



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

#### 9th December 2022

It has been another busy but exciting week at West Thornton...Christmas preparations are well underway! Children in EYFS and KS1 did us proud today with their fantastic Winter Concerts. We hope many more of you will join us next week for our Key Stage One and Two concerts.



Again this week, we get to celebrate another great achievement of one of our pupils. Isla was invited for a trial with Arsenal Academy Under 9's in August and was one of only three out of over forty girls that was offered a place to join Arsenal Academy.

Isla has impressed them so much since her short time with them that she has already been promoted to play in the Under 10's Team. Last Friday she played against Watford Academy winning 7-3 and assisting a great goal. A future 'Lioness' to watch out for. A very big well done Isla!

This week's newsletter has a focus on Design Technology. This half term all of our pupils have undertaken a range of activities across the different Design Technology strands (food, textiles, mechanisms and construction). Please read on to find out about all of this fantastic work.

#### Attendance

Well done to our attendance superstars this week:

	Rosecourt Road	Canterbury Road
EYFS	Pine 90%	Willow 93%
KS1	Spruce 98%	Elm 9%
KS2	Larch 98%	Acer 96%



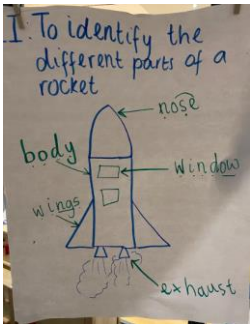
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### Spotlight on Design Technology

#### Reception

This half term Reception's core text has been 'Here we are', a vibrant book about a baby who has crash landed on Earth from outer space. After spending time learning about the beautiful planet we live on, the baby must return home. In order for this to happen, during DT lessons the children in reception have been busy learning about, designing and making rockets. The children looked closely at rockets using a variety of media, to observe their shape and features. They learned the names of rocket features such as nose, exhausts, body and wings. Once they had developed their knowledge of rockets, discussions turned to the materials rockets are made of. The children named many materials and considered their appropriateness for building a rocket.



Using all the knowledge they had gained about rockets and materials the children set about designing their own rockets. They completed their designs with labels to indicate which materials they would use to turn their designs into a rocket prototype. Using junk box modelling the children collaborated in pairs to build their designs. Most children decided plastic bottles provided both the shape and strength needed for the body of their rockets, while egg boxes and yoghurt pots were great shapes for exhausts and noses. Using plenty of tin foil allowed the children to create a shiny rocket exterior. This week the children have been evaluating their rockets. They have discussed what went well and things they would change if they were to complete the rocket task again. Next week we will be saying farewell to the baby as his rocket launches to begin his journey home.



#### Year One

In Design Technology this half term, Year One has been designing and making buildings. We started our learning journey by identifying types of building structures in our local community and noticed just how many different types there are. We then investigated materials and why some are used for different purposes based on their properties. We used this knowledge to design our own buildings before selecting appropriate materials and experimenting with different ways to join them together. Finally we followed our designs to create our own model buildings and added details to include all the different features of the buildings. Next week we will be evaluating our design and outcomes to help us discuss what changes we would make next time.



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### Year Two

Year Two have really enjoyed their Design Technology topic this half term.

Over the past few weeks, the students have been designing a flapping bird puppet. Year Two started by researching the structure and shape of different birds. This helped students identify a range of different bird wings that they would use in their designing lesson.



After that, students had the chance to explore a range of different materials that they could use. This lesson was a very important step in creating their plans, as it helped them decide the materials they deemed suitable to use for their birds. In the next lesson, the students started to write their plans and prepare the suitable materials that they would need.



This week they started to design, cut and paint the wings, body and tail of their birds. The students are so excited for the final step next week where they will join all their materials to create the moving birds.

### Year Three

In Design Technology this half term, Year Three have shown tremendous enthusiasm towards understanding the mechanisms of how objects work and the uses they have. This term we have learnt about how an Egyptian piece of machinery called a Shaduf operates and works. This week through our hard work and application, we have been able to create the final product and build our Shaduf! Through understanding and writing a detailed plan about how to assemble it, the children have been able to work through their instructions systematically and use their equipment safely.





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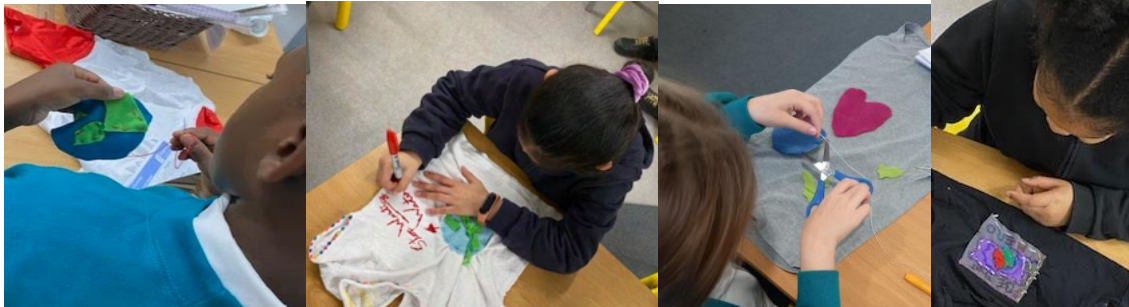
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### Year Four



Year Four have loved their Design Technology topic this half term! They have really relished designing a symbol against climate change and sewing it onto their old t-shirts to upcycle them. First they learned about different types of fabric and their suitability for different types of clothes. Then they moved onto drawing their design. Next they practised different types of stitches and finally they transformed their vision to reality by making their symbol and then sewing it onto their t-shirt.

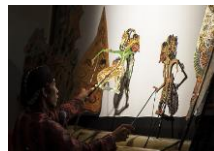
This project has provided some fantastic opportunities for the more experienced sewers in each class to show the West Thornton value of collaboration as they have been able to help the less confident. Look at their great work!



### Year Five

In Design Technology this half term, Year Five are really enjoying making their rod puppet of Mulan - a character from our focus text.

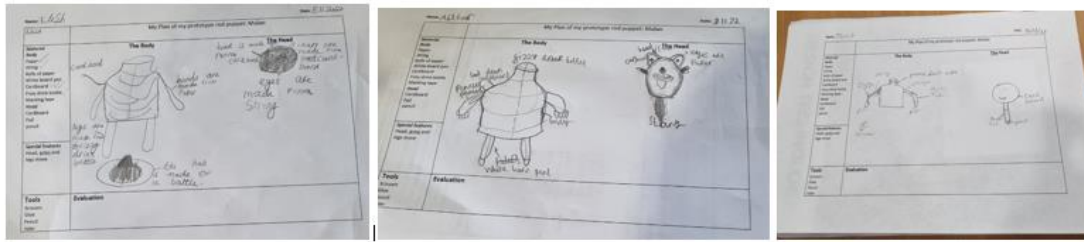
They worked collaboratively and passionately through the process of: **researching** different types of puppets - hand, finger, shadow string, marionette and rod puppets:



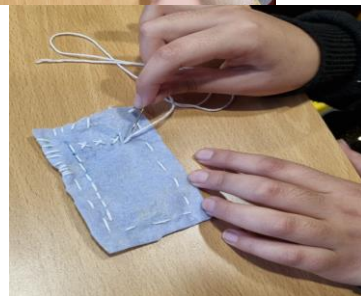
**planning** a prototype of their intention, thinking about features, materials, tools needed for the job; labelling the various parts to show the mechanics of the arms, head and the legs.



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They then used their plan and plastic bottles brought in from home to **make the prototype, evaluating** as they made the model to ensure it was **'fit for purpose'**, and if it was, then the model would be used for the final puppet.



The children are now developing their stitching skills: running, cross, over, and backward stitches which they will use to make Mulan's outfit.

Phew! What a learning journey so far! The children will show - case their final product in

next week's Newsletter. Keep an eye out!

## Year Six

Year 6 will be getting to grips with their DT projects next week as we have been finishing our final writing outcome of 2022 this week. Our DT has started with some research into the types of alarms that currently exist in the world and how we will be able to adapt these designs to produce our own working alarm. The next step is to test a variety of materials to see what will create the best switch for our alarm. This links fantastically with our science as we have been learning about circuits, the components needed for a working circuit and how the make up of the circuit can affect the flow of the electricity.

The next steps are to turn our designs into working alarms, complete with some form of covering to protect the circuits we construct. We can't wait to share what we have come up with!





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### Maths



Have you heard of the fabulous programme that can help your child with their times tables? If you haven't already head on over to the Times Table

Rockstars website! This site allows children to practise their times tables in a variety of ways - they can compete with other children in schools from across the country, there are competitions for children to take part in which pit class against class and they can even challenge their class teachers! Your child will come home with their login details this week. Well done to the children in Year 4 who have been actively taking part in the program - keep it up! Let's see if other year groups can match their enthusiasm and get involved in TTRS!!

### Phrases of the Week



**¿Qué te gusta?** - What do you like?  
**Me gusta el chocolate.** - I like chocolate.

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Khirad	Harley	Olanre	Asher	
Mahir	Aisha	Arhaan	Kiyara	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Whole class for writing	Rayan	Whole class for writing	Whole class for writing	Whole class for writing
	Abdul			
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Farzan	Jewel	Adrian	Lano	Whole class
Nandini	Jahmeil	Arleen	Nishtha	



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Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Massita	Diaa	Hareem	Tayo Vera	Alicia Raul
Satvic	Dominykas	Aarush		
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Kajinan	Mia-Rose	Aland	Archie	Zohaib
Olivia	Shaniya	Liya	Naaba	Katrina
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Nadaniel	Najib	Carole-Ann	Aarav	Abdi
Sara	Abu Khan	Zayn	Amarah	Hashir
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Leo	Diluxy	Hailie	Danny	Dylan
Samrudhan	Devika	Shlok	Emilly	Kier-Retta
	Spanish	KS1 Music	KS2 Music	
	Adomas Hawthorn	Amelia Palm	Danielle Acer	



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## West Thornton Primary Winter Fair

3.15pm to 5.30pm

Rosecourt Road - Tuesday 13th December

Canterbury Road - Thursday 15th December

We will be selling Raffle tickets at the end of the day in both playgrounds from Monday 12 December; ticket sales will continue at the Fairs until the prize draws

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# WINTER FAIR

Tuesday 13th December 22  
3.15pm to 5.30pm  
ROSECOURT ROAD, CRO 3BS

Thursday 15th December 22  
3.15pm to 5.30pm  
CANTERBURY ROAD, CRO 3HH

- Santa's grotto •
- bouncy castle •
- face painting •
- henna •
- arts and crafts •
- games •
- prizes •
- and much more!

If you would like to join the PTA,  
Contact us: [westthorntonpta@gmail.com](mailto:westthorntonpta@gmail.com)

If you would like to get involved and help, please contact:

[WestthorntonPTA@gmail.com](mailto:WestthorntonPTA@gmail.com)