Thomas Bullock Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy
"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:14-16
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Newsletter
23rd October 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It has certainly been a very different start to the year at Thomas Bullock, but we are incredibly grateful that teaching and learning have continued so positively, thanks to our exceptional team. Our children continue to demonstrate resilience, enthusiasm and strong behaviours for learning, and we are immensely proud of how they have adapted.

These positive behaviours have also been evident during visits from the Diocesan Director of Education, the Chair of DNEAT Trustees; our CEO; and our AGEP. On all visits calm, focused and purposeful learning was evident. We are incredibly proud of the positivity, focus and determination our children continue to show.

It was a joy to welcome parents virtually for parents' evenings and celebrate our children's progress and achievements.

A heartfelt thank you to our amazing FOSS, Governors and all families for your continued support, including fundraising, practical help and thoughtful cards, cakes and messages for our staff. We are also extremely grateful to our bowls club neighbours, who have generously provided parking, storage and helping hands during our moves.

We are incredibly thankful to the Thomas Bullock Trust, who have offered our Shipdham families several free curriculum-linked trips this year, including an exciting whole-school trip to the zoo. Our children have also enjoyed fantastic enrichment opportunities, including visits to Sandringham House and Norwich Castle for Egyptian Day. It was wonderful to welcome our federation school to join us, too. Their generosity provides valuable enrichment opportunities for our children.

Looking ahead, our team has planned three exciting days after half term, including a visit from an NCFC development talent manager and a whole-school run. We also celebrate our children's fantastic cross-country achievements, with several runners finishing in the top ten. We are so proud of their determination and sportsmanship!

<u>A few important reminders for our return to Letton Hall 2nd-4th November:</u>

- Year 5 residential: Children may wear home clothes on Monday and Tuesday.
- Years 1–6 PE kit: Please wear full PE uniform on Monday and Wednesday.
- Years 1–6 school uniform: Please wear school uniform on Tuesday.
- Nursery and Reception: Please wear regular uniform.
- Warm clothing: Please bring warm coats, gloves, hats, scarves and suitable clothing for outdoor learning and play.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate this different start to the year together. We hope all our families enjoy a restful half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2 November.

KS2 Cross Country Event

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in the WNDSSP Cross Country competition on the 20th October at Langley School. There were 19 schools taking part and over 500 children. Evie in Yr 6 was awarded the Competition Value Certificate of Honesty.We had 4 pupils finishing in the top 5 in their races which is an amazing achievement as there were approximately 60 runners in each race. We placed 6th in the competition overall – Well done Team TB!












A huge thank you to one of our wonderful school governors, Kim Findlay, who held an incredibly successful dog show on Sunday 18th October to raise funds for Thomas Bullock!
With the help of her friends, family and local businesses, Kim organised this fantastic event in just eight weeks and raised an amazing £2,156.65! 🎉
We are so grateful to Kim and everyone who supported the event, and we cannot thank you all enough for your kindness and generosity.

A heartfelt thank you to our Chair of Governors, Jo Tinson, and Spire Solicitors Charitable Funding for their generous donation to help us replace the EYFS book-bag books and outdoor play equipment lost in the fire at Thomas Bullock.
Their kindness and support will help us rebuild these important resources and ensure our youngest children continue to enjoy reading, learning and playing.
We are incredibly grateful for their generosity.



A huge thank you to Argos for their generous donation of kitchen equipment for our wraparound care provision. We are so grateful for their kindness and support, which will make such a difference when we return to our Thomas Bullock site.

WOWs

Isabella (Yr 1) Isabella has continue to gain confidence in her swimming and this week completed her Stage 2. Well done Isabella!



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

Shining Lights of the Week - 16th October

Ark Nursery Aela for her confidence to share her ideas in class and join in with group discussions in literacy. It is a pleasure to see her grow in confidence.

Arctic Class Ayda for how brilliantly she has settled into school! She is embracing new experiences and is a wonderful member of our class, showing kindness to all of her peers. It has been lovely to see her approach each day with such a positive attitude.

Antarctica Class Lowen for working incredibly hard in all that he does this week and always. He has been so determined to complete all activities to the best of his ability and we're so proud of how much he is achieving all ready and his 'can do' attitude.

Oceania Class Woody E for his fantastic behaviour and being an amazing role model for his classmates. He has been 'star of the day' twice this week, making excellent choices and completing all of his tasks to the best of his ability.

Australasia Class Betty for always being a polite and kind member of our class. She also shows an excellent attitude to learning and is always willing to share her ideas, particularly creative adjectives in English. Well done Betty!

Africa Class Charlie for working incredibly hard in everything he does. He always shows a positive attitude towards his learning and tries his very best.

Europe Class Isabella for her consistent hard work and willingness to succeed. She always shows kindness to others and is a joy to have in the classroom.

South America Class Kaiden B for his incredible manners and politeness. He always remembers please and thank you and sets great example on how to speak to others kindly and with respect.

Asia Class Bobbie for his hardwork and helpfulness in class. Bobbie sets a great example in class and is always helps, without being asked, to assist with class transitions and carry lunch boxes to the stables.

North America Class Izzy for her excellent behaviour on our school trip to the castle museum in Norwich. She was polite and engaged in all the activities.

Whole School Trip to Banham Zoo!
22nd October

What a fantastic day we had at Banham Zoo! Our children from Nursery all the way through to Year 6 enjoyed a wonderful day exploring, discovering and getting up close to some amazing animals. The giraffes, tiger and penguins were firm favourites, and everyone loved hopping aboard the land train for a fun ride around the zoo!

It was a fabulous way to end a busy half term, filled with smiles, laughter and lots of special memories! We are so proud of all our children and the way they represented our school throughout the day.

A brilliant day out for the whole school and a lovely way to finish the busy half term!

















Diary Dates

AUTUMN TERM

October
23rd Oct - Inset day- School Closed

October Half Term

November
2nd November – Children back to school at Letton Hall.
2nd-3rd - Year 5 Residential to Horstead
5th & 6th - School Closed
9th - Back to Thomas Bullock site
17th - Yr 1-4 Multi Sports Festival (Selected Pupils)
21st- Letton Hall Christmas Fair
27th November - Flu Vaccinations Yr R-6

December
1st- Year 1 Trip to Holkham Hall
Fri 18th Dec - Children finish at 12pm, break up for Christmas

Children's Advice & Duty Service (CAD'S)

How to raise a concern-
- See something
- Hear something
- Say something

If you see something or hear something that makes you feel worried about a child living nearby, please let Norfolk Safeguarding Children Partnership know on
0344 800 8020.

In an emergency phone 999

