



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

**14th October 2022**

It has been another busy and exciting week at West Thornton. A big thank you to the parents/carers who joined us for our PTA Relaunch on Tuesday. Planning for a Winter Fayre has begun and we look forward to sharing details and dates with you soon.

Some of our Year Three children had an exciting visit to Croydon Library this week. They had great fun finding out all about the different categories of books that are available to be borrowed. We hope these visits will be the first of many!

#### Attendance

Well done to our attendance superstars this week:

	Rosecourt Road	Canterbury Road
EYFS	Pine Class 92%	Ash Class 97%
KS1	Elder Class 98%	Lime Class 96%
KS2	Eucalyptus Class 99%	Hawthorn Class 98%

#### PTA Update

Thank you to all parents that came to the meeting on Monday to relaunch the PTA. We are holding another meeting this **Monday 17th October at 9.00am at Canterbury Road**. We will be discussing plans for the winter fair. Please come along for coffee, cake and a chance to get involved with the next PTA fundraising events! This is the link to join the PTA group on Whatsapp: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JmO6LSCVTdIBQtrimEz9IE>



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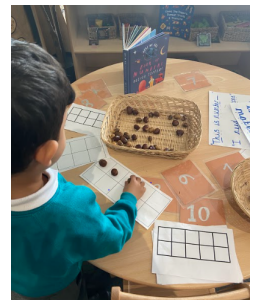
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### Curriculum Focus

#### Reception

In Reception this week the children have been focusing on rhyme. They have been singing nursery rhymes and reading Julia Donaldson books in order to recognise the rhyming words. As part of their literacy, the children have played rhyming bingo, to support them with matching the rhyming words. As part of their topic outcome, they have made up their own poem about the farm animals in the book 'The Little Red Hen'.

In maths, the children have been learning about numbers and improving their counting skills. They have been using 5 and 10 frames to support them with their number knowledge.



In the provision, reception have been continuing with collaging their art outcome. They have all made a tree to add to our shared woodland display. The children have been exploring mark making by painting on big pieces of paper and they have continued to apply their phonics by making CVC words.

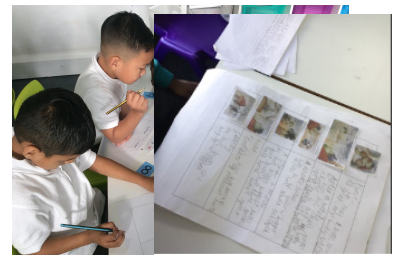


#### Year One

This week in Year One the children have been focusing on using the conjunction 'but' to join two sentences together. They have been working with a friend to see what their likes and dislikes are and then comparing them by using the conjunction.

In maths the children have been working together and independently to practically to show 1 more and 1 less, they used a number line to help them discover their answers.

Within our history lessons the children have looked at timelines. They were excited to use their mathematical knowledge to help them order the pictures of Croydon from the past and present.



In science we investigated what materials would be best to help the Lonley Beast build a boat. We discussed what materials would be the best waterproof option and various other properties that are needed to make a boat.



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### Year Two

This week in Year Two, the children have been enjoying adding pronouns, conjunctions and past-tense verbs to their writing plan. The students are preparing to write a narrative based on the core text, *The Three Billy Goats Stuff* by Bob Hartman.

In Maths, the children have been learning to bridge ten using addition and subtraction. While learning addition, they have been using counters and ten frames to partition the largest number to make ten, and using the remaining ones to find the sum or difference.

In Science they have been examining suitable materials to build a shelter. They have been looking at different materials and the corresponding properties to investigate what material would be the best to use. Students determined that the best shelters are strong and waterproof and used this knowledge to decide on the best material for a shelter.

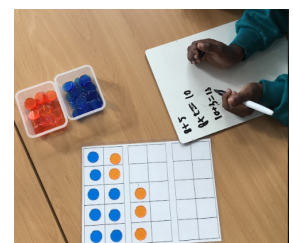
### Year Three

It has been another productive and creative week. The children have enjoyed a wide variety of academically stimulating activities. This week, new literacy skills have been learnt and improved upon during English. The "inner" poet was cultivated as pupils enjoyed using poetry as a form of self-expression. Taking the children's knowledge of the column method, previous mathematical methods were applied and put into action when adding 3 - digit and 2 - digit numbers. The same methods were used when subtracting these numbers as well.

Within the wider curriculum, the classes have enjoyed art sessions and have been improving their drawing and colouring skills to complete a detailed portrait of their partner(s). In the wider curriculum the children have continued to discover more about Ancient Egyptian society and the wonders of the river Nile. It has been a pleasure for the class teachers to teach about all the social and geographical features of the river Nile.

### Year Four

In maths, children have begun our new topic of decimals. They began by using Dienes and other resources to understand what one tenth and one hundredth of a whole is. They then used different representations to show decimals including bar models and part-whole models to show their understanding of the relationship between fractions and decimals. The children ended the week by partitioning decimals into tenths and hundredths and representing them on a place value chart.





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This week in English the children have been writing the draft of their narrative in preparation for publishing next week. The narrative is based on the story of their core text, *The Girl who stole an Elephant*, which is about a young girl who steals in order to escape being captured. They have been drawing on the key vocabulary and sequencing of events lessons taught over the last two weeks to enhance their writing skills. This consists of using time, place and manner adverbials and descriptive vocabulary to describe the setting by focussing on the five senses. They have also used the 'show not tell' devices to include the character's feelings at various points in the story.

In art this week, children have been working on their final outcome which was inspired by the work of Jill Pelto. They drew an animal and added detail before creating light and dark shades of colour to add depth to their pictures. They cut their animal pictures out and stuck them on to their previously painted backgrounds which represent global issues.

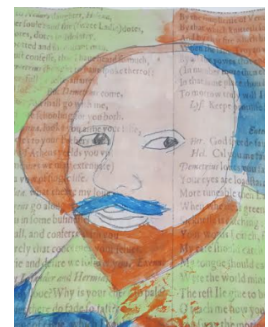


### Year Five

This week in Year Five, we have worked incredibly hard to write a play script based on our core text 'The boy and the Globe'. They have learnt how to embed different structural features like the colon, brackets and commas and a variety of language devices to make it engaging for an audience.

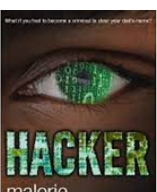
In Maths children have continued to work hard on solving addition and subtraction problems and using inverse to check answers.

Within our Art lessons, children are now completing their final outcomes and incorporating different types of techniques to make it more effective. The children have also enjoyed developing their scientific knowledge on animals and habitats.



### Year Six

This week, the children in Year Six have been busy completing their newspaper report connected with our core text, **Pig Heart Boy**, by Malorie Blackman. The children have had to combine their knowledge of the text and their developing writing skills to produce newspaper reports in a formal, journalistic style. Not an easy task, but we look forward to the final pieces for publication.





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In reading we have explored another Malorie Blackman book called **Hacker**. Although the focus of the lessons in reading is to sharpen the children's reading skills, some children may have been inspired to read this book, after reading the blurb. Read the following and see what you think:

***"When Vicky's father is arrested, accused of stealing over a million pounds from the bank where he works, she is determined to prove his innocence. But how? There's only one way - to attempt to break into the bank's computer files".***

Maths has progressed onto multiplication and here I have the opportunity to say that very soon, we will be re-launching TTRockstars, which really help children to learn their times tables. The children find so many aspects of their maths work easier if they have a good working knowledge of tables, so please provide them with as much support and encouragement as you can give. And for those children who know their tables inside out and back to front, TTRockstars provides a wonderful platform for competition. Who will be the fastest...?



In both geography and science, the children have been concluding their half term projects and are both consolidating their acquired knowledge and in geography, considering how that knowledge might be put to good use. The recent focus has been on thinking through what would make Croydon a more sustainable place to live. The children have viewed information on both a local housing development just across the common in Hackbridge, called the BedZED Estate and the innovative developments in Copenhagen. There are many ideas out there that will improve our world!

Finally, for this week, thank you to all of the parents who attended our meeting on Monday, but worry not, if you missed it, or were not able to attend. We did share some knowledge, but our most useful conversations were stimulated by questions. The message we want to get out to all of you is that we are happy to engage in any conversation that will support your children. If it is quick, catch us at the beginning of the day, if you have something more in depth, then we can make an appointment.

## Reading

On Wednesday 19th October, we will be repeating our Phonics and Early Reading workshop for parents and carers. This time, the session will be held at the Canterbury Road site in the afternoon. So if you were unable to attend the session a few weeks ago, please do come along. You can find out more about the way we deliver the Little Wandle phonics programme







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to children at our school primarily in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as well as finding out how you can support your child with their reading at home.

**Wednesday 19th October - 2.30pm**

Canterbury Road site

### Enrichment

After school clubs are in full swing and the children in lego club had a great time this week using the value of collaboration to create a zoo filled with animals. There were giraffes, elephants, crocodiles and even crabs!

There are still some spaces available for after school clubs, if your child is interested in joining then please speak to the office at either site or Mr Carroll.



### Community



Mind in Croydon's Counselling Service is a primary care level service. They see clients with mild to moderate levels of problems. If you wish to find out more about counselling at Mind in Croydon click on the link below.

<https://www.mindincroydon.org.uk/how-we-can-help/counselling/one-to-one/>

You may find that you are eligible for free counselling under Croydon Talking Therapies (IAPT). This is an NHS programme available in England which can provide a range of treatments for various mental health problems. You can find out more about this at the following website:

<https://croydontalkingtherapies.nhs.uk/>

**turn  
2US**



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Turn2us is a national charity providing practical help to people who are struggling financially. The Benefits Calculator takes less than 10 minutes to complete and it will tell you which means-tested benefits you may be entitled to, including tax credits. The Grants Search can help you look for funds that might be able to give you a grant or other types of help. To find out more click on the link below:

<https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>

### Phrases of the Week



**¿Qué haces en tu tiempo libre?** - What do you do in your free time?

**Juego al baloncesto.** - I play basketball.

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Julia	Abraham	Christaleen	Fatima	
Dhanvi	Harley	David	Ashik	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Jean Hillel	Imani	Adhithii	Elga	Huxley
Starlin	Arham	Aautheren	Wali	Rayya
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Samaira	Bogdan	Persis	Ava	Manal
Maya	Amelia	Tahreem	Liana	Sulaiman
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Andric	Carlos	Swarnika	Izabella	Humaira



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Asiya	Ekhlas	Nusaibah	Taha	Caleb
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Varnikhasree	Patrick	Josiah	Soraya	Zohaib
Smriti	Mia Rose	Sashagay	Habinia	Shreyas
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Jathanan	Arsheen	Piya	Vithush	Louis
Samarah	Matthew	Kaasni	Dhivyan	Abdi
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Sahla	Angel	Aleeza	Sadaf	Tika
Abdullah	Adilon	Adaan	Isabell	Danielle
Spanish	KS1 Music	KS2 Music		
Josel Magnolia	Ikrah Elder	Mia-Rose Beech		