

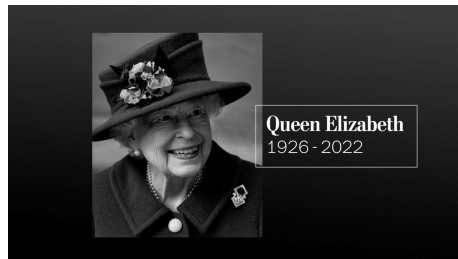


WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

9th September 2022



'I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong. But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share it' (21st birthday radio address, 1947).

Today we wake with a country mourning the loss of a great monarch. Her Majesty the Queen dedicated her life to dutifully serving her country and through her reign we can learn so much. As a nation it is our time not only to mourn her loss but to keep her memory alive and to continue to learn from her life.

The Queen once said, on staying strong, *"When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future."* And on love *"Grief is the price we pay for love."* May we all take time today, tomorrow and the next day to reflect on just how precious life is.

A huge welcome back to West Thornton - we hope you've had a wonderful summer full of fun and laughter. We have really enjoyed listening to the fantastic things the children have been up to in the break and we've also been so impressed by their behaviour, effort and attitudes on their return; it's been a smooth transition back for all. We are really excited for a successful year ahead in 2022-23 and look forward to sharing our school priorities with you on September 19th (Rosecourt Road) and 20th (Canterbury Road) at 9:00am. The children have already heard about them in an assembly and are particularly excited about developing their own leadership skills and having more educational visits and expert visitors as we strive to expand the cultural capital.

Have a lovely weekend!

Our pets and people enriching lives, one visit at a time



**PETS AS
THERAPY**

**PETS AS
THERAPY**
visiting PAT dog



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Hello from Louie, our new therapy dog! We are happy to have partnered with Pets As Therapy to enhance the health and wellbeing of our school community with regular visits from Louie and his owner Lyndsay. Access to Louie can improve social, emotional and mental health support for our children as well as an opportunity to build confidence in some of our younger readers.

Lorna Wright - Head of Counselling, Psychotherapy & Wellbeing

Attendance

Well done to our attendance superstars this week:

	Rosecourt Road	Canterbury Road
EYFS	-	-
KS1	Elder Class	Elm Class
KS2	Yew Class	Holly Class

Curriculum Focus

Reception

This week the teachers in reception have been going on home visits and seeing the children before they start next week! On the home visits, children have been drawing a picture of their family and telling us all about each member.

The reception team is so excited for the children to start next Monday and wish them a warm welcome to West Thornton!

Year One



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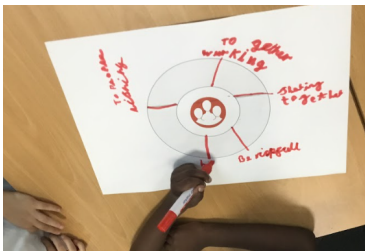
This week the children began their transition from EYFS to Year one demonstrating great attitudes to learning. In English they have worked collaboratively to create class rules and discussed our school values and character skills.

In Maths, the children have used mathematical language to describe the size of two objects. The children have been recognising and ordering numbers to 10 using Numicon and writing numbers in words.



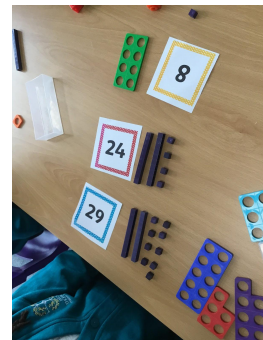
In the wider curriculum, the children have done some beautiful portraits for PSHE and discussed how they are individuals by having similar and different likes and dislikes to others. In Science, Year 1 has been exploring different materials and sorting them based on their properties.

Year Two



It has been lovely to see the Year 1 children return to school so excited for Year 2. Each class has been going over expectations and reviewing our school values. The children have all shared values that they think they are already exemplifying in these first few days back. Many of the children shared about how they show kindness to their friends inside and outside of the classroom.

In maths, they have been reviewing the knowledge of 2 digit numbers through a variety of different activities including bingo and snakes and ladders. As the week progressed they have been using a variety of manipulatives including numicon, dienes, bead strings and cubes to represent different 2 digit numbers. Throughout all of these activities the children have shown the school value of responsibility ensuring that all of the resources were taken care of and resilience if they were finding it tricky to recall their prior learning.



This week they also began their first unit in science all about materials. This week they were given a variety of materials and collaborated in their table groups to sort the materials. They also learnt new vocabulary including opaque, transparent, translucent, elastic and flexible to describe them. In RE they began their first unit learning about celebrations. They learnt about some different celebrations around the world and each child drew a picture of a celebration that they have celebrated.

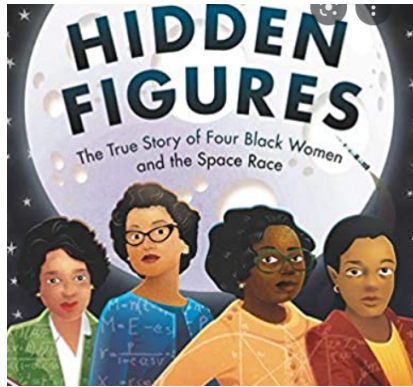
Year Three

In English, the children were thrilled to have their exciting hook lesson, where they made rockets and launched them. Their learning journey will be based on our core text 'Hidden Figures'. They have already predicted what will happen in the books and justified their answers based on what



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they already knew from looking at the front cover. The children then generated questions and role played how the main characters were feeling at different stages of the book.

In Maths, the children have been engaged in understanding more about place values of numbers. They have learnt to represent 2-digit and 3-digit numbers using practical resources. They found out how many tens and ones there are in numbers using dienes, beads and numicon.

In the wider curriculum, the children loved designing Egyptian jewellery and annotating their designs. They also were really engaged in learning more about Corey Barksdale's art. In RE the children started learning about Sikhism. They found out the founder of the religion and where they go to worship.



Year Four



In English, the children were introduced to their new core text 'The girl who stole an elephant' by Nizvana Farook. The learning journey was introduced by staging a thief who stole something important that belonged to their class teacher. The children led an investigation and interviewed suspects who may have stolen the item. We then read the first chapter where we were introduced to the fearless character 'Chaya', who stole the queen's jewels from the palace to help her very sick friend. Throughout the week the children looked at Chaya's character and learnt how to empathise with her. They took part in a drama lesson creating a conscience alley exploring different viewpoints on whether 'it is okay to steal'. The children then finished the week comparing and contrasting different characters within the text using 'role on the wall'.

In Maths, the children started their first topic 'place value'. The children identified values of numbers using base 10 and recapping their knowledge of 4 digit numbers - carefully thinking about the place value of each digit. Towards the end of the week the children practised partitioning 4 digit numbers in different ways.

In Art, the children were introduced to our artist focus this half term 'Jill Pelto' - whose work is inspired by climate change. The children looked at her work and identified key features. They then organised images to reflect the style of an artist.



Year Five

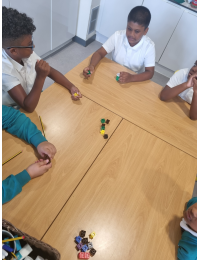
Year 5, has had a great start back into school! They've been so excited about all their learning and engrossed in our new



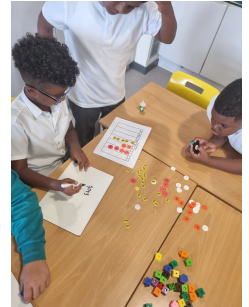
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topics. Within lessons, children have modelled positive learning behaviours whilst collaborating on a variety of tasks.

In English they have made inferences and predictions about our new core text 'The Boy and the Globe' using the clues from the text and their prior knowledge to generate conclusions about what they believe might happen in the story.

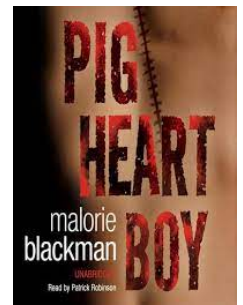


In Maths, they have also worked hard to recognise and represent numbers up to a million in different ways - using concrete materials, part whole and bar models. In history children have also enjoyed learning about The tudors and sequencing significant events within their groups to form a timeline.



Year Six

We have had a great start to the new school year enthusiasm for the final year in West Thornton. We hit the ground running with maths and writing lessons straight away. We used these lessons to refresh concepts that we saw last year and to also remind ourselves of the presentation expectations of our work so that we make a great first impression on anyone looking through our books!



Thousand	Hundred	Tens	Unit	Decimal	Unit	Tens	Final number
		6	.	8	9		6.89
	5	2	.	3	4		52.34
3	7	2	.	1			372.1
7	1	9	4	.	0	7	7194.07

Our first topic in English will be looking at monologues in connection with our core text for the half term, Pig Heart Boy. We have already been able to identify the features used in monologues and have made sure that we understand them all ready to put them into practice for our own creations in the next couple of weeks. In maths, we have been revising and revisiting the topic of place value and using our knowledge around this to write and compare numbers that have 6 or more digits. We will be using this as a foundation to move on to more revision next week looking at the idea of rounding whole numbers and decimals.



Our Geography topic this half term is centred around the local area and how well the space has been utilised. Blackthorn went on a walk around the local area to look at the use of land and to prepare ourselves for a discussion about changes in land use in our locale. The rest of the classes will be going on their local walks next week.



Reading

We have loved hearing so many children share their achievements from this year's Summer Reading Challenge! If you have not done so already, please remind your children to bring in their Reading Records every day from next week so that teachers and teaching assistants can see all of the wonderful reading that has been happening and books can be changed each week!



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Phrases of the Week



¡Bienvenidos a todos! - Welcome back everyone!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
-	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Nabil	Sinead	Arinze	Amelia	Kylie-Shae
Starlin	Noah	Fatima	Campion	Jaanush
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Bailey	Siya	Karim	Zuzia	Aathiran
Amina	Thasmiya	Aarav	Aarohan	Azma
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Elijah	Alaela	Kacy	Maya	Sharon
Zayaana	Dominykas	Dejhun	Tayo	Elnathan
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Qasim	Kyron	Tatiana	Madushen	Sahra
Valentina	Annalisa	Keisy Anne	Pavith	Meryam
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Hayah	Derrel	Caroll-Ann	Prosper	Kyree
Ethan	Aylisia	Jaswin	Kavilaya	Nyah



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Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Omari	Jaineel	Kian	Manuel	Oliver J
Sameyah	Jessica	Angel	Assia	Fadeelah
Spanish	KS1 Music	KS2 Music		
Aleena Blackthorn	Yathusha - Maple	Kemarley - Yew		