



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

13th January 2023

We hope that all of our families have had a wonderful week this week. It's been another lovely week at West Thornton. Year 2 celebrated Victorian Day this week to kick off their new history topic. The children were able to experience a glimpse of what life was like for Victorian school children, with some different rules, and the table set up in lines. In Year 5, the children experienced a Caribbean food tasting session to kick off their Geography learning about the Caribbean.

Next week, our reading afternoons will start. Next week's dates are:

- Monday 16th January: KS2 reading afternoon 2.55 - 3.15pm
- Thursday 19th January: EYFS and KS1 reading afternoon 2.55 - 3.15pm

Please be sure to check the parental engagement letter that was sent out this week for more key dates for joining your child's learning.

Don't forget, clubs start next week. There are still spaces for after school clubs, so if you would like your child to join an after school club please check Arbor for details.

Attendance

Well done to our attendance superstars this week:

	Rosecourt Road	Canterbury Road
EYFS	Pine 90.5%	Willow 98.9%
KS1	Spruce 96.6%	Elm 93.9%
KS2	Juniper 99.4%	Hornbeam 99%

Curriculum Focus

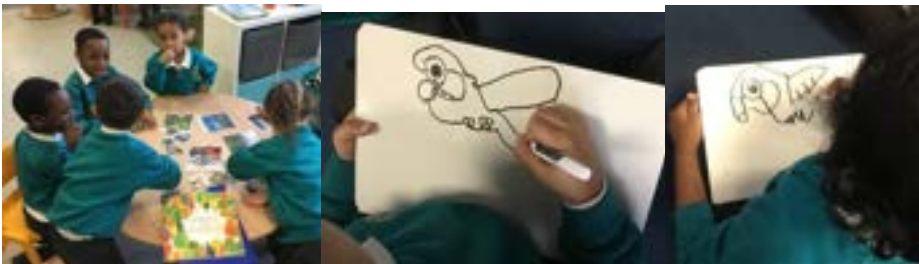


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Reception

This week in Reception the children have been continuing to explore their core text 'Where's the Elephant?' They have been looking at the characters and the setting of the book and generating adjectives to describe the animals that they see. The children have also been introduced to 'Professor Know it all' sentence starters, for example 'Amazingly...' and 'Did you know...' to develop their ability to present interesting facts to an audience.



In topic sessions this week, Reception have been using their artistic skills and drawing characters from our core text. The children have produced some fantastic drawings of the parrot and the elephant from the story. In music this week the children have learnt about 'texture' in a piece of music; learning how to identify layers of different voices and instruments, focussing on a South African lullaby.

In maths, Reception has been learning how to find number bonds to 5 and 10. They have learnt to use the 'Part, Part, Whole' model to do this and then they have applied the skills they have learnt to find number bonds on a five and a ten frame using a range of manipulatives. The children have also begun to record their addition number sentences and are able to use vocabulary such as add, plus and equals.

Year One

In English this week the children have been building upon their character descriptions of the king from our new core text 'The King Who Banned the Dark'. We looked closely at his personality and used adjectives to describe his actions and his goals in the narrative. The children have been introduced into 'editing and uplevelling' their work to make improvements by responding to teacher's marking codes on their work.



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In Maths this week we have been focusing on addition equations. We started the week adding on a numbering from the greatest number in an equation. We used our knowledge of number bonds to 10 to find number bonds to 20 using dienes and the sentence stems 'If I know that $7+3=10$. Then I know that $17+3=20$ '.



In History, the children have been learning about the monarchy and monarchs who have reigned in the UK in the past 200 years. Children worked in their kagan groups to order these monarchs chronologically from Queen Victoria to King Charles III.

Year Two

In Year Two this week the children had a fantastic learning experience with Victorian Day! Their learning areas were transformed into Victorian classrooms with pencil quills, lessons resembling the kind that would've existed during that time and a variety of activities such as sewing and hopscotch making. The children truly immersed themselves into the days' event with them commenting on the reasons they either loved or disliked being in a Victorian classroom. Overall, the children enjoyed the experience immensely.

In science, the children conducted an experiment with different liquids. They placed a hard boil egg in water, coke, milk and orange juice and observed what happens to the shell of the egg, that represents our enamel, over time. The aim of the experiment was to find which of the four liquids are the healthiest for our teeth.



Year Three

This week in English, the children have taken their understanding of their book 'the hunter' and have started writing their own narratives using their story maps. To create an engaging and imaginative story by the end of next week, the children have applied the literacy concepts they



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have learnt such as time adverbials, conjunctions and expanded noun phrases to provide description in their first paragraphs.

In maths the children have been applying their knowledge of place value and other multiplication methods to solve multiplication problems containing 1 - digit and 2 - digit numbers. Over the week the children have been able to grasp these multiplication concepts and work out a variety of multiplication problems.



In art this week, the children have experimented using a variety of different textures such as paint, mud and pastels to create Bologan patterns. Over the course of the art lesson(s) this week the children have been able to use these different textures to create layers of patterns like seen in Bologan patterns.

Year Four

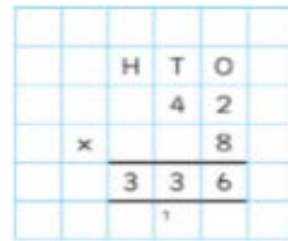
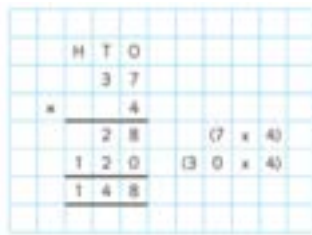
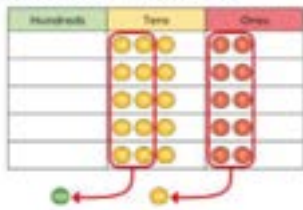
This week in English, Year 4 has been continuing to look at features of biographies of significant people. The children have been inspired by what they have found out, particularly by Stephen Hawking who overcame many difficulties to achieve great success in the field of science. The children went on to carry out research on other personalities and used the information to write a biography.

In maths the children have continued their learning of multiplication. They have been learning about different methods of multiplication, such as using place value counters, formal written methods and the expanded method to solve multiplication problems. The children were very enthused by the learning as they were able to collaborate with their peers to find answers to the questions.



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Bert uses a place value chart to work out 5×32



In science, children continued to learn about electricity. They were introduced to the symbols and key vocabulary that they needed to understand what was meant by a complete circuit. Children were expected to be precise and work scientifically like scientists when they were drawing and labelling a diagram of a circuit making sure they used rulers to draw their lines and used the symbols to show scientific items (components). They learnt about what components were needed before selecting what was needed for the circuit. They experimented to make a complete circuit and felt jubilant when their efforts resulted in the bulb lighting.

Year Five

Year 5, have worked exceptionally well this week! They've shown a hunger for learning that has been amazing to see and feed! As a result of this, the children form an optimistic and engaging atmosphere.

In English, they have now delved into our core text 'The Windrush child' By Benjamin Zephaniah. Year 5 have been working hard to create a narrative around this amazing core text using structural and literary techniques.



In Maths, they have also worked hard to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers, convert mixed numbers to improper fractions, to compare and order fractions less than 1, and finally to compare and order fractions greater than 1. Well done Year 5!

$$\frac{14}{3} = 4\frac{2}{3}$$

In Geography this week Year 5 have been learning about the northern Hemisphere and the southern Hemisphere. They learnt that the closer a country is to the equator the hotter the climate will be in that country. They have been learning about the differences and similarities with the climate between the UK and Caribbean.





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Year Six

We have had a very productive week in Year 6.

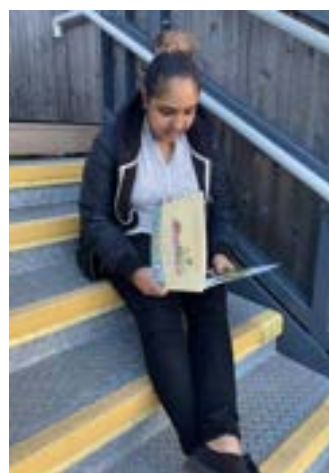
In English, the children wrote home-letters in the role of WWII evacuees. They showed a lot of empathy and care for their peers of the past; wrote from the heart, and with great attention to detail. Their writing was influenced and supported by our History learning. Next week we are analysing Neville Chamberlain's famous speech announcing the start of the war. The children will, in turn, challenge themselves to write their own powerful and moving speech.

In Maths, we consolidated and deepened our understanding of decimal numbers through the four operations. The Extension tasks were a welcome challenge that stretched most of us.

In Science, we explored the world of taxonomy by classifying vertebrates and invertebrates, building on knowledge from Year 4. Next week, we look forward to an exciting experiment examining bacterial growth.

Reading

Mr Vancliff and Miss Ubi have got caught reading this week.



Where will you get caught reading? Send in a photo to your class teacher or via the office and you could be in next week's newsletter.

Send photos to: office@inspirewestthornton.co.uk



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Enrichment

Spring 1 trips are beginning next week. Please check your child's curriculum newsletter for dates regarding trips your child may be attending.

Community



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**Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities (SEND)**

CROYDON
www.croydon.gov.uk

**Croydon Local Area
SEND Strategy 2023
Consultation Roadshow**

#have
your
say

Wednesday 25th January 2023 (11.00 - 12.30)

Shirley Children's Centre

34 Lilac Gardens, Shirley, CR0 8NR

We are pleased to invite you to join us in the development of the next SEND Strategy 2023-26.

Designed to support all children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND, this strategy will set out the priorities for the next three years.

Your contribution to this is essential if we are to have a meaningful strategy developed with and for the whole SEND community.

Please confirm your attendance or send any contributions to sendtransformation@croydon.gov.uk

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**Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities (SEND)**

**Croydon Local Area
SEND Strategy 2023
Consultation Roadshow**

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Saturday 28th January 2023 (10.00 - 11.30)

Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

[PLEASE JOIN BY CLICKING HERE](#)

We are pleased to invite you to join us in the development of the next SEND Strategy 2023-2026.

Designed to support all children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND, this strategy will set out the priorities for the next three years.

Your contribution to this is essential if we are to have a meaningful strategy developed with and for the whole SEND community.

If you are unable to join us but wish to contribute we would welcome contributions sent to:

sendtransformation@croydon.gov.uk

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**Special Educational Needs
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**Croydon Local Area
SEND Strategy 2023
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Wednesday 1st February 2023 (18.00 - 19.30)

Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

[PLEASE JOIN BY CLICKING HERE](#)

We are pleased to invite you to join us in the development of the next SEND Strategy 2023-2026.

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Food stall dates

Rosecourt 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

Healthy Start

If you're 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>

- **HENRY** is a national children's charity that has a focus on healthy family lifestyle behaviours. They've been funded by Croydon Council for a project over the next 4 years, to deliver group programmes for parents and training for practitioners who work with families (with children aged 0-7). HENRY will be running their first programme of sessions in January (w.c. 23/01/23) these will take place in a range of locations across the borough as well as an online programme.



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Watch their [new animated explainer video](#) to find out more about the HENRY approach to enabling healthy, happy childhoods – and why it matters.

If you think this is something that could benefit your family, please contact Miss Williams on the main office number. Links below for further information on this great service.



[HENRY Healthy Families](#)

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

Phrases of the Week



¡El valor del mes de West Thornton es la EMPATÍA! - West Thornton's value of the month is EMPATHY!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Katie	Harley	Kavya	Nihal	
Paulyn	Asrithan	Powell	Alice	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Hillel	Florian	Marianna	Rebeca	Queenie
Hoorain	Imani-Giselle	Rathurshan	Abishanth	Younus
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Stanka	Micah	Daniel	Louie	Oksaana
Darius	Liana	Karim	Jennifer	Luth
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Mohammad	Alvina	Aarush	Anaaya	Adam
Asiya	Daniel	Aneeyah	Arham	Caleb
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew



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Zahra	Patrick	Yanis	Amelie	Joel
Kishiwaleh	Tharuyan	Jayden	Soraya	Elizabeth
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Sujanaa	Najib	Kaasni	Salma	Genesis
Nadaniel	Saraya	Hud	Liam	Elesh
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Stone	Alisa	Zenab	Manuel	Fadeelah
Vivaan	Brave	Niyah	Roopshi	Allister
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Tanisha Cedar			Grace Elm	Tarek Sycamore