



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

13th October 2023

It has been another busy week here at West Thornton. We made the most of the lovely sunshine at the start of the week and now autumn seems to be really here!

Thank you to the parents who attended our parent workshop on reading at Canterbury Road and to those who are enjoying sharing books weekly in classes. It was lovely to see key stage 2 parents reading in class - it really makes such a difference to the children to have other adults reading with them.

We continue to focus on our school value of kindness and in particular this week have been thinking about how we can play nicely with each other in the playground.

Clubs are now up and running and in full swing! It is so lovely to see so many children pursuing their interests after school.

Attendance

Well done to Yew Class with 100% Attendance!

Another well done to Pine and Rowan classes who have Attendance over 99%

GREEN

**Pupils with attendance from
96% to 100%**

AMBER

**Pupils with attendance from
90% to 95.9%**

RED

**Pupils with attendance
Below 90%**



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Curriculum Focus

Reception



This week in reception, the children have been learning a new story; The Gingerbread Man. In literacy the children have been learning to retell the story using a story map and using actions. They have been recalling actions from the previous week, such as 'Once upon a time' and 'Next', The children have also been immersed in their story as they made their own gingerbread men!

In maths, the children have learnt how to create their own repeating patterns. They first looked at different types of pattern that they might see, such as spotty patterns, flower patterns and checked patterns. They used this knowledge to make a two colour repeating pattern and then used their body to make different patterns, such as 'clap, stamp, clap, stamp'. They finished the week by looking at different patterns and spotting the mistake. They used their new knowledge to then correct the pattern.



In the provision, the children have been exploring different activities related to The Gingerbread Man. They have been rolling playdough and using gingerbread man cutters, making gingerbread man collages and even using the small world area to retell the story.

Year One

This week in English, the children have been using their story maps to continue writing the story of 'The Lonely Beast'. They have been working on applying suffixes to create past tense verbs, using adjectives to add more detail to their writing and using conjunctions to extend sentences.



In maths, the children have been learning about ordinal numbers and how these are used in daily life. They worked together to order people in races and match the words to the numeral. The





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children then used their knowledge of ordinal numbers to answer questions about positions.

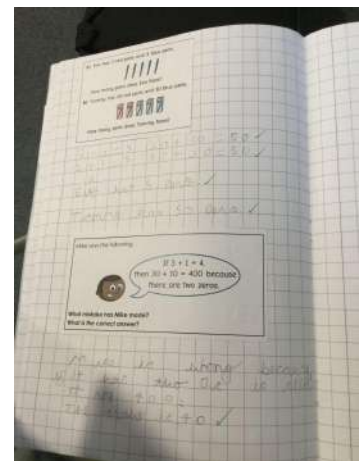
In science this week, the children have designed a boat for a character in our core text 'The Lonely Beast'. They used their knowledge of materials and their properties to think about which material would be best and why. In computing, the children have been continuing their mouse and keyboard skills to save, then open and edit a file they have been working on.

Quick note

The children will be making boats next week in their science lesson and need some plastic bottles. If you have any spare **bottles** and spare **shoeboxes** at home then please could you bring them in, it would be much appreciated.

Year Two

This week in Year Two the children have been continuing to write their diary entries based on our English core text 'Izzy Gizmo'. The children have been generating time adverbials, emotion words and adjectives to make their writing interesting and engaging. They have also included exclamatory sentences to show feelings of joy and excitement! In Maths the children have been learning to make connections between their number bonds to ten and twenty by creating fact families. They have also learnt what happens to a single digit number when it becomes ten times bigger and enjoyed finding the missing number on the counting stick. In Science the children have been considering which material is best to make a raincoat for Paddington bear who recently fell into a bathtub of water! The children worked collaboratively to carry out a fair test of the absorbency of materials and evaluated them. They then compared the results to the prediction they had made at the beginning of their learning journey.



Year Three

This week in Year 3 the children planned and started writing their autobiographies with interesting details and events from their lives. The children enjoyed sharing their important life experiences with their classmates and using interesting adjectives to describe their family, hobbies and interests. This writing activity has helped build our classroom communities as we have learned more about each other while also improving writing skills.

In Maths this week the children have continued their work with addition and subtraction. They enjoyed learning how to add 1s across 10 and then 10s across 100. The children have consistently



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demonstrated their understanding of number bonds to 10 this week. Additionally, the children have also become more confident with using manipulatives to assist them in answering difficult questions.

In History, the children were taken back to Ancient Egypt to explore the inside chambers and passageways of the Pyramid of Giza. They enjoyed learning about the secret passageways and trap doors that were hidden within the pyramid. They also made connections to their previous learning when they made papyrus paper by exploring the hieroglyphics on the inside walls of the pyramid.

Year Four

This week in English, children worked hard to create and punctuate dialogue, as we continue to write our narrative story based on 'The girl who met an elephant' by Nizrana Farook. We've discussed parts of a story, and acted out sections to put ourselves into the shoes of the characters; we have worked on a range of figurative language such as metaphors and personification, in order to bring our writing to life.

During Maths we have started to subtract three and four digit numbers, from no exchange to two exchanges. We have discussed the nature of the subtraction number sentences, and have made the discovery that they are not commutative. We've used deines and counters to visualise and understand how to exchange, and have worked out our answers using the column method.

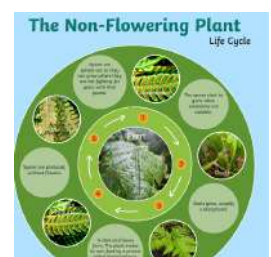
For the wider curriculum subjects, we have looked at real Jewish artefacts in RE, such as a seder plate and a tallit, as well as researching Jewish festivals. We have created our own classification keys for science, and in geography we have been discussing the impact of physical geography on human geography. For art, we are creating a background in Jill Pelto's style to highlight worldwide issues with an emotional link.

Year Five

This week in Year Five, we have worked incredibly hard to write a play script based on our core text 'The Boy and the Globe'. They have learnt how to embed different structural features like the colon, brackets, and commas, and a variety of language devices to make it engaging for an audience.



In Maths children have continued to work hard on solving addition and subtraction problems and using inverse to check answers.





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Within our Art lessons, children are now completing their final outcomes and incorporating different techniques to make it more effective. The children have also enjoyed developing their scientific knowledge on flowers and plants.

Year Six

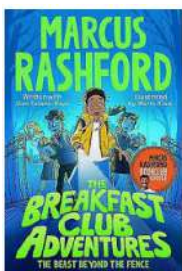
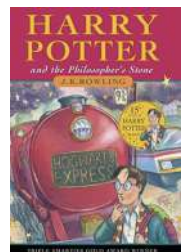
This week in Year 6, the children have been consolidating their multiplication knowledge to the long multiplication method. They worked hard to ensure that each (of the many!) steps were worked out carefully and accurately so that their answers were correct. It was great to see them laying out their working out clearly in order to be successful.

They have also enjoyed jumping into the role of a journalist where they have been writing a newspaper report on a 'groundbreaking surgery'. They have ensured to remain formal throughout their piece and used skills such as direct and reported speech, relative clauses and reference chains.

Reading recommendations

Each week we will be sharing some book recommendations.

Miss Rodgers has been reading Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone By JK Rowling. "I have recently watched all the Harry Potter films, so this made me want to go back and read all the books again. It has been great to start back at the beginning and escape into the magical world of Hogwarts. I love to read as it takes me to different places. If you like magical adventures this is a great book to read.



Stanley from Chestnut Class recommends The Breakfast Club Adventures The Beast beyond the fence by Marcus Rashford.

"I recommend this book because it is very exciting. I like that it has different investigations and adventures before school. I am really excited to read the next book now!"



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Community

Half term activities

Please see the link below for some great activities happening over the October half term.

<https://www.timeout.com/london/kids/activities/top-half-term-activities>



[Mushroom foraging activity booking link](#)

Thornton Heath Leisure Centre

Better Flex Adult Concessionary

£5.00 per month

AM I ELIGIBLE?

<https://www.better.org.uk/monthly-membership/better-hf-conc>



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Refugee Supported Membership

Individuals who've been granted refugee status in the last 6 months can apply for a free 6-month Better Health Saver (Off-Peak) membership. Check your proof of eligibility and start your application online today.

<https://www.better.org.uk/news/supported-memberships>

Black History Month

As we know already, Black History Month is not just about learning about the challenges and triumphs of key figures from the past and present but also an opportunity to learn about different cultures. For the rest of this month, we would like us to take this opportunity to learn more about and appreciate African and Caribbean culture through the universal language of food.

We would like **children, staff** and **parents** to come together to create our very own book about African and Caribbean Cuisine. We will do this by having a collection of writing, drawings, and photos showing examples and knowledge of meals, ingredients and recipes from African and Caribbean culture.

You can do any of the following:

- Write/draw an example of a favourite family dish
- Draw and label a picture of a dish you have eaten
- Photos of dishes you have made
- Write a recipe
- Show knowledge of an ingredient
- Write about your favourite ingredients or type of food
- Write about food eaten at special occasions

When you have finished, please hand in your contributions to your class teacher or the school office. You have until **Wednesday 1st November**.

Safety

Please can parents and carers ensure that if there are any vapes at home that they are kept in a secure location. Keep all vaping supplies and refill materials in child-resistant packaging out of the reach of children.



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Phrases of the Week



¿Cómo te llamas? - What is your name?

Me llamo _____. - My name is _____.

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Ayda	Halima	Tajhun	Alexcya
Anaum	Rizwan	Amani	Mark
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Sarvika	Kaiara	Reuban	Daksh



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Chris	Leksha	Ava M	Halla	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Kirlore	Arielle	Afrah	Dev	Khaliyah
Abishanth	Rooda	Dhrishay	Kaeson	Abdul
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Gabriella	Evan	Rayan	Lano	Midhun
Hasan	Tamiah	Danilo	Maitray	Adon
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Aarush	Manahil	Sharon	Neda	Zayaana
Nusaibah	Harun	Amelia	Skylar	Ziyad
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Blake	Autumn	Isla Mae	Cush	Nika
Divine	Abraham	Nisha	Kemarley	Dylan
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Aaiza	Aaharan	Leeroy	Loius	Aziah
Samara	Cyrielle	Piya	Akshita S	Riyan
		Abigail		
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Elhaan Chestnut			Khaliyah Spruce	N/A