



Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy

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

Headteacher: Mrs Shannon O'Sullivan

Pound Green Lane, Shipdham, Norfolk, IP25 7LF • T: 01362 820300 • E: office@thomasbullock.dneat.org • W: www.thomasbullock.dneat.org



NEWSLETTER

17th January 2025

Dear parents, carers and friends of The Nightingale Federation

Happy New Year, and welcome back! It has been a true delight to see our school full of children buzzing with energy and enthusiasm for learning during the last two weeks. We are also excited to welcome a number of new children to our teacher-led Nursery this term, making them part of the Thomas Bullock family.

This week, I had the privilege of sharing a "win of the week" with The Key's weekly news briefing, which reaches around 140,000 senior leaders and governors. I shared: *"My win of the week is that our school hall has finally reopened after nearly 18 months of reconstruction due to RAAC. Now, all 230 children, from Nursery to Year 6, can once again enjoy lunch, celebration assemblies, and PE in the hall together—including 100 students who had never even been inside the hall before."* It truly is a win! The children have been filled with awe and excitement. Arlo, from Year 1, walked in and exclaimed, "I love my school!"

Reopening Events

Over the past ten days, we've celebrated the reopening of the hall with several wonderful events.

Reading Breakfast: Last Thursday morning, we welcomed parents, grandparents, and children for our Reading Breakfast. Thank you for your support! The feedback has been so positive, we are already planning another one for the second half of the Spring Term.

Official Opening: Last Friday afternoon, we marked the official reopening with a ceremony presided over by Lord Lieutenant Lady Dannatt, Bishop of Lynn Dr Jane Steen, and our CEO Oliver Burwood. Our amazing choir performed beautifully throughout the event.

Tiny Magic Orchestra – The Britten Sinfonia

On Wednesday, we had the pleasure of hosting Necton CE Primary and Nursery School for a mini-symphony orchestra concert, thanks to the Norfolk Music Hub and Britten Sinfonia. Reception to Year 3 children enjoyed an incredible musical journey through a range of instruments entitled 'Tiny Magic Orchestra'.

Space Dome

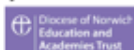
Thanks to the Thomas Bullock Trust, we are thrilled to welcome the Space Dome next Monday. All children, from Nursery to Year 6, will embark on an astronomy journey through space!



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Finally, I would like to express my deepest thanks to everyone for your patience and support during the hall's closure. Our staff and pupils have shown incredible resilience, and we're so grateful to have such a supportive school community which truly 'Lets it light shine'.





Shining Lights

- Ark Class (Nursery) **Aria** for being a curious learner. Aria asks lots of questions, is always curious about our new learning and explores all areas of the classroom.
- Antarctic Class (yr R) **Freddie** for showing great curiosity this week, asking lots of questions. He has worked really hard in phonics and with his writing too!
- Oceania Class (yr 1) **Jude** for his fantastic animal fact file. Jude wrote lots of information about lions, what they look like, where they live, what they eat and what they get up to!
- Africa Class (yr 2) **Henry** for showing great curiosity in all aspects of our learning. Henry has applied our English learning to write a wonderfully creative poem.
- Europe Class (yr 3) **Teddy** for asking some excellent questions to help our learning. Teddy has worked super hard at his mental Maths too.
- S America Class (yr 4) **Lewis G** for working hard constantly with a curious mindset and a high-level work ethic.
- Asia Class (yr 5) **Reece** for the effort he has put into his learning this week - he has tried really hard planning his story and mastering long multiplication.
- N America Class (yr 6) **Elsa** for her enthusiasm with her maths work on percentages. She has used her prior learning and applied this in the lessons with a smile.

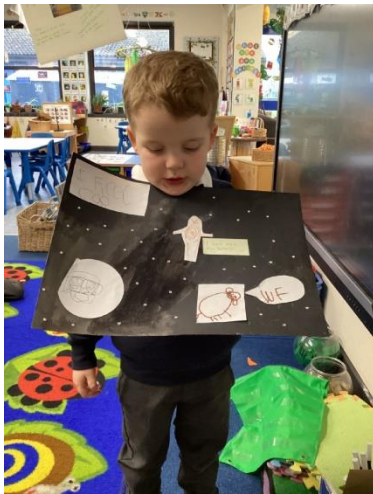
This week's overall attendance 95%. South America Class (yr 4) 99%

OUR KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Year Group	Key Learning Questions
1	What transport did people use in the past?
2	What are the five oceans that make up planet Earth?
3	What are some of the key physical and human features of Europe?
4	What are the key human features of South America?
5	What are the key human features of Asia?
6	Who fought for Britain in the First World War?

Antarctica Class (yr R)

Our Reception children are enjoying sharing their latest home learning projects with the rest of their class. In line with our learning around Space this term, the children were set the challenge to explore what they can see and notice by going outside or looking through the window when it was dark. We are so impressed with their creations to share their findings and they are on display in the classroom for all to enjoy!



Africa Class (yr 4)

In Art, the children have been identifying colours in nature and manipulating colours to create them.

In Maths, we have been learning about money. We have been identifying, comparing and ordering notes and coins.



SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

If you hear or see anything that worries you, please do use this link:

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/safeguarding/>

If you think a child is in immediate danger contact the police on 999.

If a child is not in immediate danger but at risk of harm contact the Norfolk Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS) on [0344 800 8020](tel:03448008020). Children's Services will listen to your call. They may act immediately to keep a child safe and they also work with families to offer support at difficult times.

You can contact the Healthy Child Service team by calling **Just One Number** on [0300 300 0123](tel:03003000123) or **texting Parentline** on 07520 631590. Our opening hours are 8am-6pm Monday-Friday (excluding bank holidays) and 9am-1pm on Saturdays.

The Ark Nursery
at Thomas Bullock
Primary Academy

STAY & PLAY

Join us for our **free** stay & play sessions in the nursery every Friday during term time

1:30pm - 2:30pm
For rising 2's - school starter ages

The poster features a light blue background with decorative elements including blue leaves with red berries and white snowflakes.

Breakfast and Afternoon Wraparound Care

We welcomed all the children back to the Breakfast and Afternoon Care with a smooth transition from the Christmas break. As we move into the new year, we continue to offer childcare for those who need it, with both settings focused on creating a happy, relaxed and safe environment. All of our fully qualified staff are first aid trained and food safety certified.

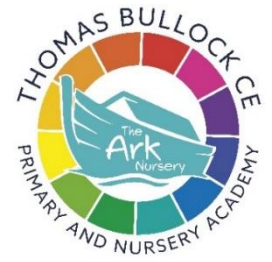
In addition to providing a comfortable and fun atmosphere, we offer opportunities for children to foster friendships and build on their learning development through homework support and extracurricular activities. We also provide catering every day with a healthy breakfast, afternoon snack with vegetarian options available.

This year, we have introduced an activity scheme for our afternoon sessions (running until 6pm) with monthly themes designed to help children develop new skills. For February, our theme is baking! Whether your child is a regular attendee, you need occasional extra care, or they simply looking for more socialising time with peers, please do not hesitate to enquire or book a session by contacting the school office.

Happy New Year!



The Ark Nursery Newsletter



This week and last week

We have settled back in wonderfully after the Christmas holidays, welcoming new friends into our classroom too! We started our RWI phonics with our 3-4-year olds by learning the sound 'm' last week. This week's sounds have been 'a' and 's'. We have also been exploring the book of 'Owl Babies' in Literacy. We story mapped and re-told the story together and made some missing posters for Mummy Owl. In Maths, we have learnt all about the number 3 - counting to 3, recognising the number 3 numeral, the composition of 3 and subitising, as well as playing lots of games! During our afternoons together, we have learnt all about owls, painted our own owl pictures, explored ice and we've done lots of role playing and playing social games to build confidence and make new friends! We also had our first PE sessions in our lovely fresh school hall.





Next week

Don't forget to bring in your jars over the next couple of weeks, ready for making our own stars in jars!

Our focus sounds in RWI phonics will be 'd' and 't'. We will move onto our dinosaur learning, looking at our literacy book of 'Stomp, Dinosaur, Stomp'. In Maths, we will be looking at the number 4. During our afternoons, we will look at dinosaurs, as well as other countries in the world, with a focus on comparing our country to colder countries. We will then begin comparing the animals that live in our country and arctic animals in future weeks.

Learning links at home

- Lots of animals have 4 legs. Ask a grown-up to help you find some animal photos in books, magazines or on the internet. Which animal is your favourite? How many legs does it have? Draw a picture of your favourite four-legged animal.
- Squares and rectangles are shapes that have 4 straight sides. Can you spot anything square or rectangle shaped in your home? Have a go at drawing some to make a robot!
- Place teddies into piles of 1, 2, 3 and 4. Can you look at the pile and know how many there are (subitising), without needing to count? - Talk to the people at home about what has wheels – or spot things whilst out on a walk! - What can you think of that begins with 's'? Go on a hunt around your house!

DIARY DATES

January

20th Mobile Planetarium (yrs R-6)

February

3rd – 9th Children's Mental Health Week

11th Safer Internet Day

Half term 17th -21st February

March

3rd Yr 4 Level 1 Cycling Training

12th & 13th Yr 5 Level 2 Cycling Training

17th School Photographer – whole class photos

26th Yr 6 to Duxford*

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**

10th Reception Class to Gressenhall*

30th – 2nd July Year 6 Residential to Eaton Vale

July

22nd **Last day of term**

Summer holiday commences 23rd July

* New addition