



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

6th January 2023

We have been delighted to welcome the children back to school this week after what we hope was an enjoyable and restful Christmas break spent with friends and family. 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 new topic learning journeys. For more information on all of the topics being covered this half term across the curriculum, refer to the Spring term 1 curriculum newsletters that children will have received this week. Alongside the newsletters all children have received knowledge organisers for History/Geography, Science, RE and Art. These contain all of the key vocabulary and "sticky" knowledge that the children will cover during the term. These are used during each lesson in class to help with recall and retention of key aspects of the curriculum. These are a very useful tool for children and parents to refer to when completing their homework each week.

This week parents received a letter sharing our after school activities for the Spring term. These begin on Monday 16th January and run for 10 weeks. If your child is eligible for pupil premium funding then they can be offered a place free of charge. If you are unsure if your child is eligible then please speak to their class teacher or Mr. Carroll.

Finally, a reminder that school gates open at 8:40am each day and children should be in their lines before school starts at 8:50am.



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Attendance

You will notice that our attendance this week is lower than usual. Whilst we appreciate that a number of children have been unwell, can we please remind you of the importance of children being in each day wherever possible. Even one day off can impact a child's understanding and affect their progression in learning. We look forward to our attendance rising next week as it was excellent before the Christmas Holiday. Thank you.

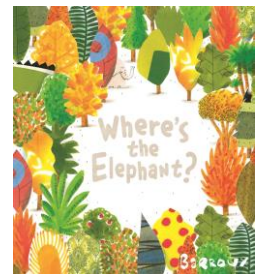
Well done to our attendance superstars this week.

	Rosecourt Road	Canterbury Road
EYFS	Pine 88.9%	Ash 96.1%
KS1	Poplar 95.2%	Palm 87.5%
KS2	Juniper 98.9%	Hornbeam & Acer 98.7%

Curriculum Focus

Reception

It has been lovely to welcome the children back into reception this week. The children have been immersed in their new topic based on animals and their habitats. In literacy this week, reception have been looking at their new core text 'Where's the Elephant?'. Their first task was to make predictions based on the front cover of the book and then when they went to read the book they realised that it had no words! The children used their imagination to create their own story, drawing story maps and actions to retell the story.



In maths the children have been learning about how to find parts of numbers and how they create the whole. They have been looking at the 'Part, Part, Whole' model and using this to add two parts together to make the whole. The children have been introduced to the vocabulary 'add' and 'equals' to support them with recording number sentences.

In topic this week, reception have been learning about minibeasts and learning facts about different insects and minibeasts. They have begun to look at bees and



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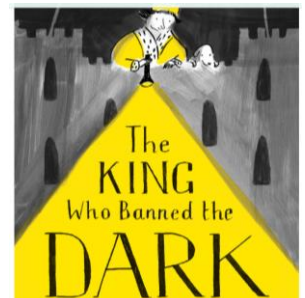
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why bees are so important to the planet. They have been researching this through our second text 'Why do we need bees?'.

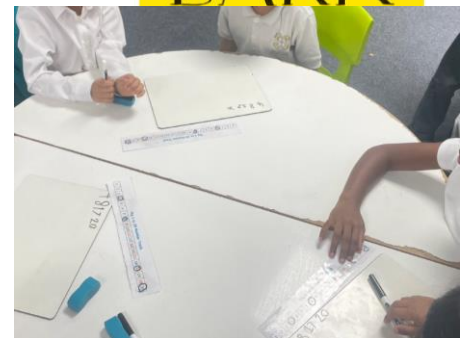
Year One

We were extremely happy to welcome all of our lovely Year 1 children back this week and the children showed how excited and ready they were to start a new term of learning.

In English, the children have been introduced to a charming new core text called, 'The King who banned the dark,' written by Emily Howorth-Booth. This delightful book uses retro black and yellow illustrations, to tell a sweet fairytale of a King who was afraid of the dark. This week the children have been focusing on the main character, the King, writing detailed descriptions of his appearance and as well as his characteristics using adjectives and nouns phrases.



The focus for Maths this week has been looking at place value within 20. During this week the children had to; find 1 more and 1 less, order numbers, complete missing numbers and finally estimate numbers on a blank track from 11 to 20. The children's attention was drawn to the concept that numbers above 10 are 2 digit numbers made of tens and ones. They were then asked to observe which digit in the numbers change as they move forwards and backwards along their number tracks.



In science, the children have been learning to identify and compare the weather for each season. In Kagan partners the children discussed the characteristics of each season and then made predictions about the weather for the upcoming weeks, using the sentence stems, I predict..... I think..... The weather will be..... because.....

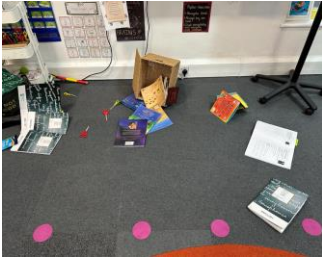
Year Two

Year Two were shocked to find that their classroom had been trashed and their class gifts had been stolen. The robbers had left a number of clues including footprints and handprints. Using these clues they made inferences about what had happened. At the end of the week they looked at newspaper reports and identified their features.



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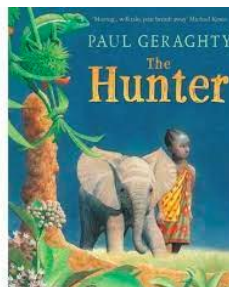


In Maths they have continued to develop their understanding of multiplication. They began by learning that lots of can be used in place of groups of. Then they continued to develop their understanding of arrays by creating arrays using manipulatives. They used these arrays to solve multiplication problems.

In science the children have started their new unit about living things and staying healthy. They began by reviewing what all living things need to survive. Then the children applied this knowledge to create a list of things that they would take with them on a trip to Mars.

Year Three

Year 3 has had a fantastic start to the year. soothing sounds of an African bush, to text 'The Hunter'. They then familiarised created a story map including time retelling the story verbally, then going on to



They were greeted in class by the immerse them into their new core themselves with the core text and adverbials, to support them when write it.

In Maths, the children have been looking at the relationship between different numbers. identify the multiplier, multiplicand and the product. They have continued to use a variety of manipulatives to support their learning.

multiplication facts and exploring They were able to successfully



The children were excited to start their new topic, The Stone Age. They created a timeline to identify the different periods of time, up until the current day. In art, the children created a mood board to explore the themes of a Bologan mud cloth. In science the children started a new topic, Rocks, they looked at the different features of rocks by observing samples of real rocks. In RE, the children started their new learning on hinduism.



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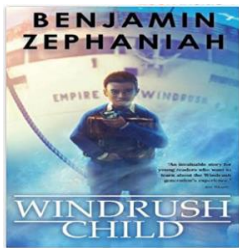
Year Four

It has been a lovely first week back to school in year 4. In maths the children have been looking at multiplication. We have used efficient methods to help with mental calculation. The children were introduced to the concept of commutative law, where you swap the numbers in a multiplication question and still get the same answer.

In English, the children were introduced to their new core text for this half term, 'I am not a label.' Our first outcome this half term is to write a biography on a famous person from this book and this week the children have begun identifying the key features of a biography and their importance.

This week in science the children have researched about the dangers and risks of electricity and created posters informing others of how these dangers and risks can be reduced. This lesson will lead the children into the coming weeks of this half term when they look closer at electricity and circuits.

Year Five

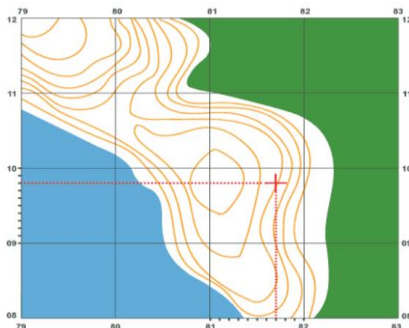


After a restful and enjoyable festive break, Year 5 have returned to West Thornton enthused and raring to get started on their learning journeys this half term.

For English the children have begun immersion into our core text, 'Windrush Child' by Benjamin Zephaniah, identifying the text type and the structural and literary techniques which they have begun to use in their own writing. They also enjoyed their experience day tasting popular food from Jamaica where Leonard (main character is from)!

In Maths the children are developing their skills in fractions in particular this week they have compared and identified equivalent fractions.

$$\frac{1}{2} \xrightarrow{\times 2} \frac{2}{4} \xrightarrow{\times 2} \frac{4}{8} \xrightarrow{\times 2} \frac{8}{16}$$



Our topic is also related to the 'Windrush Child'. However, we are taking a graphical approach where the children have located the Caribbean islands on a map and where they are in relation to England. They also learnt to use the six point grid reference to locate a point on a map.

The point on the map to your left is 817098. Ask your child to explain it to you!

We have also made a start on our RE Topic, Judaism. Children learnt about how Judaism started and about some of the daily practices. They also compared this religion with other religions such as Christianity and Hinduism.

Year 5 are looking forward to delving deeper into their learning journeys over the next few weeks!



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Year Six



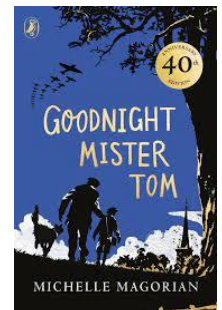
It has been lovely to welcome everyone back after the winter break. The first sight for most teachers was of some of the amazing projects that had been completed over the holidays to prepare for our learning around World War 2. We had Anderson shelters and evacuee suitcases as requested but also some stories that had been relayed by grandparents and fictional diary accounts. It was clear that there had been a lot of time and effort spent on this during their free

time.



In maths, we have continued our learning around decimals and have been comparing the number of decimal places whilst also using our reasoning skills to solve open ended problems. For English, we have started to look at our core text, *Goodnight Mister Tom*, in reading and have been using the information we have found in both writing and history lessons to write letters. We have each imagined that we are a child that has been evacuated out of London and to a house in the countryside. We have each chosen a family member to write to and have started to visualise what our new lives would look like and what we would share with loved ones back in London. We are looking forward to completing these next week.

Finally, Year 6 have been joined by two new members of staff. We are delighted to welcome Miss Ballie to our Year 6 team as Juniper's class teacher and Mr Morrone ("Mr M") as part of our Year 6 support team. We are so lucky to have them both and are very much looking forward to all of the excellent work we will be doing with them over the next few months.



Reading

Get caught reading!

Don't forget to share photos of the exciting place you have been caught reading over the holidays. Photos can be given to class Teachers or emailed to the school office: office@inspirewestthornton.co.uk



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Photos shared will be added to the reading displays and newsletter next week. Will you be the most adventurous reader for the week?

Enrichment

There are lots of exciting trips and visits planned for Spring term! Please see your child's curriculum newsletter, which was sent home this week, for more details.

Community



Food stall dates

Rose Court Road Site	Canterbury Road Site
04/01/23	11/01/23
18/01/23	25/01/23
01/02/23	08/02/23
Half term	
22/02/23	01/03/23
08/03/23	15/03/23
22/03/23	29/03/23



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Healthy Start

If you are more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to a healthy start card, which you can use to buy healthy food and milk.

You can use your card to buy:

- Cow's milk
- Fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables
- Fresh, dried, and tinned pulses
- Infant formula milk based on cow's milk
- You can also use your card to collect:
 - Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding
 - vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old

To find out if you are eligible click the link below:

<https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply/>



CROYDON

Household Support Fund (HSF)

The HSF grant is a one-off award that could help to buy food, gas, and electricity.

The Household Support Fund can help if you are facing hardship or emergency, including struggling to pay bills or afford food.

The scheme provides support, such as vouchers, wherever possible, rather than cash grants.

We can help your household meet living costs through:



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- food vouchers
- gas or electric payments
- water bills
- white goods such as: fridge-freezer or under counter fridge and Microwave
- gas or electric cooker
- bedding

You can only use the fund for one household item or white good.

Who can apply:

To be eligible for this fund, you must live in Croydon & be over 18 years of age. To find out more and apply please click below:

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/benefits/household-support-fund-hsf>

Phrases of the Week



¡Feliz Año Nuevo y bienvenidos a todos! - Happy New Year and welcome back everyone!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Amari	Jayden	Reagan	Jewel	
Diyaan	Safiyah	Seth	Jordanna	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Anmol	Maryama	Darwin	Kaiden	Samuel
Nabil	Rooda	Dhrishay	Izabelle	Anamika
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Whole Class	Nadiya	Haroon	Precious B.	Srishanth
	Aras	Aliza	Liana	Aatheesh



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Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Whole Class	Loredana	Rianna	Nishta	Marley
	Dylan	Kaira - leigh	Shravan	Parthan
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Blake + Layad	Nisha	Chrisanda	Niha	Daisy
Sumaya	Fatima	Faith	Ibrahim	Prince-Isaac
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Saif	Lakai	Dev	Adar	Corina
Laura	Marvin	Aliyah	Lerone	Abel
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Sameyah	Emo	Praket	Isabell	Tikah
Aleena	Niyam	Sushant	Thoorikan	Oliver J
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Stone Eucalyptus			Rayan - Spruce	Sara - Cypress