



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

19th January 2024

We have had a chilly but cheerful week at West Thornton for our second week of term. The weather looks like it will be warming up next week, however please ensure that all children are dressed appropriately as we like to ensure playtimes happen regardless of how cold it is.

It has been great to see parents join us for our year 6 SATs session this week, and they have also joined to support our school priority of reading this week, coming in for reading with their children, and to see a phonics session in year 1. Reading is the key to learning, so please remember to read with your children every single day to help them develop their skills.

Year 6 also went to Croydon Fire station this week to attend the Junior Citizenship Scheme through TfL and the emergency services. Children have experienced various agency scenarios to support their independence as they begin to transition to year 7. They were also taught skills needed to help them in emergency situations. They received a certificate for their hard work and participation. Well done Year 6!



Finally, a massive congratulations to the West Thornton Wanderers who clinched the division two championship this week after a long but successful season! Well done lads!



## Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

RR Y2 Poplar - 99%

CR Y1 98.33%

RR Y2 Rowan - 97.19%

CR Y2 97.67%

RR Y3 Cedar - 97.62%

CR Y4 Hornbeam 99%

RR Y4 Yew - 99.17%

CR Y5 Sycamore 97.02%

RR Y5 Cypress - 98.29%

CR Y6 Acer 97.41%

RR Y6 Blackthorn - 97.78%

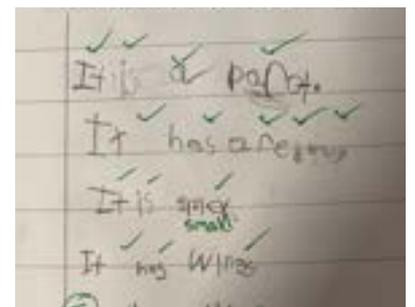
RR Y6 Eucalyptus - 98.06%

## Curriculum Focus

### Reception

This week in literacy, the children have continued to look at this term core text, *Where's the Elephant?*. They have generated a list of adjectives to describe the elephant, parrot, and snake from the text.

They then used the generated vocabulary to write descriptive sentences.



For maths, the children looked at the numbers 6, 7, and 8. They explored different ways to represent those numbers and how to use smaller numbers to create bigger numbers. After they looked at making one less and one more of 6, 7, and 8 using a 10s frame.

Topic this week was art printmaking. The children explored different ways to make different prints using a variety of materials such as leaf rubbing with a crayon and patterning with paint and different shaped objects. They then used these skills to create trees similar to the ones represented in *Where's the Elephant?*.



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## Year One

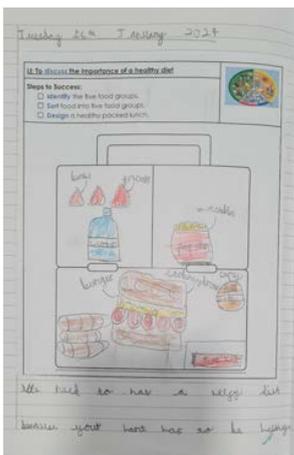
Year 1 has been actively engaged in investigating teen numbers using dienes. Through hands-on activities, our students have skillfully identified the tens and ones within each number, fostering a solid foundation in numerical understanding.

In preparation for an independent writing project, Year 1 has been diligently working on generating descriptive words. The children are gearing up for their big independent write; "The King Who Banned the Dark." by generating adjectives and onomatopoeia words describing the castle and fireworks in the story.

In art, our Year 1 artists have been exploring the world of oil pastels. They've used these vibrant tools to sketch out intricate outlines of crowns, tapping into their imaginative and artistic capabilities.

In science, Year 1 recently embarked on a captivating nature walk as part of their science exploration. During this outdoor adventure, the students eagerly searched for living and non-living organisms. The hands-on experience allowed them to connect with the natural world, sparking curiosity and scientific inquiry.

## Year Two



This week we have been super busy in Year 2. In writing we have been using our persuasive skills to write a letter convincing our leaders to let the children have a class pet. The children have had to get their thinking caps on to think of a way to persuade adults to let them have anything from a pet rabbit to a pet crocodile! Children have had to give reasons as to why having a pet would be a great idea and help them to gain life skills which can only come from looking after a living thing. We wonder if they will be successful! In Maths the children continue to build on their learning regarding





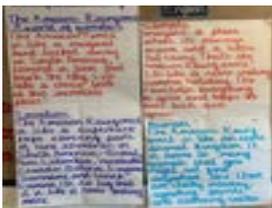
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money. They have been making amounts in different ways using coins collaboratively in teams and applying this knowledge to answer questions and calculations. In Science, the children have been learning about healthy eating and understanding which food groups we can eat regularly and which foods we should eat once in a while. They then applied this knowledge to design their very own healthy packed lunch explaining why a balanced diet is important.

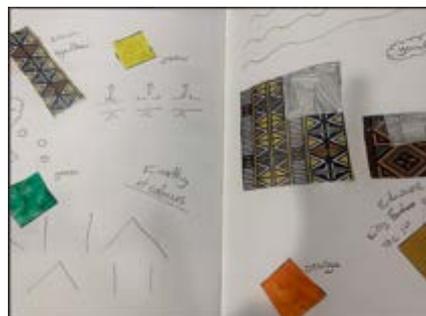
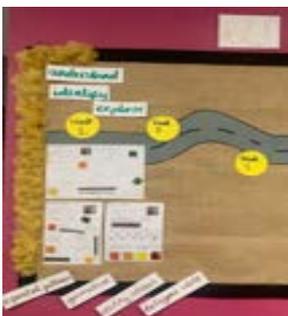
### Year Three

In English this week, the children have generated a variety of factual paragraphs about the Amazon Rainforest, in preparation to publish their very own informational leaflet. During the process, they successfully applied varied sentence openers and subheadings. They were also able to use similes to make comparisons about the Amazon Rainforest.



In maths the children have continued to look at multiplication and division along with their related facts. The focus has been on multiplying and dividing 2 digit numbers by a 1 digit number. Year 3 used their knowledge of place value charts and part whole models to support their learning. The use of the different methods allowed all of the children to have a clearer understanding of how the related facts work together.

In art this week, the children were looking at the bologan cloth, which is a type of textile art. They were able to use the correct vocabulary to identify and explore the different colours and patterns used to make the bologan cloth.





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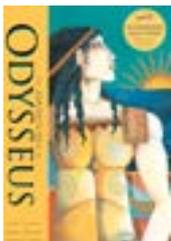
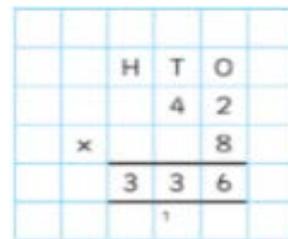
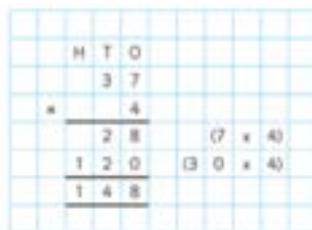
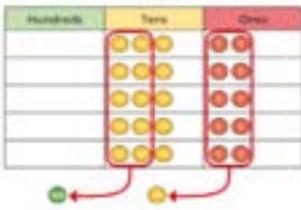
In geography, year 3 used geographical vocabulary to compare the Amazon rainforest and the Galloway forest. They were able to successfully identify the similarities and differences between the localities. They were then able to coach each other, using the correct vocabulary to share the findings.



## Year Four

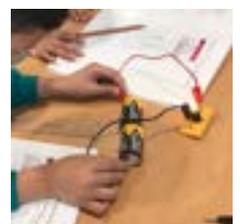
In maths the children have continued learning about multiplication. They have been learning about different methods used to multiply, such as using place value counters, formal written methods and the expanded method. The children were very enthused by the learning as they were able to collaborate with their peers to find answers to the questions.

Betti uses a place value chart to work out  $5 \times 32$



In writing, children continued with our core text *Odysseus*. They learnt about the different characters in Greek mythology and the special powers they could have. The children went on to describe the protagonist, *Odysseus*, and the antagonist, *Polyphemus*, from the story about the Cyclops and generated descriptions which they could use when writing their own Greek myth.

In science, children continued to learn about electricity. They were introduced to the symbols and key vocabulary that they needed to understand what was meant by a complete circuit. Children were





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expected to be precise and work scientifically when they were drawing and labelling a diagram of a circuit making sure they used rulers to draw their lines and used the symbols to show scientific items (components). They learnt about what components were needed before selecting what was needed for the circuit. They experimented to make a complete circuit and felt jubilant when their efforts resulted in the bulb lighting up.

### Year Five



Year 5 has had another great week! They have been working very hard in English, learning new literary techniques and applying their new skills to retell our core text 'Windrush Child'. The children have been enjoying learning about Leonard and his difficult journey to the UK from Jamaica.

In maths, children have been multiplying 3 and 4 digit numbers using the written column method and area model. They have been working hard using their times table knowledge to help them answer problem solving questions.



This week, children have enjoyed learning about the aspects of different climate zones. They learnt how to describe these climate zones and reflect on the advantages and disadvantages of living in a specific climate zone.

### Year Six



Year 6 has had a tremendous week! They have worked incredibly hard to showcase their knowledge within their SATs practice which we have seen a huge improvement with since last term.

In English, children have begun writing their journey in the role of an evacuee to the countryside using descriptive and precise vocabulary to create an effective atmosphere for the reader. In Maths they have continued to delve into decimals; adding and subtracting from integers using efficient methods.

This week children have also enjoyed building on their knowledge in history and unpinning key facts about world war 2 (locating axis and allies on a map). In Science, children have also enjoyed drawing and making electric circuits to





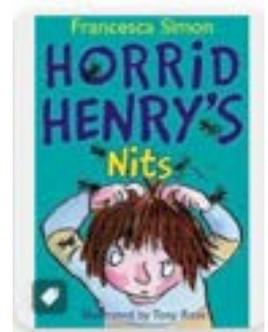
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make a buzzer buzz and a motor spin- whilst identifying key components of a circuit using scientific language such as conductor and insulator; testing various variables to further their knowledge.

### Reading recommendations

Anthony from Cherry class recommends Horrid Henry's Nits by Francesca Simon. "I like it because it is really funny. Henry's Mum and Dad are scratching then Henry starts scratching and they all have nits! Henry gets very upset when they want to comb his hair and he doesn't want to. Horrid Henry books are my favourite because he is naughty and it is funny what he gets up to."



### Phrases of the Week



**¡El valor de West Thornton es la RESILIENCIA!** - West Thornton's value this term is RESILIENCE!

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Rosie-Leigh	Ayaan	Qamar	Vihaan
Ahyaan	Athirtheeran	Aganaa	Jassem
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Thanvi	Aryan	Tracey	Harry
Jason	Ayra	Amari	Anika



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Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Arayan	Akosua	Nitya	Parvina	Shaina
Kavinu	Abdul	Mariya	Ishani	Musa
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Whole	Bogdan	Alysia	Liana	Rumaisa
class	Grace	Oksanaa	Jessinton	Sebastian
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Reggie - Jay	Chu	Marley	Fiza/Adnan	Kavinei
Swarnika	Sajoori	Denephia	Piratheesh	Massita
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Rahma	Bailey	Aryan	Aqila	Lilia
Smriti	Ibrahim	Rohaam	Joshua	Sashagay
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Tanvi	Kaaviyaa	Whole	Kyree	Khaleel
Muhammad Zayan	Vithush	class	Tarek	Maryan
Spanish	Music	Music		
Lakai Acer	Teon Eucalyptus	Adu Blackthorn		