



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

19th May 2023

It's now Year 2's turn to celebrate what they have learnt during their time in KS1. They began their SATs this week and have truly displayed this month's value of integrity whilst doing them. They have worked extremely hard and will continue to do as they come to the end of their assessments next week. Great start Year 2!

Many year groups have been making the most of the glorious sunny weather we have been experiencing over the past few days. Lots of outdoor learning has taken place as well as PE lessons preparing children for our up and coming Sports day next half term.

Our sporting achievements this week have not stopped there. Congratulations to our girls and boys football teams. They won their football matches and showed great examples of collaboration and teamwork this week! Mr Williams and Miss Fennel took them to Harris Primary Academy this week. Final scores, 10-1 to the boys and 5-4 to the girls. The girls were behind by two goals to begin with and came back to win the game. They showed great resilience. Well done to all children who took part this week!

Attendance

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

Poplar	98.28%	Elm	97.46%
Spruce	98.15%	Lime	96.38%
Cedar	97.32%	Hawthorn	99.42%
Acacia	98.21%	Sycamore	98.84%
Yew	97.33%	Holly	97.32%



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Cypress	96.11%	Juniper	98.51%
Blackthorn	96.07%		

Curriculum Focus

Reception

This week in reception, the children have been continuing to write sentences about themselves. This week the focus has been on recalling what they have learnt during their time in reception. They have been writing sentences such as 'I have learnt ____.' and 'I can ____.' This has helped them to see all the amazing learning they have completed in their time at West Thornton!

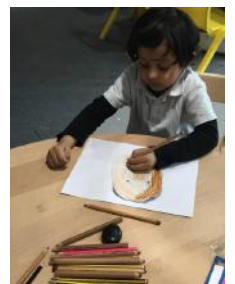


In maths, the children have been learning how to make groups of objects from a larger number. They have looked at grouping in 2's and 3's and understand that the groups have to be equal and cannot have any extra cubes left over.



In topic this week, the focus has been on healthy lifestyles. The children have been introduced to different ways in which they can keep their bodies healthy, such as exercise, getting enough sleep and eating a healthy range of foods. As part of this the children have completed some exercise in the playground to see the effect it has on their heartbeat. They were so excited to feel their heart beating and could explain why it was beating so fast.

The children have also been working on their self portraits for their exhibition next week. They are really enjoying using the different mixed media such as photography, painting and drawing. They can't wait to see their artwork on display and they are looking forward to seeing all of their parents at the exhibition!



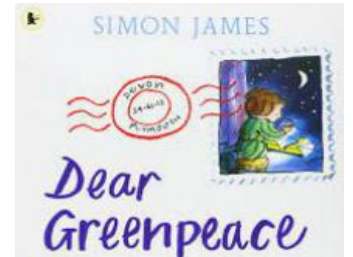


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Year One

In year one this week we have been looking at a new story 'Dear Greenpeace'. The children have been looking at letters and finding out features about letters. We learnt about the organisation Greenpeace and how they help the world become a better place by finding ways to save animals from becoming extinct and finding ways to cut down plastic pollution around the world.



The children had fun investigating halves and quarters this week and enjoyed using manipulatives like cubes to help them understand quarters. They used grids of 4 boxes to help share the cubes into four equal groups and practised writing their

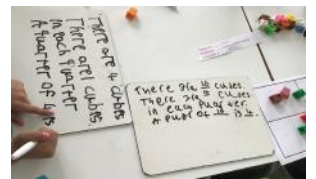
findings into sentences.

We had fun-filled afternoons including RE, Geography, Science, Computing and DT! In RE we looked at how Islam was formed and

ordered the story. In geography the children used

their knowledge of the past couple of weeks to compare the similarities and differences between a

rural area and an urban area. The children really enjoyed designing their own woven blanket and thought about the materials they are going to be using.



Year Two

It's been another jam packed week in Year 2. At Rosecourt Road, the children were surprised this week with an unexpected obstacle course to take part in! This was all part of their writing learning journey in order to write a recount of a real life event. The children thoroughly enjoyed racing around the course which included hurdles, putting sticks, basketballs and everyone's favourite, space hoppers! The children were thrilled! A huge thank you to Mr Ward for helping set up an engaging obstacle course and modelling each stage to the children.

In Maths, children have been consolidating their learning around multiplication and division. They have been discussing different strategies to find the answers to calculations and also looking at commutativity. In science, the

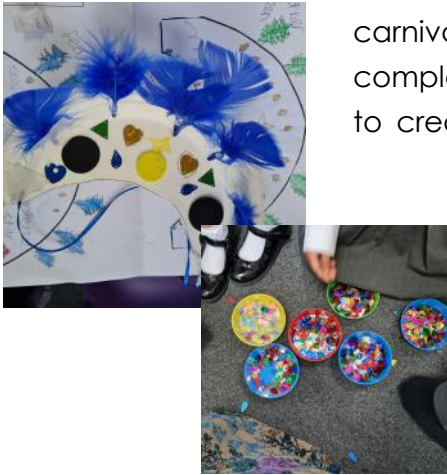




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children have been conducting an experiment to see which conditions are best for seeds to germinate. Hopefully warmer weather will mean the children will experience seeds germinating successfully.



In DT, carnival fever is underway with children beginning to construct their carnival headdresses which they designed last week. They have been completely dazzled by all the colourful feathers and sequins they can use to create their masterpieces! Over at Canterbury Road, children have been working hard to complete their SATS papers showing great resilience and applying their knowledge and learning. I'm sure adults will join us in wishing them every success and encouraging them to simply do their best.

Year Three

This week has been another exciting and action packed week in year 3! In writing we have continued to write our plot points for our story the Pea and the Princess. The children this week have written some lovely paragraphs highlighting the different events of the story and used the literate features they have learnt over the year, to capture the imagination of the reader.

In maths, the children have worked hard to learn how to tell the time. This topic has been a challenge for the majority of the children but over the week the children have continued to embrace the challenge and have started to understand how to read roman numerals and know the time on a clock-face.

In DT the children have taken their enthusiasm from last week from their stitching activity and have started to produce their money containers. We can't wait to see the amazing outcomes of what the children have made!



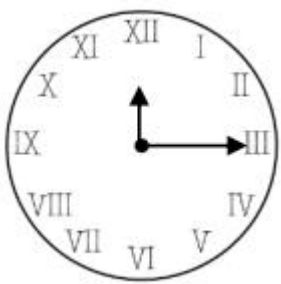


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Year Four

In writing this week, we have continued to read our core text for this half term - Who Let the Gods out. Children have been focusing on studying a paragraph where the main characters, Elliot and Virgo, meet Prisoner 42 and get tricked into freeing him. The children have created a timeline to sequence the events of the chapter so they can rewrite it from different perspectives. They have been revisiting their learning on dialogue in narratives and how it can help to develop the characters within the story. The children will be creating narratives towards the end of the week ready for editing and publishing next week.



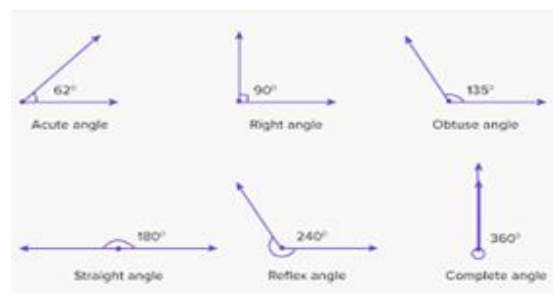
In maths this week, year 4 children have been telling the time to the nearest minute using an analogue clock and used the terms 'past' and 'to'. When telling time 'to' the next hour, children used their prior knowledge of 'counting on' to find how many minutes were left in the hour. Children went on to use 'morning', 'afternoon', 'a.m.' and 'p.m.' to describe the time of day; they thought about their day and organised what they did in the morning and afternoon according to the time that they happened. Children were then introduced to digital clocks for the first time.



In PE this week children have been busy practising and honing their skills ready for the upcoming Sports Day next half term which they are very excited about. They have been practising track and field events such as sprinting and have used mini foam javelins to see how far they could throw.

Year Five

Year 5 have been putting lots of effort into their learning this week! In maths year 5 have been working hard consolidating their understanding on angles we have been learning; to estimate and compare angles, to calculate angles on a straight line, to calculate angles at a point, and to





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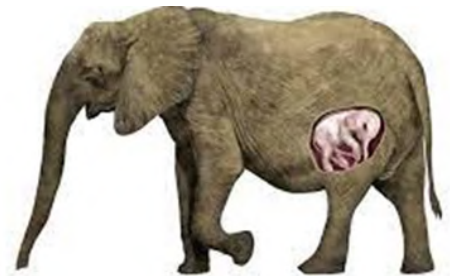
show an understanding of different angle problems. They have all worked exceptionally well to complete this. GOOD WORK YEAR 5!

In English this week, we have been looking at different types of documentary scripts such as: Poetic, Expository, Observational, Participatory, Reflexive and Performance.

We then went on to using technology to research different animals. We chose either a 'Blue Whale, an Owl or a Bengal Tiger'. They have found copious amounts of information on their chosen animal. They will then use the information that they have collated to create a documentary script!



In science this week, we have been learning about gestation and we learnt that different animals have different gestation periods. Did You know.. An African Elephant's gestation period lasts for up to 654 days which is about a year and 7 months!



Year Six

Now that the fun and games of SATs are done and dusted, we have turned our attention to those subjects which have experienced some neglect. However, as you will hear, we also have our aims for the remaining part of the year, regarding English and maths.



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So, let us begin with our writing for this week, namely a story that has an element of horror or mystery or at the very least, spookiness about it. In order to write a narrative in this genre, the author needs to consider how he or she is going to make their readers experience fear. To this, there perhaps has to be the slightest suggestion of something going badly wrong and then gradually build up to the unpleasantness, until it is time to unleash the full horror. Not an easy thing to do successfully, but we have had some success. With this piece of writing, we are also providing everyone with more room to be creative and think of their own ideas, which for some has been a challenge, but for others a real treat.

In maths, we now have a real opportunity to iron out any gaps that some of the children may have, either in their understanding or application of mathematical skills. The more knowledgeable mathematicians will be provided with open ended problems, either working on these problems alone, then comparing or at times working in pairs or small groups. This allows for discussion, where approaches in tackling a problem can be fully explored and tested.

Art has come back with a vengeance, as there are two art projects running. In time, all of our children will cover both, so regardless of the order the topics are presented; both will be experienced before the year is out. The first is our project where we will be making clay poppies (this of course linked with our World War 2 project) and the other is a digital collage, possibly mixed in with some physical collage work.

Next week, I am sure there will be information about our end of year play!





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Reading

Don't forget, on Thursday 25th May from 2.55 until 3.10pm, we will be holding our Early Years and KS1 Reading afternoon. Do come along and read with the children. They enjoy welcoming you into our classrooms and having this experience.

Engagement

Reception Art Exhibition

On Thursday 25th May, Reception will be holding their own art exhibition. They have been working all half term to create their own self portraits in different media such as painting, drawing and photography. The art exhibition will be in the main hall at both sites from 3:30pm until 4pm.

Community

Croydon Stands Tall



There is a free 10-week art trail taking place from August until October this year. There will be over 30 eight feet tall giraffe sculptures displayed throughout Croydon town centre. As well as providing fun and offering rewards and discounts for families, this event is also supporting 'Crisis' which is a national charity working with others to end homelessness. If you would like to take part in this activity or find out more information then please see the link below.

<https://www.croydonstandstall.co.uk/>



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CDI (croydon drop in) is a charitable organisation that exists to support young people aged 11 to 25 years old and families who live, work or study in the London borough of Croydon. CDI offers free and confidential counselling information, advice and advocacy services.

ONLINE PARENT WORKSHOPS

Jointly run by Off The Record and Croydon Drop In

Join us on Zoom for the following workshops. Sign up via Eventbrite by scanning the QR code below. Cameras and microphones can be turned off.



Helping your Child's Behaviour (Primary age)

April 26th 1-2pm and May 3rd 5-6pm

Helping your Child with Anxiety and Worries

May 10th 1-2pm and May 17th 5-6pm

Helping your Child's Sleep

May 24th 1-2pm and June 7th 5-6pm

Introduction to Autism

June 14th 1-2pm and June 21st - 5-6pm

Looking After Yourself for Parents

June 28th 1-2pm and July 5th 5-6pm



Off The Record also run workshops for parents for support with **Self Harm** and **Emotionally Based School Avoidance** scan the QR code to the left to find out dates, times and how to sign up.

TALK TO US

OFF THE RECORD



Are you OK
Croydon?



You Talk,
We Listen
Croydon Drop In



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Phrases of the Week



¡Buena suerte a todos en el año dos para sus exámenes! - Good luck to everyone in year 2 with their SATS.

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Paulyn	Halla	Seth	Alice	
Khirad	Yousef	Maya	Eryn	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Jessica	Aaminah	Krish	Mercy	Anass
Elena	Ayesha	Zion	Leo	Heavenly
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Whole Class	Whole Class	Khari	Ahmed	Ravani
		Niyah	Helna	Dhanvi
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Satvic	Carlos	Zianna	Aveenesh Manahil	Aayan
Massita	Diaa	Yasmine		Jumana
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Layad	Isla-Mae	Nika	Aapthy	Malachi



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Divine	Mia-Rose	Navisha	Autumn	Daisy
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Adu	Rama	Leeroy	Bhavan	Louis
Ada	Ifeoma	Calista	Yousouff	Ifeanyi
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Aleena	Niyam	Angel	Zuriel	Radin
Hani	Amin	Kian	Mariam	Alexis
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Elijah Cedar			Sinead Elm	Najla Chestnut