



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

**1st December 2023**

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

The countdown has begun. Muffi Day today has got us very excited about events happening this month. Thank you to everyone who was able to make a donation today. Don't forget, we have our cake sale on Monday 4th December and our Winter Fair on Thursday 7th December. The children have also been working so hard preparing for our Winter Concerts taking place later on this month. It has been wonderful walking around the building hearing beautiful singing from children in all year groups.



We have welcomed many visitors into our school and classrooms this week. Year 1 children had a visit from Mr Hutton-Wood to find out more about life as a Christian to support them with their learning in RE. Year 2 had a visit from an advisor from the Croydon Airport Centre to talk about the history of Croydon airport. We are seeing more parents attend our weekly parent reading sessions. Thank you for coming. We really enjoy having you in our classrooms and enjoying a reading activity with the children. Many parents were able to take a look at their child's learning and discuss their child's progress during Parents' evening this week. Thank you to all parents who were able to attend. Please make arrangements to speak with your child's teacher if you were unable to come along this week. Our partnership is vital in helping your child with their learning to help them to achieve their best.

As we round up another action packed week at West Thornton, we would like to wish you a very happy weekend, keep warm and have a wonderful time with your friends and family.



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### Attendance

Well done to these classes with Attendance over 97%

RR Larch Class 99.29%

RR Beech Class 97%

RR Yew Class 97.67%

RR Magnolia Class 97%

RR Cypress Class 97.14%

RR Juniper Class 97.67%

CR Aspen Class 97.5%

CR Cherry Class 98.62%

CR Chestnut Class 97%

CR Hawthorn Class 98%

CR Acer Class 98.28%

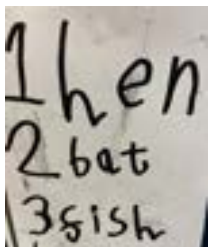
CR Holly Class 97%

Just a reminder that school starts at **8.40am** and closes at **3.15pm**.

Please make sure your child is at school on time & collected promptly at **3.15pm** from the playground.

### Curriculum Focus

#### Reception



This week the children have been continuing to use their core text 'Here We Are' to learn about the different animals on planet Earth. They have been using their descriptive skills to describe the animals and generated vocabulary such as 'fluffy fox' and 'black bat'. To start with, the children wrote a list of animals they could see in a picture. They then wrote captions and sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. They have drawn animals in the creative area this week, looking at the patterns and

shapes that they find.

In maths, the children have continued learning about the number 4 and 5. They have practised finding one more and one less of a given number as well as looking at the different parts found in numbers 1 to 5. They have found out that 4 and 5 have two different ways of making the numbers, such as  $2 + 2$  and  $1 + 3$  and for the number 5,  $2 + 3$  and  $4 + 1$ .





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In topic this week, the children have learnt about the past and the present and have discussed what they could do as a baby and how that compares to being a child and an adult. The children have also continued to practise their songs for the winter concert in December.

### Year One

This week in Year one the children have been really busy in English writing their Little Red Riding Hood stories. They have been independently applying the skills they have learnt to their writing such as using adjectives, repetition and conjunctions. In maths, the children have been learning about fact families and writing equations to match pictorial representations. They have also been learning about subtraction and doing this by crossing out.

In science this week, the children have been busy planning an investigation about suitable materials that they will carry out next week. In RE, Year 1 had a special visitor who told us what life was like being a Christian. The children asked questions that they had generated and had opportunities to find out about how Christians prepare for Christmas time. Thank you to Mr Hutton-Wood.



In RSHE the children learnt about the importance of handwashing and how to keep germs away. They enjoyed a little experiment watching germs repelling from soap.

### Year Two



This week in English the children have continued their learning from the core text 'Drawn Together' by Minh Le. Year 2 worked hard to independently write their own character description for the Dragon in the story. They were successful with including adventurous adjectives, interesting verb phrases and joining ideas with the conjunction 'that'. The children ended the week by editing their writing to correct mistakes and add additional detail to improve their piece of work.

In maths this week the children have been learning how to add and subtract two 2 digit numbers using concrete manipulatives base 10 as well





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as using pictorial representations. At the beginning of the week the children focused on adding two 2 digit numbers across 10, involving exchanging 10 ones for 1 ten. They then moved on to subtracting two 2 digit numbers, and then progressed to subtraction two 2 digit numbers across ten, involving changing 1 ten for 10 ones.



Year 2 were treated to a presentation about the History of Croydon Airport on Thursday. The children learnt that Croydon Airport opened in 1920 and it quickly became Britain's main airport. The children looked at a number of pictures taken of a range of aircrafts from the 1930's, as well as being amazed by a simulation of Croydon Airport at that time.

### Year Three

It's been another eventful week in year 3 across the board. This week in English the children have been learning about features of a newspaper article so that they can write an exciting article about Rosie Revere, the book the children have been reading in English this half-term. In Maths the children have recapped and applied previous knowledge towards their multiplications as we have started to start multiplication and division in Maths using arrays and other manipulatives.

In the curriculum this week the children have continued to learn and apply their knowledge towards magnets in science and have conducted an interesting experiment to test to see which materials and objects are magnetic and non-magnetic. In Geography we have been learning about more in depth features of a river by learning about what delta's are and how they are formed. The children are really enjoying their learning and are becoming continually curious about the topics taught in year 3.



### Year Four

In English, children continued preparing for their upcoming persuasive speech on climate change. They explored the impact of different features on the audience, including fact and figures, as well as examining the impact of rhetorical questions in prompting thought from the audience and grabbing their attention. These are examples of some of the questions children created in the



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lesson: Can you believe we are treating our wonderful wildlife this way? Did you know that by 2050 there will be more plastic in the world than humans? Do you think we are doing enough to stop climate change?

In maths, children have been exploring the 12 times tables including finding various methods for multiplying two digit numbers by 12 and deciding on which is the most efficient method for each question. They then applied the skills they had learnt to solving real world problems. They went on to explore the effect of multiplying by 1. They noticed that when they multiply a number by 1, the result will always be the number itself. Children then learnt that when multiplying any number by zero the result is always zero.

In science, the children carried out an experiment to find out which chocolate would melt the fastest, white chocolate, milk chocolate or dark chocolate. The children made regular observations and recorded what they saw. They found that the white chocolate melted the fastest, which many of them had predicted, and this was due to the fact that it had a high cocoa butter content and had no cocoa solids.

### Year Five

In maths this week, the children have been learning all about fractions. The children started by learning about equivalent fractions and then moved on to comparing them to unit fractions. Children were then able to compare equivalent fractions to non- unit fractions.

In DT this week, the children have been creating their prototypes for their stuffed toys. Children were looking at their design criteria, creating the outlines from felt and were able to use their sewing skills to create their prototype.

In RE this week, the children have been looking at the Mool Mantra which is found in the Sikh holy book- Guru Granth Sahib. Children have been discussing how it tells people from the Sikh faith what to believe and how it impacts their daily life.

### Year Six

In Year 6, the children have all been busy honing their skills, in many areas of the curriculum, but particularly in writing. After spending a number of weeks crafting sentences, they are now ready to put their ideas together and write a narrative based on our core text, Stella by Starlight (written





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by Sharon M. Draper). Collectively, we are excited to read the final outcomes for these stories, as we have some fine writers.

In History, the children have been recognising the purpose of the Equality Act, reflecting on the impact it has had in Britain. The children made a timeline and observed the key moments in history that influenced changes in the Equality Act that played a crucial role in ensuring a more just and inclusive society.

In Science the children thoroughly enjoyed creating their own classification keys for the different species of daffodils. The children were able to classify the daffodils (a living thing) based on their characteristics.

In Maths this week, the children became more secure in their knowledge of fractions. They started the week by learning how to multiply fractions by integers (whole numbers), before moving on to multiplying a fraction by a fraction. They then learnt how to divide fractions by an integer.

### Reading recommendations

The Reading Club have collaborated and created a winter themed reading display for the corridor. Miss Rodgers has kindly said that books can be borrowed and read in school but please return them when you have finished.



Miss Rodgers recommends The Dinosaur that Pooped Christmas by Tom Fletcher and Dougie Poynter. "It is hilarious and one of my favourite books of all time. I even dressed up as the main character for World Book Day at school last year!"





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### Community

#### **Winter Fair - Thursday 7th December**

Don't forget our Winter Fair next week on Thursday 7th December! Thank you to those who have already made some donations for the event. See below for a reminder of activities taking place in the build up to the event

#### **Monday 4th December - Cake sale**

We will be selling cakes after school at **Rosecourt Road** at the end of the school day. Do come along to purchase some tasty treats.

#### **Toy Donations**

We sent an email earlier this week asking for any unwanted toys that you can donate for our toy stall as part of the Winter Fair. If you have any unwanted books, then they are also welcome.

#### **Canterbury Road Book swap**

This coming Wednesday afternoon at Canterbury Road we will be holding another book swap. Children will be able to bring an old book from home and swap it for another one. If you would just like to buy a book it will be 50p.

We will be holding the book swap in the playground after school every 2 weeks.



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### Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will take place on **Friday 15th December** this year. Take a look at what is on the menu this year. Chartwells also offer an alternative menu for those with bespoke diets.



### Phrases of the Week



**¿Tienes una mascota?** - Do you have a pet?

**Sí, tengo un perro.** - Yes, I have a dog.





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### Stars of the Week

YR Willow	YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	
Ismahan	Aaiza	Ranesh	Immanuel	
Aaira	Javarie	Jessica	Nesma	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Daisy	Henrique	Julia	Bebe	
Ali	Ohm	Thanushik	Vinojan	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Nazai	Romero	Mariya	Mia	Aadheesh
Kaiden	Akosua	Nishany	Dev	Leo
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Sharick	Micah	Joshua	Lano	Adam
Rutmi	Jewel	Khloe	Maitray	Ella-Mae
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Geneveive	Ayaan	Samuel D	Rithika	Caitlin
Bilin	Sajoori	Melat	Dzani	Satvic
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Shrija	Noble	Mathooshan a	Parth	Navisha
Ajla	Samra	Kayden	Rebecca S	Rowan
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Jezreel	Emily	Dev	Anusha	Aylisia
Emiljan	Aarav	Carole-Ann	Joel	Esther
Spanish	Music KS1	Music KS2		



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Joshua Magnolia				
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