



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

**21st December 2023**

The final week of the Autumn Term has been filled with lots of fun and festivities. The children put on fantastic performances in their Winter Concerts and definitely put us all in the Christmas mood. Class Parties were also lots of fun this week and the children enjoyed an entertaining Pantomime put on by the school staff.

We would like to thank you all for your ongoing support this term and wish those of you celebrating, a very Merry Christmas. Monday 8th January is an INSET day and school will be closed to children. They will return to school on Tuesday 9th January at normal time.

Have a restful break and a very happy start to the new year. See you in 2024

#### Attendance

Well done to the following classes that achieved over 97% attendance this week:

Y1 - Maple Class  
Y4 - Yew Class  
Y6 - Juniper Class

New Year: Please ensure that your child arrives on time each day to school, to avoid missing out on the start of their school day. School begins at 8.40am and collection time is 3.15pm.



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Curriculum Focus

#### Reception

The children in Reception have had such a fun-filled week. As part of our provision this week, reception have been exploring Christmas. They have been taking part in activities, such as making paper chains, writing Christmas cards, letters to Father Christmas, as well as painting snowmen and reindeers!

This week in literacy, the children have been writing sentences. They have been introduced to the 'Writer's Toolkit' which reminds them to check for capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. They have learnt that capital letters must come at the beginning of the sentences, as well as learning that capital letters are needed for names. They have continued to use their phonetic knowledge to write simple sentences using the sentence stem 'He/She has \_\_\_\_.'



In maths, reception have been revisiting all the concepts they have learnt this half term. They have recapped how to represent numbers and have made their own number book for the maths area. They have practised finding one more and one less than a number and have used that knowledge to order numbers.



In topic, they have been learning about festivals and what others celebrate. They have discussed the similarities and differences between our different celebrations.

They really enjoyed their Christmas party, where they played party games and demonstrated some great dance moves.

Happy Christmas to all from the Reception team!



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Year One

Our last week before Christmas has been a fantastic one! In English the children wrote a letter to Santa remembering to use their writers toolkit. In maths, they created christmas cards using their knowledge of shapes. In the wider curriculum, the children have been creative in completing their DT buildings. They look amazing!

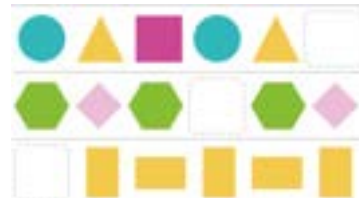
In Geography the children created double page spreads from all the wonderful learning they have done over the term. They based it on what they like about living in Croydon.

Their two winter concerts were a huge success and finally to end the term they celebrated with a christmas party!

### Year Two

In the final week of English for 2023, the children have been having lessons in grammar. These have included writing questions that begin with the question words, 'what, why, where, who, how' and end in a question mark. A great example written by a child was ' How does a caterpillar change into a butterfly?' They also wrote commands ending with an exclamation mark, such as 'Shut that door!' The children learnt how to add the suffixes 'full, ment and ly' to nouns and verbs and also learnt how to use the contractions, 'he's, it's, i'll, i'm, let's, you're, i'd and won't'.

In maths this week, the children have continued to learn about 2d and 3d shapes by creating and completing patterns by adding the missing shapes in the sequence. To end their week of learning, the children compared 2d and 3d shapes describing their similarities and differences using the key vocabulary such as sides, vertices, faces, edges and lines of symmetry.



In History the children each created a double page spread showcasing their wonderful learning about the history of aviation.

Year 2 would like to thank all the parents and carers for their support this term and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!



# WEST THORNTON

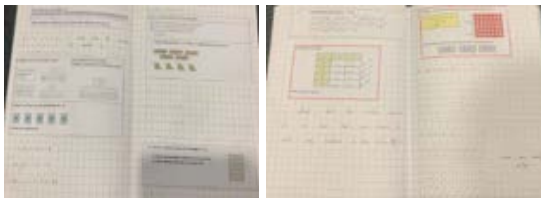
## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Year Three

It has been a very exciting time in year 3 this week. In English, the children have written their very own newspaper article about 'Rosie Revere'. They were able to include all of the important features of a newspaper article correctly - especially an amazing headline to engage their readers.



In maths, they have been working on multiplication and division using their 8 times table. The children were able to identify fact families and use them to solve a variety of problems. They have continued to memorise their 3,4 and 8 times tables.



In geography, year three has gathered all knowledge learnt this half term to answer the big question 'What are the similarities and differences between the River Nile and the River Thames'. They have created some very informative and creative double page spreads to share their learning and answer the question.



DT this term has been a fantastic journey, enjoyed very much by both the children and teachers. They have come to the final week of designing and making their very own photo frame. They ended the journey this week by adding the final decorations and piecing it altogether. They can now capture a very special memory in their personalised photo frame.



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL



### Year Four

Our last week of the term has been a fantastic one. The children have had several opportunities to showcase their best learning.

In English, the children have shown wonderful enthusiasm, as they have applied their knowledge of poetry, producing their own poems with a climate change theme. The standard has been excellent and their creativity outstanding. The children have used their performing skills from speech writing earlier in the term, to share their poems with their class. In Maths, we have been consolidating our learning with a focus on division and multiplication. They have also used their prior knowledge of the Roman Numeral system of counting, to tackle the addition and subtraction of 4 - digit numbers, converting their answers to base 10. They have also been diligently practising their times tables in preparation for the year 4 test next year.

In Science they have created a collage of learning to showcase all they have learnt about States of Matter, including their favourite experiments.



In D.T. the children completed their drawstring bags, evaluating their work and reflecting on what they had learnt including the challenges of sewing, and learning to be patient!

To mark the end of the autumn term, year 4 has had a packed schedule of activities this week, including class parties and two concerts performed in front of their families. The children enjoyed





# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

showcasing their winter songs and poems. They worked hard, putting in their best efforts, and were very proud of their performances.

### Year Five

This week has been incredibly busy for Year 5 but lots of fun too! We have used the opportunity of the last week to consolidate our learning and to show what we have learnt over these last 8 weeks! In both science and geography, we have completed double page spreads in which we have accumulated all of the knowledge we have gained this half term. In Geography, we answer the question "How has Croydon changed since Tudor times?" and in science, we answered "Are all changes of state irreversible?".



In English, we have completed publishing our newspaper reports based on our core text for this half term, "The Boy in the Tower." We loved having the opportunity to become reporters and to interview the characters from the text. Putting out work in columns proved an interesting challenge but one that we all managed to overcome.



We have also evaluated our DT project for the half term. We all love creating our own colour monsters out of felt and we all saw our sewing skills progress. We are so proud of what we have created and some are going on display on this half term's publishing boards.



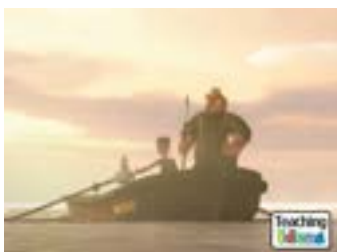
Finally, we had a great time at our concerts! Thank you so much to the parents, friends and family that were able to come along and support us. We hoped you enjoyed listening as much as we enjoyed performing for you.

Have a very happy winter break and we hope that everyone is rested and raring to go for our Spring term in January!

### Year Six

This week in year six: It has been busy and productive! Children have worked incredibly hard to consolidate their learning across the curriculum.

In English, children have successfully completed their narratives titled 'Catch a Lot.' They skillfully utilised dialogue to bring characters to life, showcasing their understanding of effective characterisation. Following this, the children





# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

engaged in peer assessments, celebrating the strengths in each other's work and offering constructive suggestions for improvement.

In maths children have continued to consolidate their knowledge of fractions using the four operations; solving problems and justifying their reasoning using key mathematical vocabulary.

In history, children have enjoyed consolidating their learning on key British civil rights movements and Acts that have followed. Through engaging lessons, they explored how these movements have contributed to positive change in Britain, which they highlighted when presenting their newfound knowledge to their peers. The joy and enthusiasm they brought to their presentations were truly infectious.



Have a great holiday and rest well ready for the New Year. Please ensure children are reading everyday!

### Holiday Reading Challenge

Have a go at the holiday reading challenge. Can you complete 3 challenges in a row? Come back after the holidays and share what you have read with your class.





# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Phrases of the Week



**¡Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año! - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

### Stars of the Week

YR Willow	YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	
Nazima	Shiylo	Whole Class	Abdirahman	
Khalise	Rithvish		Dominic	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Alice	Whole Class	Whole Class	Whole Class	
Kyarah				
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Whole	Maryama	Nizar	Whole Class	Whole Class
Class	Eva	Sophie		
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Whole	Whole	Whole	Zuzia	Whole
Class	Class	Class	Daniel	Class
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Aarush	Charmi	Najla	Apsaran	Asiya
Nusaibah	Michelle	Samuel V	Bilal	Faiz
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Karshick	Whole	whole	whole	Paisley





# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

Keshia	Class	class	class	Tatiana
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Tanvi	Rohith	Renad	Abdi	Khaleel
Nadaniel	Nithusiya	Elijah	Aashir	Arham
Spanish				
Years 3,4,5 and 6 Rosecourt Road				

### Community



**CANTERBURY ROAD REC  
TREE PLANTING DAY**

**SATURDAY 20TH JANUARY 2024**  
**10AM - 2PM @ CANTERBURY ROAD, CRO 3HH**

Trees for Cities are working in partnership with Croydon Council and Croydon Climate Action's Trees for Croydon initiative to plant new trees in Canterbury Road Recreation Ground. Volunteer with us to plant trees and help create a long-lasting green space for all the community!

**+ FREE LUNCH  
& ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES**

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER  
FOR THIS FREE EVENT**

For more information contact our  
Community Engagement Coordinator at  
[peony@treesforcities.org](mailto:peony@treesforcities.org) or 07825 541130

[WWW.TREESFORCITIES.ORG/CANTERBURY-ROAD](http://WWW.TREESFORCITIES.ORG/CANTERBURY-ROAD)

**30 TREES FOR CITIES**  
10 Years and Counting

**CROYDON** | Delivering  
sustainable growth | for Croydon

**Trees for Cities**

**Forestry Commission**



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### **Winter Energy Week with Healthy Homes**

We are running a series of events during the week commencing 8th January, we are calling Winter Energy Week.

We will be running a new Zoom workshop called Using Energy Wisely on Friday 12th January at 2pm. This will include a discussion about using energy in your home, how to calculate the cost of running an appliance, and tips about how to make informed decisions how best to save energy in your home. Our regular monthly Zoom workshops on Heating, Insulation and Condensation and on Energy tariffs and Energy bills support will workshop will also take place that week.

On Friday 12th January, we will be running a drop-in session for residents and referral partners in Croydon Clocktower complex, next to the entrance of Croydon Central Library between 10am and 3pm. We will also be running our regular drop-ins in Thornton Heath and New Addington that week

#### **Remember to submit meter readings on**



Energy Prices are going up on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

It is important to submit meter readings to ensure your energy company does not overestimate how much gas and electricity you used at the higher prices\*



You can submit a meter reading up to a week after it has been taken

If you haven't submitted a meter reading for a while, take a date stamped photo as evidence. Ensure your photo is of the whole meter and the meter serial number is clear

If you are unable to read your meter, let your energy company know.

\*If you have a Smart Meter, your energy company should get readings automatically



Croydon  
Healthy  
Homes

[www.croydon.gov.uk/healthyhomes](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/healthyhomes)

Voicemail: 08002922529