for learning and organisation.
- Aligns with our school's values in having a 'light for learning' and aspirations for the children as they show curiosity and perseverance.
- Reinforces work started in class, retrieval practice, extending knowledge and understanding.
- Gives opportunities to retrieve knowledge, practise and develop skills.
- Allows parents to become more involved in your child's learning.
- Is valuable in ensuring students' progress and raises achievement.

Reading Books

All children vary in their enjoyment of reading. In the Nightingale Federation we promote a love of reading books and all varieties of literature. We will ensure the children are provided with or given access to appropriate books and those they show an interest in.

We recommend that children read every day but with or alongside an adult no less than:

EYFS: 1-3 times a week for 5-10 minutes

Key Stage 1: 3 times a week for 10-15 minutes

Key Stage 2: 3 times a week for 15-20 minutes

CGP Reading Comprehension Books

Children who have completed the Read Write Inc. programme will receive reading comprehension question booklets with directed weekly activities to complete.

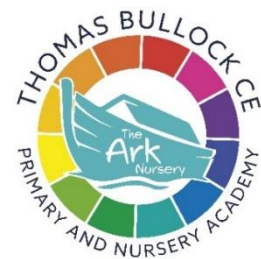
Spelling

Weekly spellings will be sent home for both Key Stage 1 & 2

Doodle Learning

All children are encouraged to use Doodle Maths and English often as they can in short bursts. The system will generate daily challenges appropriate for individual children and are suggested to take about 10 minutes. Children in EYFS will do some Doodle Learning in school and are welcome to do more at home if they enjoy it. In addition, KS2 Classes will set weekly activities within the system linked to learning undertaken in class for the children to complete.

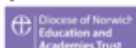
The Ark Nursery Newsletter



Firstly, we want to say a huge thank you to FOSS for organising a book stall in Tesco over the summer. It raised a huge £697.63, which will be used on resources in our classroom and outdoor area for our Ark Nursery children to access. We are so grateful!

Last week

We have been on listening walks, sang lots of nursery rhymes and encouraged lots of talking! We had lots of practise with listening to animal sounds and matching them to the correct animal this week! In our final week of focusing on the book 'The Colour Monster', we used different art materials to decorate monsters, held brilliant conversations about our feelings and have now looked at the colours: red, blue, yellow, green and purple. We created self-portraits using various materials, discussing the features of our faces. We even explored colour mixing and spotted colours in the environment. We also enjoyed our music and forest school sessions on Friday.





This week

We've used our focus book 'You Choose' to have lots of discussions surrounding ourselves, our families and our homes. We have been looking at our family photos, making marks for our family members and talking about the homes we live in. We have learnt all about matching during our maths sessions— we've matched buttons and played lots of matching games. We've also been talking all things Autumn and have been introduced to Harvest too.



Next week

In Literacy, we will continue to look at the book 'You Choose'. In Maths, we will also continue with our focus on matching. We will look at matching number shapes, matching the same size and matching prints. We will continue focusing on speaking and listening, singing lots of nursery rhymes and having regular circle times. We will begin our RE learning, continue talking about Harvest and explore different materials as well.

Learning links at home

- Go on a walk with your grown up. On the way, can you find two leaves that are the same and two that are different?
- Use bricks to build a matching tower to someone at home – saying the colours you use aloud.
- Use household objects to create an ABAB pattern. Can you match it and make your own that is exactly the same?
- Look around your home at your toys and teddies. Which are your favourites? Why?
- Cut up some sponges into circles, triangles and squares. Using paint, can you print with these? Can you print a matching pair of shapes using the same colour?
- Help an adult at home to pair up socks. Check they are the same size and same colour, with the same pattern!

DIARY DATES

2024/2025

October

- 2nd Yr 2 trip to Sandringham
- 7th Yr 6 trip to Norwich Castle – Ancient Egyptians*
- 10th World Mental Health Day
- 15th/16th Parent/Teacher Meetings – Year 2 only
- 17th/18th Yr 5 residential to The Horstead Centre
- 21st Yr 6 School Nursing Team NCMP
- 23rd Harvest Festival in Church at 1.30pm
- 22nd/23rd Parent/Teacher Meetings (all years, not year 2)

Half term 28th – 1st November

November

- 15th Children in Need Day
- 22nd Flu Vaccinations year R to 6

December

- 10th Yr 1 trip to Holkham Hall Christmas Experience
- 20th last day of term

Christmas holiday 23rd December – 6th January

February

Half term 17th -21st February

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

