



## West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

**10th March 2023**

It's been a wet, windy but albeit, wonderful week at West Thornton! Following on from World Book Day and the success of parents joining children to read in class, we enjoyed seeing more of you on Thursday once more. Please do continue to join us on the Reading Afternoons as the year goes on - hopefully we can make use of the outdoors when it gets a little warmer.

In our Monday whole school assembly, we shared behaviour updates with the children and will continue to work together to ensure that all children show kindness towards one another. We were pleased to celebrate the reduction of behaviour incidents at Canterbury Road and children will be given additional 5 minutes at play to acknowledge their efforts with this.

Friday 10th March has been an INSET day for our staff and they have spent time working collaboratively with our other Inspire Croydon Schools to identify progress and next steps in children's writing.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and look forward to welcoming you at some of our parental engagement sessions next week. Please do check texts and emails for reminders.

### Attendance

Well done to all these classes who had attendance above 96% this week:

Y2 - Spruce	96.1%
Y2 - Aspen	96.6%



Y3 - Cedar	98.6%
Y3 - Walnut	98.3%
Y3 - Cherry	96.9%
Y4 - Acacia	97.3%
Y5 - Magnolia	96.6%
Y5 - Cypress	96.1%
Y6 - Blackthorn	97.1%
Y6 - Eucalyptus	96.2%
Y6 - Acer	96.8%

## Curriculum Focus

### Reception

This week in English, the children have been practising understanding and following instructions. To begin with, the children grew their own cress plant and verbally practised saying the instructions. They have learnt about imperative verbs and know that to give an instruction there must be a bossy word! The children then practised writing their instructions, using numbered steps or time adverbials, such as first, then, next and finally.



In maths the children have been working on their addition skills. First, they practised their practical addition to recall the knowledge they already had. They then added to these skills to add two single digits by counting on. The children then counted out cubes to represent each number and counted on from the first number to find the total. The children extended their learning and recorded the number sentences in their books.

In the wider curriculum the children learnt about the lifecycle of a plant, continued to look at different weathers and how they differ in each season. The children were particularly excited that



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it snowed towards the end of the week and it was lovely to see them apply some of their knowledge when talking about the weather. In DT the children have been testing suitable materials for our Reception Project to build a bug hotel. They have identified and named different materials and sorted each item by property. Additionally, as part of our topic learning about people and communities we discussed the celebration of Easter and Eid. We were fortunate enough to have a parent volunteer who came in to do some henna patterns on the children's hands.



This week in English, the children have been really busy writing their innovated part of their stories of our core text 'Grandads Island'. They have spent their time applying skills they have been working on and created some beautiful writing. The children have also been learning how to carefully edit and make improvements to their work.

In maths this week, the children have been continuing their learning about measure and focussing on mass. They have been using balance scales and identifying items which are heavier or lighter. The children compared objects before measuring and estimating which item would be the heaviest or lightest.



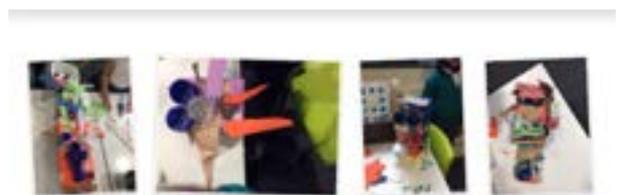
In History, the children continued their learning about the government by learning about the Prime Minister and elections. The children listened to children who wanted to nominate themselves to become the class Prime Minister and then voted for who they thought was the best candidate.

## Year Two



This week in English, Year 2 has continued to work with our core text Frog Belly Rat Bone. On Tuesday, the students were very excited to design their own monsters using recycled materials. The monsters turned out amazing and the students worked hard to make each monster unique! They also had a chance to name their monsters and write about their creations in their writing books. They used their knowledge of the core text to produce some amazing pieces of writing, using interesting vocabulary to uplevel their work.

In Maths, the students were very excited to start a new unit on measurement. Year 2 had the opportunity to





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work with measuring tapes and scales to measure the length of different objects around the classroom. Some even measured the full length of the classroom! Students learned how to use a ruler to measure and enjoyed learning about when to use metres or centimetres to accurately measure objects.

In History, the students continued to learn about the Jebb sisters and the amazing work they did to help the local community. The students had the opportunity to work together to create a timeline of the sisters lives and discussed why the sisters were significant individuals.

### Year Three

This week in year 3 the children have been extremely busy. In English the children identified the features needed to produce a balanced argument. They then worked collaboratively to generate for and against statements for deforestation. They used a range of features to hook the reader in the introduction and began writing their first paragraph.

In Maths the children continued their learning of Fractions . They started the week comparing non unit fractions. The children had to practise and learn the different rules for comparing fractions. Later in the week they looked at identifying fractions on a scale and they had a go at drawing their own scales to show different fractions.

In curriculum Year 3 have enjoyed discovering the how and why animals including humans make food. In Geography the children looked at the satellite view of the rainforests and formed discussions around the effects of deforestation. Another one of the year 3 classes got their chance to go to Chislehurst caves which was very exciting.

### Year Four

$$2\frac{3}{4} = \frac{11}{4}$$

In Maths this week the children have been building on their fraction learning from last week to find out about improper fractions and mixed numbers. They have also started learning to compare fractions by putting them in ascending and descending order and spotting patterns in sequences of fractions.



The children have been writing amazing narratives using a mysterious wooden box as a central feature in English this week. They have used a



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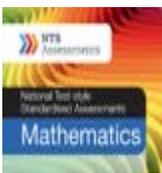
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wide variety of literary devices to make their writing more interesting for the reader including adjectives, similes, metaphors, and personification, fronted adverbials, alliteration and hyperbole! All this while making sure they are punctuating their work accurately and sticking to the past tense. Great work Year 4.

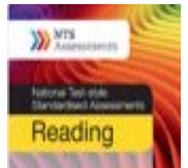


In science this term the children are learning about how sound works and this week started to explore the difference between volume and pitch. Over the weeks the children have been experimenting with vibrations on a drum, how a simple telephone made with cups and string works and exploring the different pitches of notes on a xylophone.

### Year Five



This week was assessment week across West Thornton Primary School and the children in Year 5 took the advantage to show off their previous learning in Maths, Writing and Reading - We were most impressed with the progress made!!



We still managed to achieve some new learning, particularly in the non-core subjects: in Science children explored forces, focusing on friction and Gravity. In the carousel of activities (rolling a ball along the floor; pushing a box along the floor; dropping a piece of A4 paper from a height; setting a car off both on the floor and the table and comparing the movements) they answered questions such as what forces are in action? What caused the object to slow down/ speed up and they had to record their answer using scientific language.



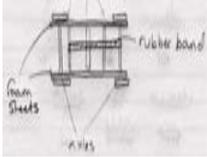
In RE we continued our learning and understanding about Buddhism, in particular the meaning of some of the Buddhist symbols. Test and ask your child/ren what the following symbols mean.





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In DT, Year 5 continued planning their model of a rubber band car, making sure they labelled the parts and outlining the materials, key features and equipment necessary to make their intention.

### Year Six

In English this week the children have thoroughly enjoyed writing poems based on gas masks to link with the topic of World War 2. To ensure that their writing was powerful and enticing they included examples of figurative language such as similes, metaphors and personification. They included other devices such as alliteration, onomatopoeia, repetition, rhyme and hyperbole. They produced fantastic poems, well done Year 6!



Before the week ended the children began looking at and analysing the film, 'El Caminante' in preparation for our writing next week.

In Maths this week the children worked really well to calculate the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes, before moving on to calculating the area of triangles, then parallelograms.

In Science this week, the children had great fun in learning how shadows are formed, they investigated how light affects the size and shape of a shadow.

### Reading

Don't forget KS2 Reading Afternoon on Monday 13th March at 2.55pm in all classrooms. See you there!

### Enrichment

In the needlework so far, we have learnt different stitches: running, cross, back and chain. The children have used these new skills to make a simple purse. Here are some examples.





## Parental Engagement

### School Priorities Presentation.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents to our school priorities presentation on **Monday 13th March at 4.30pm at Rosecourt Road and Friday 17th March at 9.00am at Canterbury Road.** These sessions will be led by Miss New, Mrs Callaghan and Mr Owen. In this session we will share our school priorities and our successes so far this year.

### Anti - Bullying Workshops for parents

In response to parent feedback, Miss New and Miss Adekola will be leading two anti-bullying workshops. The aims of the sessions will be to inform parents of our anti bullying policy and how we support children in school. The sessions will be on **Tuesday 21st March at 9.00am at Canterbury Road and Wednesday 22nd March at 3.45pm at Rosecourt Road.** We look forward to seeing you.

## Phrases of the Week



¡El valor del mes de West Thornton es la RESILIENCIA. - West Thornton's value of the month is Resilience.

## Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Diyaan	Szymon	Tahiratou	Ashik	
Reuben	Kaliyah	Krishiv	Jewel	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Krish	Gessica	Aauthren	Sana	Harish
Nabil	Akousa	Marianna	Campion	Mia
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Midhun	Thasmiya	Persis	Melania	Brianna



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Amina	Baba	Almelio	Rowan class	Danilo
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Eliza	Pahal	Pusti	Anaaya	Samuel
Alyan	Alaela	Aarush	Avaneesh	Ejatu
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Divine	Shanaya	Yanis	Faizan	Cush
Apishiya	Patrick	Aland	Habinia	Ashanti
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Aaiza	Kieran	Abigail	Nicholas	Amelia
Michael	Lakai	Raza	Aaharan	Minaal
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Rajjenan	Jessica	Hamza	Emilly	Tikah
Michelle	Alisa	Aleeza	Lucas	Dylan
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Samuel Olive			Leo Elder	Neikeathan Blackthorn