



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

21st October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This month we have been very proud to celebrate Black History Month. There have been a number of assemblies which have highlighted important and influential people of colour from throughout history; we have also discussed the value of tolerance throughout October and linked this to much of our learning, in history and other subjects. A member of our parent community also shared wonderful books for children that reflect and celebrate the diversity of our school and local area.

You may also have seen in the news yesterday that Malorie Blackman, one of Britain's most successful children's authors, called for '*year round black history*'. We couldn't agree more and would encourage you to look at our curriculum documentation on our website or ask leaders about how we do this. As an example, next term Year 5 will be studying the Windrush Generation and exploring questions around immigration.

This week has been busy with lots of great learning, educational visits and exciting activities. One exciting activity this week has been the interviews for the Junior Leadership Team and Lead Students - and the quality of the applications and interviews for these positions were so great that we've appointed lead students *and* deputies. Please look out in the next newsletter for mini profiles of our new pupil leaders, along with their plans to work with the leadership team and governors to make West Thornton Primary School an even more fantastic place!

A couple of important points for your information:

- our new website (the same address) has been launched - please take some time to familiarise yourself with this and do contact us if you have any questions
- next half term, we can confirm that we will be starting parents in to read sessions
- Christmas dates are soon to be finalised and will be shared in the first week back

We hope you have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday , 31st October.



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Attendance

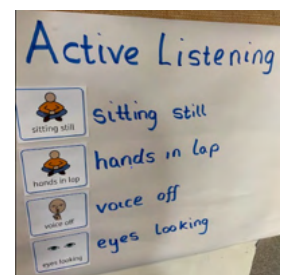
Well done to our attendance superstars this week, especially Acer who've had 100% attendance!

| | Rosecourt Road | Canterbury Road |
|------|----------------|-----------------|
| EYFS | Pine 92% | Ash 97% |
| KS1 | Rowan 97% | Lime 97% |
| KS2 | Cedar 98% | Acer 100% |

Curriculum Focus

Reception

This week in reception the children have been preparing to perform their poetry. They have been learning about active listening and good presentation skills. They know that in order to show active listening, they must sit still, have their hands in their laps and look at the person talking. To be a good speaker, the children have learnt that they must show confidence and speak clearly.



In maths, reception have been learning about greater than and less than. They have been practising counting with one to one correspondence as well as practising counting out from a larger group.

In the provision this week, the children have been making up their own fairy tale stories. They have been making books in the writing area, using well known stories to retell in the Small World area as well as exploring fairy tales in the Reading area.





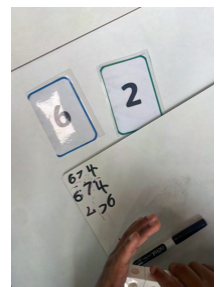
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Year One

This week in English the children completed their learning journey for the core texts, 'My Shadow is Pink' and 'The Lonely Beast.' We used all the skills we have learned over this half term, such as the conjunctions 'and', 'but' and 'because' to write sentences about what we like and enjoy. We also wrote Kenning poems using the suffix 'ing'. We published our work to create a display about everything we have learnt.

For maths, the children have been working on using some new maths symbols to compare numbers with the terminology greater than $>$, less than $<$ and equal to $=$. We used cubes to help us make and compare different quantities and they moved on to using number tracks to help us use our knowledge of the numbers to compare them.



In Art, the children have been collaborating to complete a final art piece inspired by Judith Reece. Over the term they have experimented with watercolours to create a landscape image and have then added texture to the piece by using the technique of layering material.

Year Two

In Year Two the children have been busy modelling the school values of excellence through publishing some of their final outcomes from the term. It has been great to see the children showing great resilience, working hard to ensure that they consistently use their best handwriting and presentation skills.

In Maths they have been reviewing what they already know about addition and subtraction from year one. They have been using different resources including number lines, dienes and numicon to help them add and subtract tens and ones from two digit numbers. This is such an important skill that will support them as they go through the year.

In art the children have been completing their final collages using different textured metallic surfaces to create cogs that will be put together to create a tree. In RE the children have eagerly shared their artefacts, drawings and pictures of celebrations that they have celebrated. Thank you for sending those into school with your children.





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Year Three

This week in year 3 the children have put their creative skills into action, combined with their rhyming couplets and performed the poems they have written in English. Whilst taking on the role of both poet and audience member, they were able to show a variety of techniques and skills developed over the week

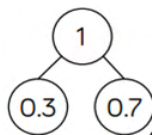
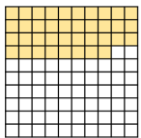


In maths they have extended their knowledge in addition and subtraction by now applying this to solve word problems. The children have worked very hard by using the RUCSAC strategy - Read, Understand, Choose, Solve, Answer and Check.

Corey Barksdale has been the inspirational artist behind the art outcomes in year 3. They have enjoyed creating portraits of each other using oil pastels.



Year Four



In maths this week, children continued with the topic of decimals. They learnt how to make one whole from any number of tenths and hundredths using a range of models and representations to support their understanding. They used their prior knowledge of number bonds to ten and one hundred to support their calculations.

Children then went on to round numbers with 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number. They looked at the digit in the tenths column to understand whether to round a number up or not. Children ended the week by reflecting on their learning journey by looking back at the questions which they had at the start of their learning about decimals to see which ones they could now answer themselves.



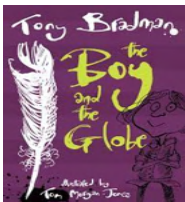
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In English, children began by editing and uplevelling their work, during this lesson they considered which features they had used in their writing such as dialogue, imagery and fronted adverbials and thought about how well they engaged the reader. The children were then ready and very excited to publish their narrative which they had put so much hard work into. The children ended the week by reflecting on the learning over the half term. They read through their work with their partner then discussed how the writing made them feel so that they could identify their successes and reflect on why the writing was effective.

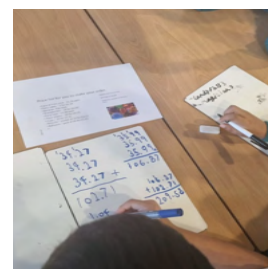
This week, year 4 children visited the Horniman museum and had a fantastic time learning about animal classification and about the different ways in which animals are classified. Children had the opportunity to take part in an animal classification workshop which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Year Five



Another great week of exciting and delicious activities in year 5! In English we have been editing our work in our story and playscript making sure they do our focus book 'The Boy in the Globe' justice.

In Maths, children extended their knowledge of column addition and subtraction of whole numbers to decimal numbers and problems involving decimal numbers making sure that the knowledge of place value was applied correctly.



Year 5 have continued to develop their artistic skills by creating some beautiful pieces of art of William Shakespeare incorporated on newspapers. Well..... I think the pieces speak for themselves!



Of course, some of year 5 children continue developing their life skills in swimming by participating in our intensive swimming programme. What progress they've made!



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Year Six

This week has been a flurry of activity! We have been focusing on our editing skills and refining our newspaper articles describing the events of our class text "Pig Heart Boy". We have focused on the use of formal language and have attempted to utilise the passive voice in order to make our writing sound even more formal.



$$\begin{array}{r} 29 \\ 18 \overline{) 522} \\ \underline{36} \\ 162 \end{array}$$

Maths has moved into the realm of division. We have started with short division, reminding ourselves of the correct process and how our knowledge of times tables can help us to solve the problem. We then moved on to long division and have used our understanding of multiplication and multiples to aid us in finding the solutions.



In art, we have been finalising our sketches of anatomical hearts and have explored watercolours to create some delicate flowers. These will be coupled together to form our final pieces and we can't wait to share them with everyone on our publishing boards!

Reading

Mrs Benham and Miss Rodgers held another Phonics and Early reading workshop for parents on Wednesday afternoon this week at the Canterbury Road site. Thank you to all those who attended. It was really great to see parents from different year groups attending and find out more information to support their children with their reading. Look out for more information about other phonics and reading events taking place at our school after half term.





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Enrichment

Cross Country

We wanted to celebrate the achievements of 9 of our wonderful Year 6 children who competed in a Cross Country event at Lloyd Park recently. There were around 200 children representing Croydon, per race. We were extremely proud of the children's efforts. It was a difficult 1600m race with varied terrain. A lot of the other competitors were more experienced but all of our children did themselves proud, With Albie Dormer coming in a very impressive 14th place! We are committed to giving further sporting activity opportunities throughout the year so that the children would be able to excel even further. A big thank you to the staff and parents who spent their own time assisting this event.

Phrases of the Week



¡Buenas vacaciones a todos! - Have a good holiday everyone!

Stars of the Week

| YR Ash | YR Oak | YR Pine | YR Willow | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cheyavan | Chloe | Bilal | Ali | |
| Thanushik | Jahnai | Kavya | Hamza | |
| Y1 Elder | Y1 Elm | Y1 Fir | Y1 Lime | Y1 Maple |
| Georgina | Abdul | Riaab | Nazai | Vihaan |
| Krish | Eisa | Arinze | Mariama | Ishani |
| Y2 Aspen | Y2 Palm | Y2 Poplar | Y2 Rowan | Y2 Spruce |
| Raheem | Deen | Alana | Pranaysri | Priansh |
| Ayden | Thasmiya | Amelia | Jessica | Hazel |



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| Y3 Cedar | Y3 Cherry | Y3 Larch | Y3 Walnut | Y3 Chestnut |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Meeran | Bilal | | Maja | Yahya |
| Caitlin | Khashifa | | Avaneesh | Skyler |
| Y4 Acacia | Y4 Beech | Y4 Hornbeam | Y4 Olive | Y4 Yew |
| Shrija | Enzo | Cassius | Andrei | Kemarley |
| Rahma | Annalisa | Dylan | Bailey | Elizabeth |
| Y5 Cypress | Y5 Hawthorn | Y5 Magnolia | Y5 Silver Birch | Y5 Sycamore |
| Nishinth | Esau | Samuel | JJ | Genesis |
| Ajai | Khaleel | Raza | Emily | Meer |
| Y6 Blackthorn | Y6 Eucalyptus | Y6 Juniper | Y6 Holly | Y6 Acer |
| Bridie | Maliha | Hershnah | Gabriella | Oliver K |
| Ziyad | Diluxcy | Kian | Thoorikan | Aaniya |
| Spanish | KS1 PE | KS2 PE | KS1 Music | KS2 Music |
| Emmanuel Larch | | | Aarohan Rowan | Emanuel Eucalyptus |