



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

12th May 2023

We are so proud of all our year 6 children!!

They have finished their SATs today and all deserve a well earned weekend! They showed such great resilience and perseverance throughout all the tests and each and every one of them did just what we asked them to - they tried their very best. It was amazing to see them apply all their learning from the last 7 years and showcase what they are able to do. We hope they now enjoy the rest of their time with us as they prepare to move to secondary school in September.

It was also lovely to see how the whole school community came together to support year 6 with rooms being used and adults moved to invigilate. A special thank you goes to Elder, Sycamore, Hawthorne and Cypress who had their lessons in the hall whilst their classrooms were being used. Well done West Thornton!!

Attendance

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

Maple	98.57%	Beech	97.41%
Poplar	97.59%	Magnolia	96.55%
Cedar	98.21%	Blackthorn	97.93%
Walnut	96.07%	Eucalyptus	97.04%
Cedar	98.21%	Juniper	98.57%
Palm	97.04%	Elm	97.42%



Hornbeam	99.23%	Sycamore	98.21%
Hawthorn	97.5%	Acer	98.89%
Holly	96.79%		

Reception

After watching our ducklings hatch last week, the children in Reception have been busy taking care of them this week. They have delighted in watching them swim in the water tray as well as assisting in the feeding and cleaning of their cage. Having witnessed the life cycle of a duck we have used this as a basis to look at a variety of life cycles including the life cycle of a butterfly, frog and human.



In literacy lessons children have continued to practise writing sentences about themselves. This week the children have been discussing things they like and things they dislike. Children have been using their phonic knowledge and the writers toolkit to ensure their sentences can be read back by themselves and others.

In maths children have been using their knowledge of halving to identify odd and even numbers. They have learned that Even numbers are numbers that can be shared equally into two groups, such as 2, 4, 6, and 8. They know that an odd number cannot be shared equally in two because there is an 'odd one out' left over. They know odd numbers are 1, 3, 5, 7, 9.



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Year One

In English this week, the children have been reflecting on their trip to Morden Hall park and using the generated vocabulary to write sentences to describe it. They used their senses and a variety of adjectives to write a detailed setting description to engage the reader and allow them to imagine what it was like.

In maths, Year 1 has been learning how to find half. They started their journey by finding half of shapes and identifying shapes that had or had not been shaded in half. They then continued to find half of the shapes and shaded them to show half. The children then applied this knowledge to find half of a quantity and were able to explain using mathematical vocabulary to describe how to do so.



In DT this week, Year 1 have been experimenting with a variety of ways of weaving. They have explored weaving with different materials and devices. The children experimented using loom weaving, circular weaving, and plain weaving. They then reflected on the different methods and decided which way they preferred and why.



Year Two

Year 2 have had a busy week preparing for their upcoming SATs assessments. The children have worked really hard and we are very proud of them. In English, the children started the week by making bird feeders. The children collected their resources and ingredients and worked collaboratively to make their bird feeders. The children then wrote their very own set of instructions including time adverbials, and imperative (bossy) verbs, top tips and advice. The children have now hung their bird feeders outside and are eagerly awaiting a visit from the birds.



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In Science this week the children conducted their investigation answering the question: What are the best conditions for a seed to germinate? The children set up a fair test and are now waiting for the seeds to germinate. They will observe the seeds each day and record their observations.

In DT, the children have started to design their carnival headdresses. They have used the skills they have learnt over the past few weeks to inform their design choices. The children chose a range of materials, colours and textures to use for their headdresses.

Year Three

In English this week, year three have begun to write their own version of our core text 'The Pea and the Princess'. They started the process by identifying the different plot points then making a story map. By the end of the week, they have produced an engaging opening to their story, using interesting adjectives, prepositions, fronted time adverbials and direct speech.



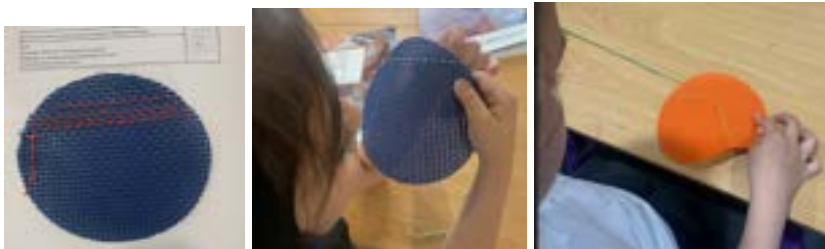
In maths, the children are exploring money. They have identified the different coins and notes and begun to add and subtract different amounts, converting from pounds and pence. They were able to use the column method and number line to help them solve the money problems.



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In DT this week, year three have been looking at different stitching techniques in preparation for making their money containers. They used a binka, embroidery thread and a plastic needle to practise threading a needle and doing a running stitch.



In history, the children have been comparing public health during the Victorian era and the modern day. The children were shocked to learn how poor the medical service was in Victorian times. They were amused to discover some of the remedies they used to cure sickness, like porridge, potatoes and smelly socks.

Year Four

In maths this week, the children have continued to work with money. This week's focus was subtracting money using a variety of methods. The children then chose the most efficient way to work out the answers of worded problem questions where they had to work out the change that would be given when something is being bought for a particular amount.

This week, we have been working on our new core text for this half term - Who Let the Gods out. The children had previously been reading the book as their whole class text during guided reading lessons and are enthusiastic to carry on reading it in English. The children have been looking closely at the various characters in the book and understanding their relationship to the main character - Elliot. Towards the end of the week, year 4 began writing up a press release to give information about the dangerous prisoner who escaped in the book. The





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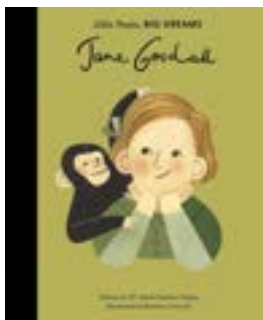
children have thoroughly enjoyed meeting this character in the book and are eager to see how the story unfolds.



In Science, the children have continued to look closely at their teeth. We have learnt about the damage caused by sugar on our teeth and what kinds of drinks we should avoid drinking. We looked at the effects of not looking after our teeth and the damage caused by constant build-up of plaque on the teeth. We thought it would be interesting to see the effects of cola on our teeth so we began planning for an investigation that we will be conducting next week to help the children understand the effects of sugar on our enamel.

Year Five

This week in Year 5, students have researched mind-blowing facts



and begun writing their biography of Jane Goodall. Did you know she has been observing animals since she was a pre-schooler? Students showed their creativity when brainstorming sub-headings and used their previous knowledge about key features of the text type to write about Jane's early life. We have further been using various new punctuation to engage the reader!



In Maths, we have continued to explore the various angles that are around us every day and study the correct way to measure using a protractor. Students have shown off their new skills and ability to draw angles and measure them using degrees! In the latter half of the week, we investigated how to convert millimetres to centimetres to find missing lengths. Year 5 are proving themselves to be very persistent in learning their new skill!

Natural Disasters have continued to be a hot topic in the classroom, with students analysing the impact that natural disasters have on the distribution of natural resources and the myriad of reasons a natural disaster can occur. The student's knowledge of mechanisms has grown as they





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develop a deeper understanding of the purpose behind Wind Turbines in Design Technology. They are excited to begin their planning of a model wind turbine!

Year Six

What a week it has been for our Year Sixes! The children spent the week taking their much anticipated SATs papers. They should be so proud of themselves, they have shown such determination, resilience and kept calm throughout which is a testament to them as individuals. To see how maturely they tackled each paper only emphasises how much closer they are in being ready for year 7, their secondary school journey and beyond.

The whole Year Six team and West Thornton as a whole could not be prouder of each and everyone of our pupils, as it is evident to see how they have developed into confident learners; we hope that they are proud of all of their achievements just as we are.

We have such amazing, unique children making up our 2023 Year Six, all offering amazing talents, skills and abilities that can never be measured through a test alone. Please remember how special you are.

Well done to you all, not just for working so hard this week, but for everything that you are - keep it up.



Reading

Thanks again to all those who attended the EYFS and KS1 reading afternoon this week. As always, it is lovely to see so many adults engaging in reading activities with the children. Please continue to let us know how your child is getting on when reading outside of school. Comments in reading records are extremely helpful.



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Enrichment

We are hoping to be growing more plants this term in our gardening club. If you or any business you know would be able to donate a plant or a packet of seeds (tomatoes, lettuce etc) we would be really grateful. Please drop all donations off at the main school office or either site.

Thank you!

Community

We have an additional coffee morning this half term for parents and carers. On Friday 19th May, there will be a parental engagement session focussing on challenging behaviour. You will have the opportunity to get a deeper understanding of what is meant by challenging behaviour and receive some top tips too. The coffee morning will take place at Rosecourt road. See below for more information.

Phrases of the Week



¡Muy bien a todos en el año seis para sus exámenes! - Well done to everyone in year 6 with their

SATS.

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Shayan	Arya	Emilia	Ali	
Yaseen	Aadam	Szymon	Maya	
Y1Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1Fir	Y1Lime	Y1 Maple



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Anaya	Sinead	Shahid	Cassidy	kaseon
Patrick	Grace	Mariya	Yazdan	Isabella
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Ashylah	Ethan	Daniel	Mojere	Elikyah
Thakshan	Deen	Nesh	Daniel	Azma
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Elijah.B	Hasveka	Kavya	Zaim	Caleb
Tanisha	Apsaran	Dejhun	Maja	Aamir
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Yolanda	Fatima	Lydia	Joswin	Zohaib
Affan	Shaniya D	Rayan	Soraya	Katrina
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Muhammad	Lathusan	Khalia	Bhavan	Afyah
Aaiza	Esther	Shaniyah	Jordan	Tarek
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
THE	WHOLE	YEAR	SIX	TEAM
THE	WHOLE	YEAR	SIX	TEAM
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Kavilaya Silver Birch			Amina Aspen	



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**CROYDON TRAILBLAZER
MENTAL HEALTH
SUPPORT TEAM**

TOP TIPS FOR BEHAVIOUR THAT CHALLENGE

PARENT WORKSHOP

Friday 19th May, 9AM-10AM
West Thornton Primary School (Rosecourt Road)

Challenging behaviour can be linked to strong feelings of being misunderstood, learning how to express feelings through words, being lonely, feeling out of control and low in mood.

The coffee morning will cover:

- Introduction to the Mental Health Support Team (MHST)
- What is 'Challenging Behaviour'?
- Top 5 evidence-based tips for managing challenging behaviour

Join us for tea and biscuits as we talk all things challenging behaviour.



Kiera Mattos



Kadean Campbell