



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

## West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

30th June 2023

We would like to wish all families and staff who celebrated Eid this week a very Eid Mubarak. We hope that you all had a lovely time.

The summer term is speeding by with lots of exciting events and opportunities for our children. Our sport's days have now all taken place with a great time had by all! It was great to be able to enjoy the open space at Lanfranc. Our year 6 children had an amazing time on their end of year trip to Chessington. They are busy preparing for their production with lines being rehearsed and scenery and props being made - it is always a highlight of the school year and we are all looking forward to it.



On Monday 10th July our Rosecourt Road site is pleased to welcome Alayna Gandhi, an 11 year old author who has recently had her first book, 'The Unwanted Child', published. Alayna is the cousin of three pupils in Year 4. Alayna will speak to the children in a special assembly about her journey to being published and the inspiration behind her story. Alayna will then return at the end of the day to sell copies of her book for £6 (cash only).

## Attendance

Well done to Blackthorn who had attendance above 96% this week.

Elder  
98.6%

## Punctuality

Being in school on time....

- is a positive start to the day
- helps your child get the most from their education



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- establishes routine and helps your child get into good patterns for the future
- helps your child to maintain friendships leads to achievement and success

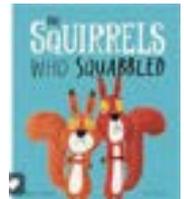
Children do not like being late for school! Once your child has arrived late and sat down in class, it may take them longer than normal to settle and to focus on the task. Being late is disruptive for your child and the other children in the class too. They may miss learning and consolidation opportunities as well as key messages or instructions for the lesson taking place.

## Curriculum Focus

### Reception

In art this week Reception have continued to explore the work of the artist 'Andy Goldsworthy'. They have explored Colour and pattern by creating their own Andy Goldsworthy inspired art pieces. They took particular note of the artist's use of colour sorting and circular form.

During English lessons the children have been generating vocabulary to describe the main character from our core text 'The Squirrels Who Squabbled'. The children compiled a long list of adjectives to describe Cyril the Squirrel before choosing their favourite descriptive words to write a selection of noun phrases.

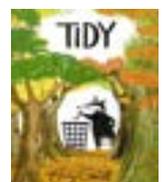


In maths this week the children have been exploring measurement. They have used a range of non standard units to measure the length and height of various objects. They particularly enjoyed measuring and comparing the height of themselves and their peers using hands.



### Year One

This week in Year 1, the children have been identifying features of a story and mapping out their new core text 'Tidy' by Emily Gravett. They have unpicked the main characters and settings and generated exciting vocabulary to describe these. The children then worked hard to write a character and setting description of these using similes.





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In maths, the children have been learning about time. They have been looking at events that happen during the day and the evening, sequenced their school days and been ordering the days of the week and months of the year.

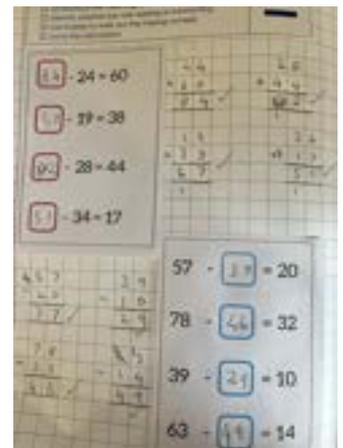
In history this week, the children compared tools from the past to the present. They compared the materials they are made from and how some of them now use electricity. In art, the children have been learning how to make something flat into something 3d. They explored with paper using different techniques to create texture in preparation for their sculpture making. In science, the children continued their learning about trees and were able to identify deciduous and evergreen trees.



### Year Two

This week in Year 2 the children have blown us away with their learning and they are definitely nearly ready for Year 3! In English, the children independently wrote their own adventure stories featuring the gnome characters they created earlier in the term. The children were able to apply all of the knowledge they have learnt throughout the year including the use of adjectives, speech and similes to create an engaging story.

In maths, the children revisited their learning on addition and subtraction using the column method to solve number sentences with and without exchanging tens. Toward the end of the week the children used this knowledge to solve missing number problems and both one and two step word problems. We also noticed that the children have really focussed on their presentation in their maths books and have been super impressed by the pride they have taken in their work.



In Art, the children created brightly coloured painted collage papers using marking tools and paint brushes to create effect. They children started by painting their base colour and built on this with shades of the same colour. Next week the children will use these to begin creating a collage inspired by author and artist Eric Carle applying their tracing, cutting, tearing, arranging and sticking skills.

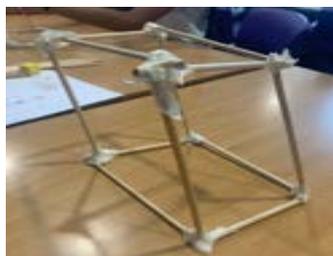


## Year Three

This week in year 3, the children have finished writing their play script for our core text 'Oliver Twist'. They have now edited it and began to map and plan an alternative ending. They are going to innovate an ending for the final scenes of the story.



In maths, the children have been working on 3D shapes and pictograms. They were able to identify properties of 3D shapes and name a variety of different 3D shapes. They then collaborated to construct 3D shapes using sticks and masking tape. When looking at pictograms, the children were able to recognise the value of each image. The children were able to understand a key, which they needed to complete the data. They were then able to go on and create their own pictograms with the data provided.



In science, the children used their prior knowledge to help them conduct a fair test. They were testing the durability and flexibility of different materials. They were able to identify the things they needed to do, to ensure it was a fair test. After testing different opaque materials, they recorded the results on a table, rating each out of 5.



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In art, the children have been experimenting with different painting techniques as part of their study on Jean-Michel Basquiat's artwork. They learnt how to do a flat wash, flat wash with water, dry brush and sgraffito.

## Year Four

As we approach the end of the year, children have taken the time to reflect on the journey they have taken in year 4. It has been a year filled with many learning opportunities, memorable experiences and personal growth. The children have taken the opportunity to reminisce about the valuable lessons learned. One of the most inspiring aspects of these reflections is witnessing the personal growth and the skills they have developed throughout the year. Many of them shared how they have become more resilient, facing challenges head-on and persevering even when things seemed difficult. Other children reflected on their growing sense of integrity; they discussed the importance of honesty, fairness and doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. We are thrilled to see them embracing these values and applying them to their daily lives. Children have written up some of these thoughts in their 'Pupils reflections' which will be going home with the end of year reports.

In Maths this week, children have been learning about lines of symmetry. They have been differentiating between vertical and horizontal lines on 2D shapes. Towards the end of the week the children applied their knowledge and understanding to angles, shapes and symmetry to create their own puzzles.



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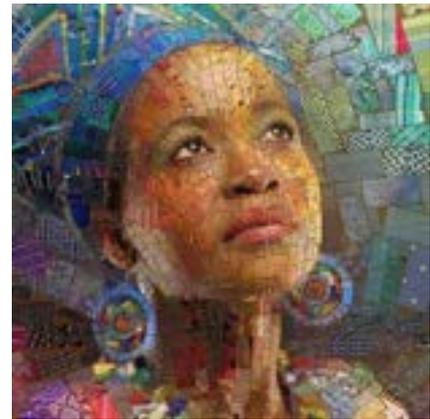
In RE, children continued learning more about Buddhism and its main teachings. Following on from the previous lesson on the four noble truths. They learnt the story of The Elephant King to understand how the Buddhists follow the teachings of Buddha and considered how the four noble truths are reflected in the story.

### Year Five

This week, our incredible Year 5 students have been making great strides in their learning journey! Their positive mindset and enthusiasm have truly shone through in all aspects of their studies.

In maths the students showcased their mastery of time by applying their prior knowledge to convert between different units. Collaborating with their peers, they tackled various challenging problems, demonstrating their ability to apply mathematical concepts to real-life situations.

In English, our Year 5 students have been reflecting on their remarkable progress throughout the year. Utilising the skills they have developed, they engaged in a thoughtful exercise, celebrating their achievements and identifying areas for further growth. This reflective practice highlights their dedication to personal and academic growth.



In art, our creative students have embarked on an exciting exploration of African prints. Inspired by the work of Charis Tsevis, they have delved into the world of vibrant patterns, immersing themselves in the beauty of African art. By creating their own unique patterns, they are not only developing their artistic abilities but also embracing cultural diversity.

We are incredibly proud of the Year 5 students' hard work, positive mindset, and dedication to their learning. Their achievements in mathematics, English, and art are a testament to their growth and passion. Keep up the fantastic work, Year 5!



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### Year Six



Leading up to wishing our year sixes a fond farewell before they embark on secondary school we all enjoyed an exciting day at Chessington World of Adventures. The children gleefully immersed themselves in the magical realm of Chessington, delighting in the exhilarating rides, enchanting animals, and captivating adventures. Each moment was filled with joy and discovery, hopefully the children's

memories of their time at Chessington will forever hold a special place in their hearts.

As Year 6 approached the end of their time at West Thornton, the children took the time to reflect on their school journey, especially their final year in year 6. The children took the opportunity to reminisce about the valuable lessons learned. The children spoke about appreciating learning the value of resilience, perseverance and hard-work. Children spent some time this week writing up some of these thoughts in their 'Pupils reflections' which will be going home with the end of year reports.



The children have been working extremely hard in practising for our end of year production and have had their first rehearsal without scripts.

### Enrichment

Coming soon to West Thornton - 'Rock and Pop' Music Lessons!





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Exciting news! From **(14<sup>th</sup> July / 21<sup>st</sup> July)** we will be welcoming Rocksteady Music School to school. It's an incredible opportunity for the children to learn to play their favourite songs in their very own bands with a choice of drums, keyboards, electric guitar, bass guitar or vocals. Lessons will take place every week during school time.

As well as learning new musical skills, lessons also help the children with their confidence, wellbeing, social skills, and teamwork. These fun and inclusive lessons are taught by highly trained professional musicians who know how to inspire a life-long love of music. At the end of each term the bands perform a concert for the school and their families, so you can see how far they have come!

Here's what you need to know:

- All instruments are provided.
- No musical experience necessary
- Suitable for all ages
- Lessons take place in school.
- Your child will learn up to 300 instrument, band, and performance skills.
- You'll receive regular online parent timeline updates.
- There's a money back guarantee for the first month
- You can cancel at any time

## Community

### Reminder to submit a meter reading in the next few days!

Energy prices are finally dropping on Saturday 1st July. To avoid paying any more than you need to at the current higher prices, it is really important to take meter readings on Friday or Saturday. You have up to a week to submit them, so don't worry if you cannot on the day.

Unless you have a Smart Meter, if you haven't submitted a recent meter reading, energy companies will estimate your energy consumption and are more likely to overestimate than underestimate, so when prices are going down it is more important than ever to submit readings. If you haven't taken a reading for a while it is best to take a time stamped photo as

evidence (take the photo of the entire meter, not just the display so the serial number is visible). If you are unable to read or access your meter, let your energy company know.

If you get the message next week or don't take and submit a reading this weekend, don't worry – but the sooner you are able to submit a reading the more accurate your energy bills will be.



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It is worth mentioning Croydon Healthy Homes discuss the importance of submitting regular meter readings in their Zoom Workshop 2 – Energy tariffs and bill support which are next running on Thursday 6th July and 20th July. People can book through [www.croydon.gov.uk/energyevents](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/energyevents)

Come and support the West Thornton Djembe drummers at the Croydon Music and Arts Festival!

**Croydon MUSIC & ARTS** **THIS IS CROYDON**

**CR talent**

**Music** **Fun**  
**Dancing** **Food**

## Schools Festival

**See our talent! FREE festival!**

At the Schools Festival you'll see 1,000 young performers showcasing the opportunities available for children in Croydon as they share and celebrate their skills, creativity and cultural diversity.

**Music from Disney, Queen and Croydon musicians**

**Live performances from:**

- Croydon Schools • Kinetika Bloco
- Arun Ghosh • Anusha Subramanyam
- Croydon Music and Arts performers

**THURSDAY, 13TH JULY 2023, WANDLE PARK 12:30PM – 2:15PM**

Tickets are required for entry and are available for free from Eventbrite or through scanning the QR code. For more info, visit [www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/cr-talent](http://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/cr-talent)

Check out our other festival overleaf

London Borough of Culture is a Mayor of London initiative  
**MAYOR OF LONDON**

Presented by  
**CROYDON**  
[www.croydon.gov.uk](http://www.croydon.gov.uk)

Supported by  
**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



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## Chartwells Taster Sessions

Thank you to all parents and pupils who took part in the food taster sessions this week. Selected children from all year groups were asked to be food critics on both sites this week. They enjoyed having the chance to share their opinions. Your feedback has been very much appreciated. We will continue to work together with Chartwells to help make our meal times even better.



Chartwells are providing a special menu on Thursday 6th July to kick start our end of year celebrations. See below.

**Class of 23**

**ALLERGY AWARE**

**MAINS**  
SD Chicken Burger  
OR  
SD Hot Dog

**SIDES**  
Chips  
Baked Beans  
and Sweetcorn

**DESSERTS**  
SD Shortbread Biscuit

All children on a Bespoke Medical Diet menu must be provided with a suitable main and dessert from their bespoke medical diet menu



### Phrases of the Week



¡Feliz Eid Mubarak a todos! - Happy Eid Mubarak to everyone.

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Ava O	Prathana	Adona	Hamza	
Tesla	Jahnai	Leksha	Sharuk	
Y1 Elder	Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Adriel	Rayan	Nishany	Kirlore	Dev
AJ	Akousa	Shrishalini	Reign	Isai
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Nandini	Liana	Haroon	Joshua	Virushika
Adon	Zanneyah	Markel	Mojere	Abdellah
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Jonathan	Diaa	Rianna	Whole Class	Whole Class
Elijah B	Apsaran	Yaroslav		
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Shrija	Isal-Mae	Triston	Krystal	Rebeca C
Ajla	Roshihan	Rayan	Thananeya	Mohammad
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
	Hajraah	Raza	Kaaviyaa	Afyah
	Lathusan	Aarav	Vithush	Mia



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Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Omari	Angel	Kian	whole class	Yasin
Michelle	Timothy	Maddie	whole class	Lara
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Amelia Chestnut			Avaneesh Walnut	Samara & Muhammad Cypress