



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

22nd September 2023

Happy Friday everyone! Despite the windy, grey weather this week, children in Silver Birch Class have been enjoying their swimming at Waddon Leisure Centre and we know the rest of Year 5 are looking forward to theirs over the next term.

Next week, Chartwells are putting on workshops for Year 1 and Year 6 children. Year 1's session is based on The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Year 6's is focusing on reducing food waste.



Just to remind parents, that ALL children are now entitled to free school meals. Please encourage them to take this up as the weather starts to become colder. If your child does want a school meal, remind them to share this with their teacher during registration so the kitchen can ensure enough is prepared.

Coming up next week, there is also our first PTA meeting of the year - all are welcome to come along and strengthen our fantastic team for the year ahead. It will be held on Thursday 28th September from 3:00pm onwards and the location will be at Rosecourt Road.

Priority 2 - Inclusive Practice for All

Our second Whole School Priority for 2023/2024 is **Inclusive Practice for All**.

- We will be developing an approach called Adaptive Teaching and supporting all teachers to create effective learning tasks. This means that tasks, support and resources may look different for individuals within lessons, so that all children can succeed.
- We will be making sure that tasks are well adapted where needed for all children - and that our children with SEND needs have personalised learning journeys where appropriate and / or necessary; we do not believe that children with additional needs or barriers should not achieve as highly as their peers.
- We will be using methods that split learning into small chunks so that children remain engaged in their learning and don't have too much to think about at once!



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What can you do to help?

- Ensure that homework is completed weekly, and that reading happens every day so that you are aware of what your child is learning - and the strengths and next steps they have.
- Help your child to learn and remember the content in the Knowledge Organisers - these contain the most important knowledge in different subjects that must be understood - if they want to research more in these topics - great!
- Attend Parents Evenings and Parental Engagement sessions.
- If you do have any questions about how your child is being supported in class, then please speak to the class teacher in the first instance or the phase leaders. If your questions are around more complex learning needs, then do talk to the teacher or phase leader first and they may direct you to speak with our SENDCos.

Attendance

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

Reception - Ash

Y1 - Lime

Y1 - Elm

Y2 - Poplar

Y2 - Aspen

Y3 - Larch

Y3 - Cedar

Y3 - Chestnut

Y4 - Beech

Y4 - Acacia

Y5 - Silver Birch

Y5 - Magnolia

Y5 - Cypress

Y5 - Hawthorn

Y5 - Sycamore

Y6 - Eucalyptus

Y6 - Juniper

Y6 - Acer

Y6 - Holly



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Curriculum Focus

Reception

Reception have had a fabulous first full week at school. They have continued to familiarise themselves with class rules and routines and have adjusted well to their full days in class. They have begun to settle extremely well into reception this week with many coming through the doors with beaming smiles on their faces each day. This week the children have continued to spend time exploring our new learning environments as well as forming new friendships, which is lovely to see.

This week in literacy the children have loved retelling the story of Goldilocks. To help them recall the main events and characters they have made actions to accompany the story and have had great fun acting in role.



In maths, the children have been practising recognising numbers and counting out that amount. They have enjoyed sharing the food between the Three Bears and finding the number to match the amount of food in each bowl.

Year One

This week in Year 1, children wrote a poem about their own shadow inspired by our core text. They were successfully able to generate verbs to describe what their shadow likes to eat, to do and the kind of person that they are. They have been learning about suffixes and were able to apply these to verbs.

In maths, the children have been working on how to find one more or less of numbers to ten by using manipulatives, tens frames and number lines. They have then applied this knowledge using the method they best preferred. The children have also been practising their number bond knowledge during their arithmetic lesson.





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In art, the children have been continuing to explore artwork by the artist Rafael Lopez by looking at different shapes and lines within his work. The children learnt about different media such as pastel, sketching pencils and coloured pencil and experimented drawing different types of lines using these. Then they chose shapes from his artwork and imitated them in their art books.



Year Two

This week in Year Two, the children have continued to write the retellings of their core text The Three Billy Goats Stuff. They have used great adjectives to describe the different characters and a good variety of sentence openers ensuring that their narratives are very interesting to read. It has also been lovely to see so many children working hard to ensure that their presentation in their books is excellent quality.

In maths the children have been continuing with their unit looking at place value. They have partitioned 2 digit numbers into tens and ones and many have also been able to partition numbers in three different ways. A very tricky skill that many have already mastered. Later on in the week they also applied their knowledge of counting in tens to fill in missing numbers on a numberline too.

In art the children have been practising different techniques that they will use to create their final pieces. In science they have been continuing to identify the different properties that objects are made from. Then they used their knowledge of different properties of materials to identify why certain objects should be made from certain materials.



Year Three

This week in Year Three, the children have created their own poems, linking the freedoms described in our core text 'The Little Book of Freedoms' to the UN Rights of Children and discussing what each of the freedoms means to them. The children made sure their poems included all of the features looked at last week including verses, repetition and rhyming couplets.

In maths, the children have moved on to partitioning 3 digit numbers using dienes and the part whole model. The children used their knowledge of place value to find one more, ten more and one hundred more than a given number.



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The children have really enjoyed their curriculum learning this week. In Science, they children have continued their exploration of light. They found out how light travels and how it is reflected before testing a range of different materials to look for reflective properties. The children also put their artistic skills to the test and created the first stage of their Egyptian Papyrus!



Year Four

In English this week the children have been writing, editing, and improving the language in their diary entry from the standpoint of Chaya, the lead character in the class text *The Girl who Stole an Elephant* by Nizrana Farook. They particularly enjoyed the challenge of "showing" rather than "telling" explicitly how Chaya was feeling in their writing. They finished the week by analysing what makes an effective performance, before acting the scenes from the diary to each other in small groups.

In Maths they have been enthusiastically deepening their knowledge of Roman numerals as well as learning the new skill of rounding up or rounding down to the nearest 10 and nearest 100. The children then applied their knowledge of rounding to answer reasoning problems.



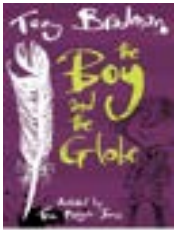
In Science, following on from our exploration of living things and their habitats- they have been considering how living things can be grouped in a variety of different ways using scientific classification keys. The children also looked at the ways in which humans can impact an animal's habitats and created posters on things that they could do to help animal habitats.



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Year Five



It's been another wonderful week in year 5 at West Thornton! The children dove deeper into their learning in writing this week on our core text *The boy and the Globe*. They have been applying all of the skills they learned last week, such as show not tell, emotions and descriptive language to write the first section of their first person narrative from the point of view of Toby, the main character in the story. The writing has been fantastic and all of the adults can't wait to see how the stories develop over the coming weeks.

In maths, the children have been continuing to deepen their understanding of place value for numbers up to 1,000,000. They have used concrete resources such as place value counters, as well as pictorial representations, to describe the value of each digit in these numbers as well as spotting patterns and using their reasoning skills to explain what happens when these numbers increase or decrease by 1, 10, 100 and 1000.

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Across the wider curriculum, while some of the children at Rosecourt Road have been immersing themselves (quite literally!) in their swimming lessons, the children at Canterbury Road have begun their new computing learning on systems. They were able to identify different systems, such as how components on a bike connect to form a system, before creating their own basic digital system for a talking teddy bear.

Year Six

This week year 6 has worked really hard ! In Maths they have begun to use their place value knowledge to round numbers to the nearest 100, 100,000 and 1,000,000 - embedding the rounding rap in their minds to help them to round ! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3afU6JQG15I> . Towards the end of the week , they moved on to using their knowledge to estimate the total of sums and add/ subtract numbers up to 10,000,000.

In writing children have developed their use of language techniques including personification and hyperboles to convey the emotions of Cameron (main character). In addition to this they have analysed and





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reflected upon features of dilemma narratives which has helped them to plan their own narratives which they will be writing next week.

This week children have also taken pleasure in planning their own investigation of their local area to gather information on the types of buildings, transport and landscapes within Croydon to show a secret investor.

Reading

Please remember to record your reading in your Reading Records at home - it would be amazing to see some of the comments you are making being based on the strategies you are focusing on in school.

Community



Congratulations to Isla-Mae in Magnolia class who has joined Arsenal Football Club. We wish you all the best for the future!



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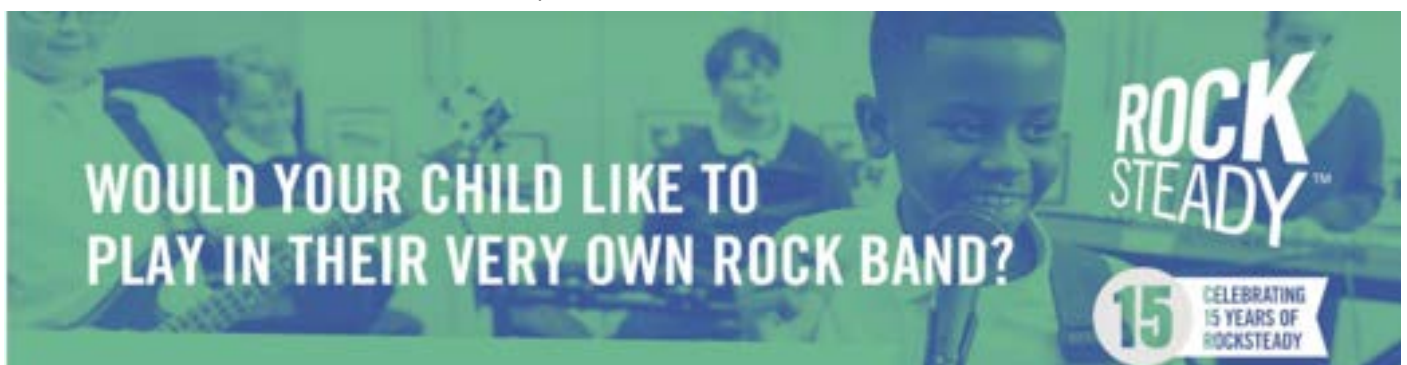
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Chartwells Themed Menu



Enrichment

Now at West Thornton - 'Rock and Pop' Music Lessons!



Exciting news! Rocksteady Music School lessons have started in school, but there is still time to sign up! 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



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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

Phrases of the Week



El valor del mes de West Thornton es la BONDAD. - West Thornton's value of the month is kindness.

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Alicia	Mehrab	Teddy	Abinaya	
Hassan	Harriet	Musa	Kaiden	
Y1 Elm	Y1Fir	Y1Lime	Y1 Maple	
Ali	Adona	Khauban	Ayan	
Nylah-Rae	Szymon	Eraj	Harley	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce



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Hanna	Akosua	Aliza	Younus	Starlin
Reign	Romero	Arinze	Yathusha	Adriel
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Hasan	Micah	Azma	Daniel	Lathixan
Aarav	Lily	Alysia	Nistha	Amina
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Alexander A.	Tayo	Ayaan	Isaac	Meeran
Kacy - Rose	Josiah	Areha	Alaela	Massita
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Layad	Joswin	Umar	Ilyas	Rowan
Apishiya	Yasmin	Bilqees	Mirjam	Paisley
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Laura	Dhivyan	Imran	Yasmin Al-Hassan	Arsheen
Aaranan	Zahra	Valerie	Abel	Alpha
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Delilah Acer				