



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

4th November 2022

We have been delighted to welcome the children back to school this week after what we hope was an enjoyable and restful half term break. The children have been busy immersing themselves in their new core texts in English and preparing themselves for their final writes later in the term.

Elsewhere in the curriculum, the children have started their first DT learning journey of the year. Topics cover strands including textiles, mechanics and construction and currently focusing on knowledge building and exploration before designing, creating and evaluating their designs later in the term.

This week parents received a letter sharing our parental engagement session for this half term. We have a busy schedule planned based on parent feedback so please do come along to the sessions if you are able. Dates for Winter concerts are currently being finalised and these will be shared very soon.

Attendance

Well done to our attendance superstars this week:

	Rosecourt Road	Canterbury Road
EYFS	Oak 92%	Ash 92%
KS1	Elder 98%	Palm 95%
KS2	Magnolia 98%	Holly 100%



Curriculum Focus

Reception



It has been amazing to see the reception children return to school this week excited to continue their learning. We began by introducing our incredible new core text 'Here We Are'. This week we had a Baby crash land into the classroom from space with a letter explaining that the baby needs to learn everything about planet Earth. Over the next few weeks we will be learning about Earth and telling our baby, before it goes back to space.

In phonics this week the children have been revising the phase 2 phonemes learnt last term and new phonemes ll, ff, ss and j. They have been focusing on using their sounds to read and write three letter words that contain these phonemes, such as 'cat', 'top', 'bed' and 'ten'. They have begun to read phrases such as 'a big cat' and 'a red hat'.



In maths, the children have collaborated and created repeating patterns. They have been encouraged to analyse a pattern and decide what the rule of each pattern was. There were also some errors and children had to play detective and work out what the mistake was. Within the provision, children have been practising drawing patterns and have also had the opportunity to make patterns using lego and cubes.



Year One

To start English this week, the Year 1 children shared their lovely shoe box museums with the class. They then started working on creating noun phrases based on a picture by identifying the nouns and using adjectives to describe the nouns. Their learning was taken a step further by writing a whole sentence to create an expanded noun phrase.





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL



This week in Maths, we introduced addition as an amount increasing and subtraction as an amount reducing through the concept of stories. The students used first, then, and now story mats to help write addition and subtraction equations.

This half term the Year 1's are learning about The United Kingdom in Geography. We learned about the different countries that make up the UK. In RE we are learning about Christianity by looking at the Christian Creation story.

Year Two



In English the children worked collaboratively to solve a code and work out what was happening in the images. After making some predictions about what they thought was going to happen in the story we read our new core text Drawn Together. The children have loved the bright, beautiful illustrations and the story about a grandfather and grandson who despite not sharing the same language are able to communicate through drawings instead creating a wonderful world together.

In maths the children have been applying their knowledge of partitioning 2 digit numbers to adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers. They have used dienes to represent the tens and ones to help them to secure their understanding. Once they were confident using the tens and ones they used numbers laying them out in columns to help them solve the number sentences. It was great to see the children grow in confidence as the week progressed.

In science the children have begun their new unit of work learning about living things and their habitats. This week they were learning about the characteristics of living things. Then they went on a scavenger hunt to identify the living things, once living things and nonliving things around the school.



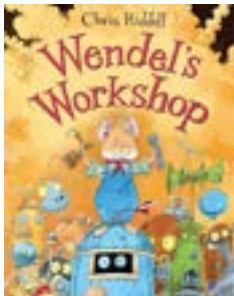


WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year Three

In English, the children were introduced to our core text 'Wendel's Workshop'. They were surprised to see a 'Shaduf' in their classroom and were intrigued to find out how it worked. They then moved onto generating predictions and questions using the stimulus – Shaduf. The children learnt what open-ended questions were. This was followed by the children giving clear and precise instructions to each other on how to do something. This later helped the children write their own instructions on how to make a Shaduf.



In maths this week, the children have been using a numberline to add bigger numbers so that they get better at adding mentally. They then moved onto using place value charts and dienes to show their understanding of regrouping. This helped them to use column method to add three digit numbers.

In science the children learnt about forces; push and pull. They drew on their prior knowledge, and thought about their learning for the rest of this term. In RE, the children learnt the importance of the Bible. In DT they watched a video of how a Shaduf works and also another video of how to make a Shaduf. In history, the children learnt about famous sites from the Ancient Egyptians; the Valley of the Kings, Pyramids of Giza and temple of Karnak.



Year Four



Our core text in English this term is the non-fiction text Greta's Story: The Schoolgirl Who Went On Strike To Save The Planet. The children are so curious about her protest and this week have produced really effective questions to discover more about her and how she started her climate strike. They are finding it difficult to believe that it is a true story! They have also started to look at different types of poetry and analyse a performance.

In maths the children have been building on their learning about place value last term and applying their knowledge of addition of 3 digit numbers with exchange. This week they started to add 4 digit numbers with exchange which requires careful presentation to ensure accuracy. They moved on towards the end of the week applying this





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

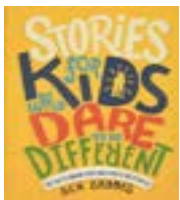
knowledge to real life problems with money and other worded problems.

Continuing the climate change theme in geography this week the children learned about the causes of global warming and thought about the impact it is having on humans, animals and the Earth.

Year Five

This week Year five have started the term with a 'BANG' as they have all come in with a positive mindset ready to learn the new topics for this term.

In Maths ,year 5 have looked at multiplying and dividing numbers by 10,100,1000 using their place value to knowledge to justify their answers. They have then moved onto multiplying a one digit number by 3 and recalling on their timetable knowledge to complete various calculations mentally.



In English children have become immersed in the new text by reading a number of significant peoples stories and the difference they have made to the world around us. From this they have learnt how to recognise, explain and understand the impact of features found in a biography to the reader. They have enjoyed focusing on the story of Hua Mulan and the difference she made within the world in which they carried out research and role play to gather a greater understanding of who she is.



In our wider curriculum children have also enjoyed beginning our Design technology project making PUPPETS which is very exciting for them.



Special Mention: Well done to the whole of Magnolia Class for displaying the following West Thornton Core Values:

'Responsibility' being safe and behaving responsibly to and from Waddon Leisure Centre to complete their swimming course.

'Respect' for always saying please and thank you to the general public, bus drivers and leisure centre staff.

Resilience: during swimming lessons and making good progress in their groups. We are proud of you!!!



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year Six

Year 6 have had a fantastic first week back. We have started looking at our new class text "Stella by Starlight" and have been using similes, repetition and impactful short sentences in our openings of our own retelling of the story. This all followed a fantastic lesson of experiencing the sounds, sights and tastes of North Carolina, where our story is set.



In maths, we have been consolidating our knowledge of long and short division and have started to look at the concept of BODMAS, being able to use it to help us to make decisions when solving problems by understanding the order of the operations.



History has started with us working out a timeline of significant protests that have occurred, and are still occurring, across the world with a focus on the civil rights movement and the key events and people involved. This links with our class text which deals with similar themes and will help us to have a better understanding of what life was like before and during the start of the civil rights movement.

We have also started both our science and DT topics for this half term. We are looking at alarms with a view to designing our own in DT and are getting a better understanding of where the electricity comes from to power them and how it does so in our science lessons.

Reading

Today the Class Reading Celebration Books are starting to come home. Each Friday 1 child from the class will be chosen to bring home the class celebration reading pack. This is a book designed to celebrate the books the class enjoy reading. Each child will get to create a page in the book and bring it back to school the following Thursday to share with their class. Craft materials and stickers have been provided to help make the pages even more colourful.

Here are a few examples created by the Teachers.



WEST THORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



If you have any questions please speak to your child's class Teacher. We look forward to hearing all about the exciting books they are reading.

Phrases of the Week



¡Bienvenidos a todos! - Welcome back everyone!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Yusuf	Hareem	Milo	Emaan	
Loreran	Mirabel	Vicente	Sarvika	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Nihar	Ayesha	Tahreem	Keevah	Samuel
Gabrielle	Akousa	Britt	Kirolore	Sia



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Eagan	Joel	Aliza	Ariah	Alysia
Marcel	Sophia	Dharaa	Jarren	Cameron
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Kayan	Skylar	Aarush	Andre	Rafael
Lucy	Apsaran	Abdul-hadi	Indi	Denephia
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Rithish	Mohamad	Janell	Mikhaail	Malachi
Vithushan	Aila	Anthony	Habinia	Niyah
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Kavena	Marvin	David	Aaharan	Yasmin
Kavinila	Maryann	Elijah	Melchizedek	Abdi
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Hani	Afia	Bavanya	Irina	Allister
Michelle	Ghovind	Akos	Albie	Sanchana
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Alaela Cherry			Mareya Lime	Jake Acer