



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

3rd November 2023

We have had a great start to the Autumn 2 Half Term and children have come back to school ready to continue their learning. We have already started the half term with a trip to the Buddhist centre and have many other exciting trips booked for the children during the rest of this term. Parents' Evenings are also happening this half term (28th & 29th) and you should have received a letter explaining how to book your slot via the Arbor App.

We are excited to share that today, our school has launched a pupil survey. This survey will help us understand how your child views their school experience and will allow us to identify areas for improvement. The survey will be conducted through a Google Form, and we will be supporting our younger children with engaging infographics and audio prompts. We hope to have as many children as possible participate, but we understand that it may not be suitable for everyone. We appreciate your support and understanding in this matter.

Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 96%

Reception - Pine

Reception - Ash

Y1 - Elm

Y2 - Poplar

Y2 - Rowan

Y2 - Aspen

Y2 - Palm

Y3 - Chestnut

Y5 - Magnolia

Y6 - Juniper

Y6 - Holly

An extra special well done to both Y4 - Acacia and Y3 Cherry with 100% attendance



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Curriculum Focus

Reception

The children have settled back in well after their first half term holiday. It has been lovely to share all the fun things they have done over their week break. This half term, the children have been introduced to their new topic all about space and planet Earth. They were so excited to see that an alien baby had landed in their classroom and wanted to find out more about the planet they live on!

In literacy, the children have begun to learn about their core text 'Here We Are.' They have been introduced to the solar system and the different things they might see. They have been using full sentences to describe the sun, moon and stars and have written short words such as 'big', 'hot' and 'sun'. The children have used their phonics to sound out the words into their sounds and have used sound mats to help them form the letters.



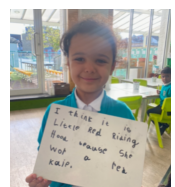
In maths, the children have continued to learn about numbers 1, 2 and 3. They have drawn their own pictorial representations to show their understanding of the numbers, such as 1 circle and 2 triangles.

The children have been very busy in the environment, completing activities all about space! They have painted different planets as well as make their own playdough stars.



Year One

This week in Year 1, the children began to read their new core text 'Little Red Riding Hood' by Lari Don. To begin their journey they first had to find clues in the playground and then used their reasoning skills to make a prediction about who the character could be. Following their discovery of the character, they then

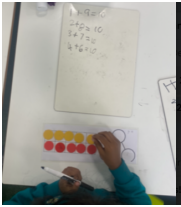




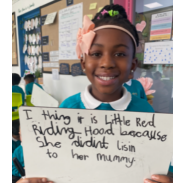
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generated vocabulary to describe her appearance and personality using a variety of adjectives.

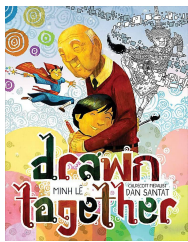


In maths, the children have been building their knowledge of number bonds using the part, part whole model and tens frame. The children then identified parts from a completed tens frame and wrote equations to match these.



In geography, the children learnt about the 4 countries that make up the United Kingdom. They also labelled the capital cities for each of these countries and finished by locating where they like in the UK.

Year Two



The week began with a challenge where the children had to use a code to work out what the title of their new core text was. They exemplified the character skill of collaboration as they worked together to solve the clues. Then they read the story of Drawn Together and have been retelling the key events ensuring that they use past tense and time conjunctions to order the events.

In maths they have been continuing to develop their knowledge of addition including crossing the ten. Firstly they had to add to the next ten then they have been applying this knowledge as well as their knowledge of number bonds within ten to add across the ten. This has been quite tricky but they have shown great resilience and continued to try their best.

In PSHE they have been learning about different emotions. They enjoyed watching clips from the film Inside Out to help them understand what those emotions look like. Finally they drew pictures to show how different characters would feel in different scenarios.

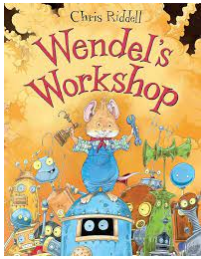
Year Three

This week has been another fulfilling and rewarding week academically in year 3. In maths we have continued where we left off last half term and have revisited the place - chart value method as well as introducing column method exchanging 10's and 100's through addition and subtraction. In English we have started to read our new text of the half term which is Wendell's workshop and told the children that we will be creating a set of instructions which have been inspired by the book.



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It has been an exciting week in regards to the wider curriculum as the children have been introduced to what they will be learning about and building during their DT lessons which is a photo-frame. Overall it has been a positive and encouraging start to the new half-term with plenty of exciting learning to come!

Year Four



Our core text in English this term is the non-fiction text Greta's Story: The Schoolgirl Who Went On Strike To Save The Planet. The children are intrigued by Greta's mission to save our planet and have generated effective questions to discover more about her and how she started her climate strike. They are finding it difficult to believe that it is a true story and have been inspired to think about what they can do to the planet. With the information gathered, they be creating a fact file on Greta to show her achievements.



help
will

In maths, the children have been exploring different ways of working out the area of shapes. They learnt that area is the amount of space taken up by a two-dimensional shape or surface. They explore different ways of working out the area of a shape.

In science, the children have been learning about States of Matter by sorting materials into solids, liquids and gases.. They have been learning about the properties of solids, liquids and gases and about the differences between the particles in the three states of matter.





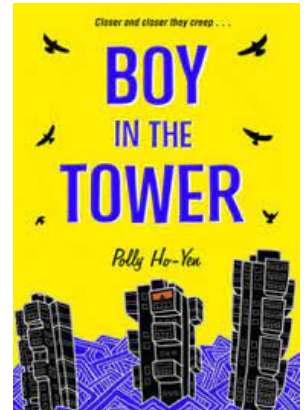
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Year Five

Year 5 has had a fantastic start to Autumn 2 Half Term with children ready to get back to their learning. It has been fantastic hearing all the activities they had done over the half term week. Well done to Magnolia class who have completed their two week course of swimming. Next class to go is Hawthorn!

In English, the children have started reading our new core text 'The boy in the tower' by Polly Ho-Yen. The children started the week off with a challenge of creating a tower. Children exemplified the character skill of collaboration as they worked together. As the week progressed, they have read more of the book, delving into the life of the main character Ade and have created a character description based on his character qualities.



In maths, the children have been learning how to solve multi-step addition and subtraction problems using the bar model and column method. The children have also been comparing calculations using addition and subtraction.

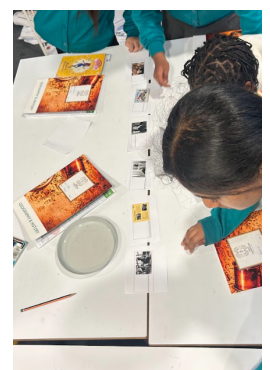
Year Six

Year 6 have had a great start to the half term! They have been on a very interesting trip to the Buddhapadipa Temple in Wimbledon where they were spoken to by one of the monks that lives there. It was great to see all the children engaged and asking meaningful questions. They also had the opportunity to practise some meditation which I know lots of them found very peaceful.



They have also been immersed into our new core text, Stella by Starlight and have started to discuss the main themes within the book. They have worked particularly hard in their Writing lessons where they have been focussing on 'Sentence Science' and ensuring that syntax is correct when writing. This has already made such a difference to their writing and we are excited to see the outcomes they produce this half term!

In their History learning this week, the children have started to understand the difference between Human and Civil Rights and created a timeline of key events within history that have led to change. They had meaningful discussions about the impacts of each event on Britain today and can understand how things have changed over time.





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Reading recommendations

Angel from Holly Class recommends Goldfish boy by Lisa Thompson. "I have enjoyed this book because I have related to it due to the main character having OCD. I like to put things in the order such as colour coordination and size order. It has been interesting to read about Goldfish boy and how he never left his home because he was afraid of germs. This helped solve a mystery because he was great at noticing details when watching life outside from his bedroom window."



Autumnal Reading Challenge

Darius from Chestnut class had a great time doing the Autumnal reading challenge. "My favourite was reading the spooky stories. I also liked reading a poem called The Tyger by William Blake."

Are there any books you can now recommend from doing the Autumnal reading challenge that you can tell your friends and teachers about?

KS2 Maths Workshop

A huge thank you to all the parents who attended the KS2 Maths workshop this week which focused on how parents can support their children with Maths at home. Feedback from parents was extremely positive and parents commented on how useful it was to see examples of the strategies used within our Maths Curriculum. There will be more workshops like these coming up so be sure to keep your eyes peeled for those all important emails!

TTRS - Parents and children alike will be pleased to know that Times Table Rockstars is available for children to use!



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Community



SEND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Unlocking Potential, Building Brighter Futures!



Location: Grace Tabernacle Church, Charis House, Entrance at 195a Sydenham Road, Croydon CR0 2ET - next door to Cherry Gardens Autism Centre. opposite the Kwik Fit (on the corner of St.James Road)

Date: Thursdays at 3.00pm (Term Time only)

Who: For SEND students in KS2



Launch date: Thursday 2nd November 2023

Arts, Sports and Science!



Fun - Board games, painting, building and Lego



Learning - kinesthetic, visual, auditory and tactile



Science / STEM play-based learning activities!



Cakes and Conversation



Support network for parents over cake and tea! Come along to connect with others / share your story / have a distraction!

Run by SEND young adults!



SEND young adults who have grown up with Bright Futures 4 All will run sessions alongside SEND specialist adults!



We want to hear what you have to say!

Attend our Consultation Day online to tell us how we can help you.

Join us via Zoom on the 10th October at 9.30am



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CROYDON



Gates at Rosecourt Road

Thank you to all parents/carers who are waiting patiently outside the school gates before the start of the school day and before the end of the school day. We have to ensure that we adhere to this for safeguarding purposes. We truly appreciate your understanding and support with this matter. Gates open at 8.40 and 3.10 daily.



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Phrases of the Week



¡Bienvenidos a todos! - Welcome back everyone!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Liam	Tharun	Maya	Kenan	
Mateo	Dwisha	Jesse	Ritaj	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Skyler	Olanre	Ishaan	Jakepaul	
Thenila	Yumna	Ava O	Kiera	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Mariama	Arham	Srishalini	Anass	Anmol
Amelia	Norina	Zion	Jaanuah	Hoorain
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Aliza	Baba	Aatheesh	Jessica	Eagan
Emilio	Bogdan	Moksha	Moksh	Adam
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Swarnika	Chu	Rafael	Loredana	Ameen
Yaroslav	Maja	Denephia	Alvina	Panth
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Kishiwaleh	Naaba	Roshihan	Shreyas	Dylan
Yolanda	Habinia	Shaniya D	Diyan	Lydia



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Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Celine	Youssouf	Alexus-Dior	Naziah	Ife
Kavinila	Salma	Samuel	Mia	Kieran
Spanish				
Whole Year 3 Rosecourt Road				

**LET'S
ROCKET**

MAINS
Rocket Dog OR
Veggie Rocket Dog

SIDES
Chips
Corn on the Cob

DESSERT
Orange & Ginger Firework Cake
with Custard

9 NOVEMBER