



# 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

11<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

We have lots of great news which we are delighted to share.

### RAAC Update

You may have read in the EDP that Thomas Bullock is officially RAAC free! The construction team has been working extremely hard and at a very fast pace to remove the RAAC and rebuild the structure over the last few weeks. We will continue to keep you updated throughout the development process.

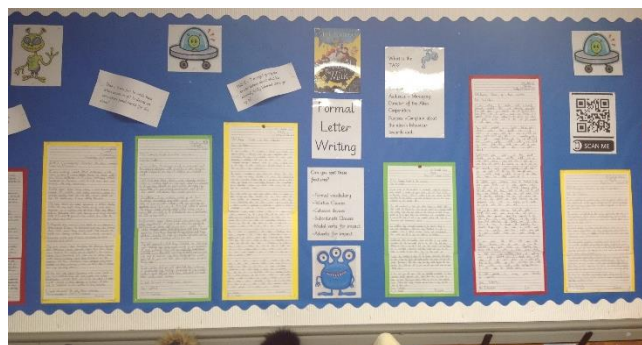
### Open Events

We have two open days planned **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 9am** and **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm**. The focus is on a presentation for our Early Years families who are due to start school September 2025 and families wishing to join our Nursery, but prospective parents in all year groups are also welcome.

I have already had the pleasure of offering a few visits – and what a pleasure it is to see our children excitedly inviting new friends into their learning environments, which are filled with engaging and purposeful learning. Yesterday afternoon - I entered a range of lessons including a ukulele lesson, a tag rugby session, a DT lesson building Roman Catapults, lantern making in RE and a truly inspiring Art lesson. Our children across the Federation are really lucky to have excellent educators to learn from each and every day!

### Displays

Our displays are overflowing with our pupils' excellent work! Please see just a few pictures of what our children have been learning the past week!



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## HOUSE CAPTAINS AND SCHOOL TEAMS

Recently in school, we elected members to our new child led groups and we are pleased to share this below. Children put themselves forward and even shared why they thought they would be great for the role - before voting followed.

It is a wonderful opportunity for the children selected to share their voice and get involved with school issues they care about. Wearing their badges with pride, watch this space for updates about what our teams have been getting up to and the impact they are having around school.

Our School Parliament met today with Mrs O’Sullivan and decided as ‘agents of change’ will be asking pupils:

- Which charity they are most passionate about supporting this year
- Which one thing we could have in our School to make it even better.

	Earth	Fire	Air	Water	
<b>House Captain</b>	<b>Millie</b>	<b>Lily</b>	<b>Cole</b>	<b>Esme</b>	
<b>Vice Captain</b>	<b>Harry</b>	<b>Bailey</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Leila</b>	
Class	School Parliament	Reading Ambassadors	Eco Warriors	Ethos Team	Digital Leaders
Reception	Grace		Mia	Harry	
Year 1	Isabella		Esther	Leo	
Year 2	Ernest		Kayden	Oscar	
Year 3	Caiden	Caiden and Bethany	Teddy	Bethany	Jacob and Frederick
Year 4	Paisley	Reuben and Lewis	Evie-Mae	Scarlett	Mason and Harrison
Year 5	Eliza	Rosie and Lana	Theo	Harry	Dexter and Jake
Year 6	Fern and Isla	Tom and Ruby	Tom	Darcey	Harry and Ruby
President/Vice	Hana and James				

### Reading Ambassadors

Key Stage 2 Reading Ambassadors had their first official meeting this week and have started their first project. Each class in Key Stage 2 will have a 'Reading Scrapbook'. Each week, a different member of the class can take it home and produce a double page spread about a book they have really enjoyed reading. We can't wait to learn about all the wonderful reading children are doing. Once Key Stage 2 has got to grips with it, we hope to roll this out into Key Stage One in the future.



## Shining Lights

Ark Class (Nursery)	<b>Stanley</b> for his wonderful purposeful play and for being a super helper in the classroom.
Antarctic Class (yr R)	<b>Isabella O</b> for showing great courage every morning this week with confidently starting her school day.
Oceania Class (yr 1)	<b>Elsie-Mae</b> for trying really hard in all aspects of her learning. She is also always incredibly helpful to others and around the classroom.
Africa Class (yr 2)	<b>Eva</b> for her amazing attitude towards learning. Eva has worked especially hard on her handwriting this week.
Europe Class (yr 3)	<b>Emma</b> is our shining light of the week for her wonderful efforts in maths and English. We have all really enjoyed watching Emma's confidence increase since the start of year 3.
S America Class (yr 4)	<b>Lewis C</b> for his perseverance and attitude towards his maths work this week. Lewis kept on going and listened carefully to feedback to support him to independently and correctly complete calculations.
Asia Class (yr 5)	<b>Jake</b> for the effort he has put into his learning and presentation this week. Keep it up!
N America Class (yr 6)	<b>Esme</b> has been praised for her mature attitude on our trip to the Castle Museum. She was polite and respectful whilst asking questions and always wanting to learn more.

**This week's overall attendance 97.5%. North America Class (yr 6) 100%**

### OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Question of the week
<b>1</b>	Can we map our local area?
<b>2</b>	Who was Charles I and what was the English Civil War?
<b>3</b>	What are the countries of the UK?
<b>4</b>	How did the Romans try to defend the land they took while taking more?
<b>5</b>	How did the Anglo-Saxons converting to Christianity change England?
<b>6</b>	What did the Ancient Egyptians believe in?

## WOW MOMENTS!

**Reuben (yr 4)** was player of the match for a recent game for Dereham stripes u9s. They played Cringleford Tigers and won 2-1. He played in both midfield and defence.

**Oscar (yr 2)** Oscar's parents are so proud, Oscar went to Besthorpe Motocross track on his bike and went around the track for the first time. He did so well and absolutely smashed it. Well done Oscar!

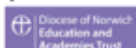
**Teddy (yr 3)** Teddy was very proud to be ring bearer recently at his Mum's wedding. It was a very important role; he walked down the aisle and offered the rings when the Registrar asked him to.

**Leon (yr 2)** Leon trialled for Norwich city player development program last week and got offered a place.

**Isabella S (R)** for passing her silver grade at cheerleading, being her second one she's passed in a few months.



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





## World Mental Health Day

On Thursday this week, we dressed in yellow to raise awareness for mental health and wellbeing on World Mental Health Day. All classes heard the story of 'Ruby's Worry' during collective worship and then completed linked PSHE activities. After their PSHE learning, some of the classes: made marks for things that make them happy, completed mindful colouring, created artwork while discussing mental health, read linked stories and even did some physical activity too! In Reception class It was unanimous decision to dance to make them feel happy!

One of our parents held a cake sale, outside the school gates, raising money for Mind, one of the many invaluable mental health charities. This was a huge success, with lots of happy customers!



## Antarctica Class (yr R)

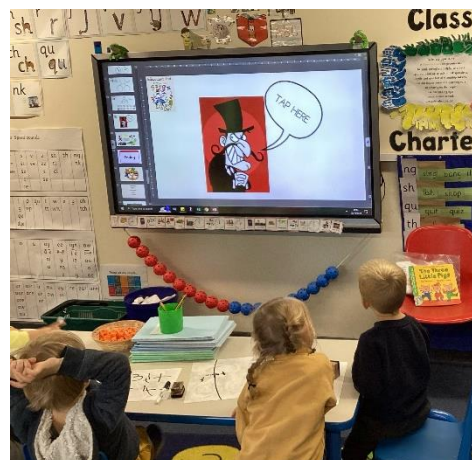
As part of our science learning in our Understanding the World sessions, we have been exploring and investigating the inside of different fruits and vegetables. The children enjoyed scooping out the inside of the pumpkins and discovering the seeds. We found seeds in different fruits and vegetables too and the discussed how new plants can grow from these. The children were very interested and curious to see that seeds are different shapes, colours and sizes.





## Oceania Class (yr 1)

This week Year One have been busy finding out about fact families in maths as part of our learning about addition. There was a baddy with a funny moustache that set us some challenges to build, draw and make a fact family before writing some equations to go with them!



## Africa Class (yr 2)

The class had an amazing day at Sandringham to support their learning about Kings and Queens. The children had a guided tour around the Sandringham house and gardens. They had a 'What's behind the door?' workshop where they created a 'lift the flap' royal home.





## Europe Class (yr 3)

This term in Design & Technology we have been learning about structures and sculptures, this week we created our own with aluminium wires! We worked in pairs and teams to help each other out.



## South America Class (yr 4)

In History this week, we looked at the defences the Romans made across Britain to protect their legionnaires. We looked at the structure of forts and what would be inside them. We then made a fort ourselves and pretended to be Roman Soldiers.

In DT, we have begun constructing our Roman catapults. We discussed how to be safe using equipment and the children have been measuring accurately before sawing.



## Asia Class (yr 5)

In PE Yr 5 have been developing their understanding of tag-rugby. They worked on their decision making-skills by working in teams attacking and defending. They were also practising their tagging skills by trying to get past the defenders and score a try.



## North America Class (yr 6)

The children had a great trip to Norwich Castle this week and Millie has written a piece all about their day: On Monday the 7th of October, Year 6 went on a trip to Norwich Castle to learn more interesting facts about Ancient Egypt. There were lots of artefacts (which were over 3000 years old) to study and we used magnifying glasses to examine them in detail even more. We learnt about the process of mummification which was very intriguing. Year 6 made jewellery with huge smiles, which showed how much we loved it. Many of the Students said their favourite part was the jewellery making because they got to make their own necklace. All of it was very fun and the staff were respectful, friendly and welcoming to everyone and they even gave us a free pass to come again!!



## Running Club

Running club is up and running with over 20 keen runners enjoying some fresh air, sprints and longer runs after school!



## HARVEST FESTIVAL

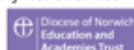
Please come along to our Harvest Festival at All Saints Church on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 1.30pm. As usual we will be collecting for the Food Bank in Dereham. They would be happy to accept any donations of food such as:

**Baked Beans, soup, rice pudding, tinned fruit, tinned meat and fish, jars of pasta sauce, long life milk and fruit juice, long life sponge puddings.**  
**Items for Christmas – Christmas Puddings (large and small), custard, selection boxes, Christmas biscuits, Christmas savoury snacks/crackers/crisps.**

Donations can be brought into school from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October.



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## Reminders ...

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Please be reminded that school is OPEN this day and is not INSET Day**

**Parking** – Once again we have had complaints from local residents about parking around the roads near to the school. Please be reminded to be respectful and do not park on verges across driveways etc.

**Uniform**- Please be reminded we are expected to wear non-branded uniform, and should only be in school colours; a school jumper/cardigan or navy coloured jumper/cardigan. Our school shirt is white, we do have spares in school, but we do expect all pupils to wear our full school uniform this is to support our school values, vision and transition into high-school.

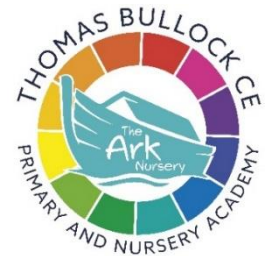
**Parent, Carer and Visitor Reminder** - We work in partnership as a team to ensure our children belong to a safe and happy environment. Therefore, it may be useful to note that alongside our home-school agreement and parent section of the website the Trust has included a Parent, Carer and Visitor Conduct Policy to ensure that all of our staff, pupils and those onsite continue to be treated positively and respectfully at all times. We are grateful for your support.

**Smoking/Vaping** - We know this is extremely rare, but to help live a 'Light for Health' please, again we wish to remind all parents/carers to not vape in or around any of our children at the entrance or exit of the school or within a radius of our school entrance area.

**The Large Oak Tree** - We are very lucky to have a beautiful tree at our entrance which is well looked after by one of our parents. To help live a 'Light for Growth. Please can we remind parents/carers that our tree is living. We would request that at pick up and drop off children are refrained from climbing, breaking, pulling-on and dragging the branches from the tree. Thank you for your support.



# The Ark Nursery Newsletter



## Last week

We have been talking lots about Autumn and Harvest again this week. We watched a video about farmers harvesting their crop. We enjoyed seeing the combine harvester and discussed the process of wheat becoming flour, which we use to make bread and cakes. In Maths, alongside our continued focus on matching, we have explored number shapes. We noticed their shape and colour and counted the holes in numicon pieces 1-5. We've been super creative this week with both our mark making and our painting / printing skills. The children were introduced to our RE learning based on Christianity through a story book. The children explored the symbol of the cross and created their own using various resources. On Friday, the children were super excited to find a frog near the school pond!



## This week

We have loved exploring all of the Autumn treasures the children brought back to school in their paper bags – thank you so much! Most of us learnt the sign for 'good morning' this week... Watch this link to practice at home: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBf\\_kV8P4+mM!](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBf_kV8P4+mM!)

We have begun following the Talk 4 Writing approach with our focus book 'Rosie's Walk'. We've learnt lots of words from the story, made actions that link to the positional language in the text and we've been making marks for parts of the story too. We've been using our fine motor skills to practise our pinchy fingers for various tasks, inside and outside. We have been exploring different materials we might find in the classroom and in our outdoor areas, sorting them into groups and discussing what we already know.





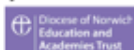


Next week

We will continue to retell the story of 'Rosie's Walk', retelling the story using our story tray, actions and class story map. We will also be making marks on our own story maps. Our rhyme of the week will be: Five Fat Sausages. We will continue to look at sorting in Maths, with a focus on sorting objects – classroom resources and natural resources. We will also continue our RE learning based around Christians and churches and our materials Science learning too.

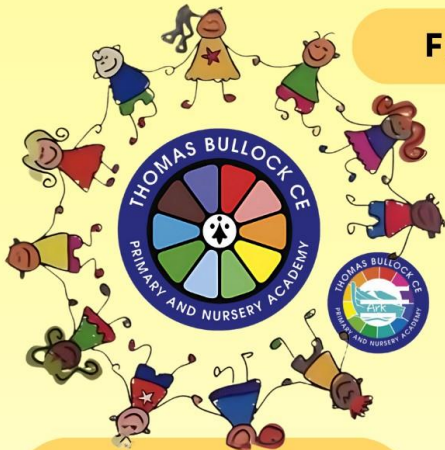
Learning links at home

- Go on an autumn walk with a grown-up and collect some autumn leaves. Use these to make some nature art – you could lay them out to make a picture, collage them on paper, use them for printing or make rubbings with them on paper!





## Friends of Shipdham School



Friends of Shipdham School would be grateful for any voluntary donations towards raffle prizes for the Bingo Night. If you would like to donate, please hand into the school office by the 25th October 2024, ready for collection before Half-Term. Thank you for your support!

### For More Information:



Find us on Facebook  
[friendsofshipdhamschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofshipdhamschool@gmail.com)

FRIDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2024

**CHARITY  
BINGO  
NIGHT**

Doors Open - 7:00 pm,  
7:30pm Eyes down  
**WI HALL,  
SHIPDHAM**



FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2024

**WI HALL, SHIPDHAM - 7:30pm**

**WREATH  
MAKING  
WORKSHOP**



17th and 19th DECEMBER 2024

**IN-SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS  
SHOP**



**IN-SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS DISCO**

20th DECEMBER 2024

# DIARY DATES

2024/2025

## October

- 15<sup>th</sup> Open morning for Reception 2025 families at 9am
- 16<sup>th</sup> Open evening for Reception 2025 families at 5pm
- 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Parent/Teacher Meetings – Year 2 only
- 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Yr 5 residential to The Horstead Centre
- 21<sup>st</sup> Yr 6 School Nursing Team NCMP
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Harvest Festival in Church at 1.30pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> Parent/Teacher Meetings (all years, not year 2)

## Half term 28<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> November

## November

- 13<sup>th</sup> Yr R Trip to High Lodge\*
- 15<sup>th</sup> Children in Need Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> Yr 4 Trip to Norwich Castle\*
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Flu Vaccinations year R to 6

## December

- 10<sup>th</sup> Yr 1 trip to Holkham Hall Christmas Experience
- 17<sup>th</sup> FOSS Christmas Lunchtime Shop\*
- 19<sup>th</sup> FOSS Christmas Lunchtime Shop\*
- 20<sup>th</sup> last day of term

## Christmas holiday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 6<sup>th</sup> January

## February

## Half term 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> February

## April

## Easter holiday 7<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April

## May

- 5<sup>th</sup> Bank holiday
- 6<sup>th</sup> Yr R School Nursing Team Vision & Hearing, Height & Weight
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May KS2 (yr 6) SATs week

## Half term 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May

## June

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Inset Day – school closed
- 30<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> July Year 6 Residential to Eaton Vale\*

## July

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Last day of term
- Summer holiday commences 23<sup>rd</sup> July

\* New addition

