Lyng Church of England Primary Academy
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Shannon O'Sullivan
Wensum Road, Lyng, Norwich, NR9 5RJ
Tel: 01603 872828 Email: office@lyng.norfolk.sch.uk Web: www.lyng.norfolk.sch.uk

NEWSLETTER 12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the Nightingale Federation,

We have had a wonderful and busy two weeks across both schools, and we are really grateful for your fantastic positivity!

Earlier this week, both schools were delighted to welcome the Norfolk Music Hub for an orchestral performance. Additionally, at Lyng Church of England Primary School, we welcomed our first visit from our new Academy Executive Principal, Mr Payne. He was incredibly excited to see our school environment and the walls full of the children's delightful learning. We look forward to welcoming him to Thomas Bullock in the coming weeks! At Thomas Bullock, we were also pleased to welcome visits from our Governors on Friday and Tuesday. They have visits booked to attend Lyng soon too!

A big thank you also to the parents who joined us for our Reception Information Session on Tuesday afternoon. We were overwhelmed by the attendance and support from our families.

It has been wonderful to see the new children in Reception settle into school life so well, and we have enjoyed getting to know them all. Mrs Taylor reports that they should all be very proud of themselves! See photos below.

We are looking forward to Inclusion Week activities next week across the Federation, as well as Jeans for Genes Day on Friday. Lastly, Mr Wade and I hope to see lots of our families at the Lyng Fling Fete tomorrow!

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Notices & Reminders

School Photographer

The school photographer will be in school on **Friday 19th September** to take pictures of the children. Sibling photos will also be taken where applicable. Links to enable online ordering will be made available in due course. Please ensure your child has their school jumper in school on this day.

Reminders…

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.

Uniform and general appearance
Thank you for following our school uniform, the children looked smart and prepared on their return. All uniform lists can be found on the school's website. A reminder that hair shoulder length and below should be tied back necessary and if earrings are worn at all they should be plain studs and the children should be able to remove them themselves for PE. Please ensure hair slides and bands are plain with no embellishments or bright colours and follow the school colours of navy and white.

Driving and Parking
For the safety of the children please do be careful when driving and parking nearby to school. Please park respectfully, and be careful not to block our neighbours' driveways at school drop off and collection times. Please be extra cautious when driving in the area around school. Many of the children walk to/from school, some unaccompanied, which we gladly encourage and their safety on our road is paramount.

Headlice
Please be reminded that lice are easily spreadable. Therefore, please regularly check your children for lice, you can do this by combing through. If live lice are found, please inform the school, and the entire family must be treated before the children come to school. Wearing long hair up helps for their protection.

Keeping us up to date
Please remember to keep us informed of any changes in circumstances. We will be sending home soon copies of the emergency contact details we hold for your child. Please update and return as soon as possible

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Jeans for Genes Day

On **Friday 19th September**, children are invited to wear jeans instead of their usual school skirt or trousers, in exchange for a suggested cash donation of £1.00 to help raise money for this worthwhile cause. **Please ensure school jumpers are worn as usual**, as the school photographer will be taking photos on this day. Thank you.

Illness

As we are now in our Autumn Term, we understand that there will be more bugs around, so please follow this guidance 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. To find out what the NHS guidance is on whether your child should attend school if poorly, please click on this attached link –

Is my child too ill for school? - NHS

Wraparound Care

For all your wraparound care needs, please use our new payments system, Arbor. We have breakfast club starting from 7.45am, and after school club available up to 5.15pm, Monday to Friday.

To book these clubs you will need to ensure you are in credit on your Arbor account and then you can book these sessions yourself.
Please note that spaces are limited, so we advise to book in with plenty of time to avoid disappointment.

Please contact the Office if you have any issues booking these.

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Shining Lights

Cherry Class
Rupert is our Shining Light of the Week for adapting so well to our routines and making new friends.

Willow Class – Year 1
Finnbar is our Shining Light of the Week for settling in wonderfully into his new class. He has made lots of new friends and has tried hard in all his learning this week.

Willow Class – Year 2
Ailish is our Shining Light of the Week for always being kind, helpful and a joy to be around. Ailish has helped the Year 1's settle into Willow class and has shown great independence towards her learning!

Rowan Class – Year 3
Olivia is our Shining Light of the Week for always trying her best and being an excellent example in Rowan Class.

Rowan Class – Year 4
Neave is our Shining Light of the Week for always working hard and being an excellent Year 4 example in Rowan Class.

Oak Class – Year 5
Bodie is our Shining Light of the Week for how well he has started life in Year 5. His contributions to class discussions; his attention to detail with his writing and his engagement in maths are all areas to celebrate.

Oak Class – Year 6
Jessica is our Shining Light of the Week for her excellent start to Year 6. Her engagement in lessons, her contributions to class discussions, the effort she has shown in her writing and the improvement in presentation are all areas to be proud of.

National Inclusion Week – 15th to 21st September 2025

Next week we will be celebrating National Inclusion Week across our Federation. We will be exploring the theme of Inclusion and what it means to feel included and valued. The children will be discussing the ways that our schools help children to feel a valued part of our school community and how our schools support them to 'Let their Light Shine'

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WOW MOMENTS!

Willow J (year 1) successfully achieved her first driving licence when she visited CBeebies Land at Alton Towers!

Autumn (year 3) has completed her core skills stage 2 in gymnastics.

Please continue to send in your "Wow" moments for achievements out of school using the link below:

https://forms.gle/q6MZXdmzvtNHvJp19

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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.

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Safeguarding is Our Shared Responsibility

Safeguarding is a shared duty across our Federation of schools, DNEAT, and the Local Governing Body. We receive regular training to help us identify and respond to concerns effectively. Safeguarding is monitored both internally and by external bodies, including Ofsted and the Local Authority.

The Local Governing Body has asked us to remind all parents, grandparents, carers, and wider members of our school communities of the part we all have to play in this. Ensuring the safety of our children is paramount. If you see or hear anything concerning, particularly if occurring within the local community, please report it either directly to your child's school, to the Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS) on **0344 800 8020**, or to Dereham Police on **01953 661919**. All of these channels allow you to report concerns anonymously if you prefer. Please report any concern, no matter the size, as together these can build a picture that ensures a child is adequately protected and supported.

This week, for example, within the Federation, we have worked with our KS2 pupils to remind them of our schools' policies and expectations around online behaviour. We talked about the potential impact of inappropriate messages sent through WhatsApp or social media that are unkind or targeted. The focus was on well-being of the parties involved but also the potential for this to be considered malicious communication, which can be considered a criminal offence for which there is police involvement.

We have also been made aware of school-related concerns being shared on social media and messaging platforms. We remind everyone that the correct way to raise concerns is directly through the relevant school office. Posting in public or private groups can breach our Federation policies, home-school agreements, and in some cases may result in legal consequences. We request all members of our wider community to report any such communications to the school, CADS, or the police.

We are all working together to ensure the safety of the children in our community and to create a respectful and supportive environment for teachers, parents, and pupils alike. We want to ensure our schools continue to deliver a top-class education, as highlighted by Ofsted in 2025, one that we are extremely proud of. We thank you for your support in this shared commitment.

Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Tinson, Chair of Governors

Your Federation Designated Safeguarding Leads are:
Mrs Marjoram (TB), Mr Allott and Ms Wharton (Lyng),
Mrs O'Sullivan, Mr Wade, Mrs Smith

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Diary Dates 2025-26

September

15th Flu Vaccinations (all year groups)
19th School Photographer
Jeans for Genes Day – wear school jumpers but jeans on bottom half
22nd Oak Class trip to West Stow Anglo Saxon Village

October

3rd Grandparents Day 2.15 – 3.15pm
6th Willow Class trip to Sandringham
Rowan Class trip to Norwich Castle
9th Harvest Festival at Lyng Church 2.00pm
13th Open Day for Reception intake September 2026 9.15am
15th YR and Y6 Height & Weight Checks
Open Day for Reception intake September 2026 5.00pm
24th Break up for half term

October Half term week 27th – 31st October

December

19th – School finishes at 12pm
19th – Last day of Term
Christmas Holiday Monday 22nd December – Monday 5th January 2026

January
6th – Back to school

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