



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

23rd February 2024

What a lovely return to school it has been this week. It's great to see the children so settled and ready to get stuck back in their learning. This week, West Thornton has already seen some amazing things in action. See below for details of a new award the school has earned, year 2 have begun their trips to the local Mosque, and a number of DT projects have begun.

Next week will be our parents' evening. Please make sure you log in to Arbor and book an appointment to see your child's teacher. In year 6, we are requesting that all children attend their meetings as we get closer to their SATs.

Trauma and Attachment Bronze Award



We would like to share some fantastic news with you regarding a school achievement. We are proud to have been awarded the Bronze Level Trauma and Attachment Sensitive School Award.

This award is external recognition of the commitment from our school and to the steps we take to develop a culture of compassion and nurture, which plays a pivotal role in getting children and young people into a state of 'learning readiness'. The award is issued only to those educational establishments that can demonstrate that they have met its rigorous quality standards and can maintain them over time.

Some highlights from the assessment feedback included;

- *Staff are skilled in monitoring excitement and anxiety, and they have a deep understanding of survival behaviours. They make appropriate interventions to provide coregulation, using a 'connection before correction' approach, so physiological and emotional comfort is restored as part of the coregulation process, and reflection and restorative dialogue only takes place once a child is regulated in their body and emotions.*
- *There is an emphasis on children's lived experience as a tool for understanding the child in the present. Throughout the interviews, staff demonstrated sensitivity to children's*



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

histories.

- *There is a strong focus on multi-sensory learning and play is integral to the curriculum. This, combined with the emphasis on making learning fun and individual attention for each child, is an excellent recipe for helping children to become fully engaged with learning. The range of opportunities offered to pupils is impressive, and again, individually tailored to each child.*

We are extremely proud to have successfully gained this award and have already started planning for the Silver Award!

Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

RR Reception Oak

RR Year 2 Rowan

CR Year 2 Aspen

RR Year 3 Larch

RR Year 3 Cedar

RR Year 6 Blackthorn

Curriculum Focus

Reception



Reception have had an exciting start to their half term of learning! When they returned to school, they saw that the playground was extremely dirty! There had been litter dropped all over the ground and they decided that they must be responsible and tidy it up! Armed with litter pickers, the children picked up lots of different materials, such as cardboard boxes, plastic bottles and even plastic bags! This was a fantastic time to introduce the children to their new core text 'Michael Recycle' and begin to learn all about how to be sustainable and which materials they could recycle. As part of their literacy learning this week, the



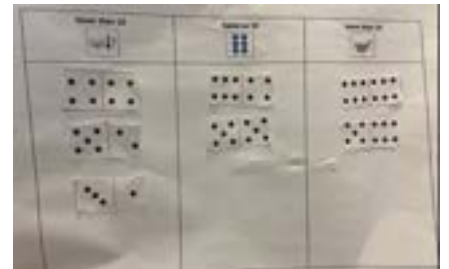


WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

children wrote a list of all the materials they found in the playground and begun to understand what recycle, reduce and reuse means.

In maths, the children have been learning in depth about the number 9 and 10. They have been representing these numbers using practical resources as well as drawing their own representations, such as 9 stars and 10 flowers. They have also been using their knowledge of less than and more than and have been sorting different representations into more than 9 and less than 9.



In topic, reception have been learning about maps and which features they might find. They looked in depth at Google Earth and understood that a map is looking at a place from above. They could recognise features such as roads, roundabouts and trees and they were really excited when they saw the school on a map, as well as looking at some of their own houses! Once they understood what a map was, they then used this knowledge to make their own maps of well known stories. They drew a map of Little Red Riding Hood's journey to Grandma's house as well as drawing the route the Gingerbread Man took to the river!

Year One

Welcome back Year 1! In English, the children have been diving into the wonderful world of storytelling through the book "Grandpa's Island." They've been crafting effective sentences, exploring descriptive language, and engaging in discussions about the themes and characters of this captivating tale.

In Maths, Year 1 have been hard at work mastering the concept of grouping numbers into tens and ones. Through hands-on activities, games, and interactive exercises, they're developing a solid understanding of place value and laying the foundation for future mathematical concepts.

In DT, Year 1 students have been putting their creativity to the test by designing and constructing sliding pictures. They've been learning about mechanisms and exploring how to make objects move smoothly. It's been wonderful to see their imaginations at work as they bring their designs to life!



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year Two



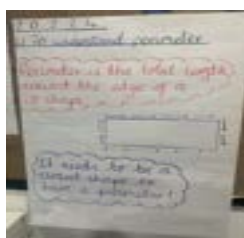
Year Two have had a great first week back. They have been enjoying their new core text *Frog Belly Rat Bone* by Timothy Ering. At the beginning of the week they sequenced the key events from the story and enjoyed reenacting and retelling the story. At the end of the week they began to write their own retelling of the narrative.

In maths the children have begun their new unit learning about fractions. They have understood that fractions are parts of a whole. They have then been working on recognising $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ of shapes and then used this knowledge to find fractions of amounts. So many of them have been able to apply this knowledge to solving problems.

The children at Canterbury Road enjoyed their visit to Croydon Mosque where they learnt about the features of a mosque and the importance of this place of worship for Muslims. The children at Rosecourt Road are looking forward to going next week. They have also begun their new DT unit where they are going to be creating their own hand puppets. This week they were learning about different puppets and the features of a hand puppet.

Year Three

Year 3 has had a fantastic start to this half term. Our new core text is 'The Lorax'. We have been looking at persuasive letters and their features. This week, they were also looking at emotive language and why it is used. The children were able to make comparisons between two different texts, identifying the positives and negatives of cutting down trees and generating alternative options that would be of benefit.



In maths, we have begun to look at perimeter. The children are able to explain what a shape needs to have to be able to measure the perimeter. They successfully used a ruler and their knowledge of addition to find the perimeter.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In History, our new topic is the Stone Age. This week the children have looked at the different time periods within the Stone Age and the differences between them. They were able to identify the Old Stone Age, the Middle Stone Age and the New Stone Age. After learning their new knowledge, they went on to make a timeline of the Stone Age.



Year Four



In Year Four, we have been exploring the life of our protagonist Elliot in our new book 'Who Let the Gods Out'. We read the first few chapters and mapped out a sociogram to understand how Elliot felt about and related to every person in his life - including his teachers.

In Maths, we started a new topic on fractions - we've loved learning how to use mathematical language such as 'integer', 'mixed number', and 'fractional part'. Please ask us about this as we've been partitioning mixed numbers and would love to explain our work.

For DT, we used Google Earth to research the Parthenon in Greece and see what it looks like today. We've also researched the making of the Parthenon - who designed it and who constructed it - and we are beginning to think about what makes a structure strong. We have greatly enjoyed and taken the time to use atlases in Geography, and we learnt how to find grid references for places on maps in the UK and Greece. We're looking forward to comparing them as the term goes on.



Year Five

What a great week back! We have started a new core text: "A Kind of Spark by Ellie McNicoll". We've only read the first chapter so far but we are really enjoying it! We will be writing monologues based on the characters in the book. We are very much looking forward to continuing the story and finding out what happens!





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In maths, we are back on fractions! We are specifically looking at finding fractions of amounts and quantities. We have become pretty good at remembering the method and can also show how to calculate these through pictorial representations.



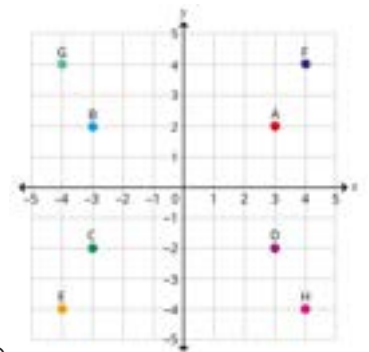
In Science, we started to look at forces and have planned an investigation to discover whether gravity acts the same way on all objects. We will carry out the investigation next week so watch out for photos in the next newsletter.

Our DT topic of bridges is linked to our science through the idea of forces. We have been looking at the shapes of beams used in bridges and explored which ones are the strongest. We used scissors, glue sticks and whiteboard rubbers to test the strength of the bridges we made!



Year Six

Year 6 have had a great start to Spring 2, which is always an extremely busy time of year for Year 6s everywhere! The children have begun to consolidate their learning on shape, position and direction by reading and plotting coordinates. They have recognised 2D shapes and have drawn these on coordinate grids, finding missing vertices and reflecting and translating.



In English, they have been immersed in the topic for our next writing outcome by looking at some examples of leaflets from WW2 before picking out key vocabulary and structures and summarising the information contained in them. They will start to write their own information leaflets next week.



In history, year 6 have continued learning about World War 2 by looking at posters created during the time to persuade the public to behave a certain way. The children looked at why they were effective and thought about what it would have been like to live during that period.

Any spare moment during the day is being used to practise lots of arithmetic as well as spelling, punctuation and grammar and the children are growing in confidence daily which is a pleasure to see!



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Reading for Pleasure

Thank you for feedback around the Reading Sessions. To make sure that as many people as possible have a chance to come along and share a book with your child in their classroom, we will be ensuring there are some morning and afternoon sessions. We look forward to seeing you all

Canterbury Road Reading Sessions

Morning Reading sessions will take place **every Friday morning 8.40am to 9.10am**

Afternoon Reading sessions will take place **Monday 4th & 25th March 2.55pm**

Rosecourt Road Reading Sessions

EYFS & KS1 sessions will take place **every Thursday morning 8.40am to 9.10am**

KS2 sessions will take place **every Friday morning 8.40am to 9am**

Book Fair

Starting today and next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we will be having the book fair at school. We will be selling books in the school hall from 3.15 each day. Online payments only. We will have a secure QR code system for you to use. Here are some of the books we will have on sale or check the website link below:





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

https://www.scholastic.co.uk/blog/Highlights-from-your-summer-Book-Fair-range-45477?_gl=1*1de66ph*_ga*MzI5NTI2NzYxLjE3MDczMDAxMDc.*_ga_NB70H7NPT8*MTcwODQ1MzM5OS4yLjEuMTcwODQ1MzQxNy40Mi4wLjA

World book day

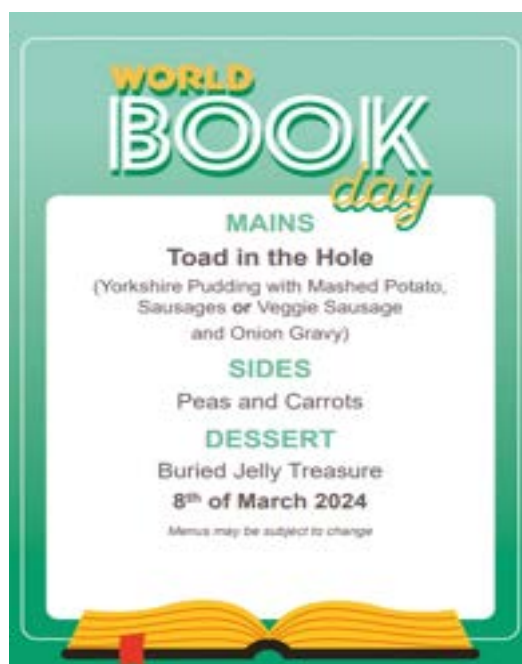
On Friday the 8th March we will be celebrating World Book Day. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character or in their PJs. If you have any questions please speak to your child's teacher.

We have already had some amazing entries for the paper plate challenge. What will you do?



World Book Day Celebrations Menu

Chartwells have provided a special menu which will be available on Friday 8th March as part of our World Book Celebrations. See below.





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Community

Save Broad Green Library from Closure by Croydon Council

You can read more and sign the petition here:

<https://chnq.it/dxsq4Q8BK4>



Community Food Bank

18:30 – 19:00
23 Feb, 2024

NTA Thornton Heath are working in partnership with ECE UK to provide support to our local community. We pride ourselves in making a difference by helping those in need.

St Judes w/ St Aidan Hall,
Thornton Road
Thornton Heath
CR7 6BA

We operate every last Friday of each month.





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Enrichment

Huge well done to the girls football team who played incredibly well in this weeks football tournament, despite the awful weather conditions. We're looking forward to our upcoming league matches for both the boys and girls to continue their winning streak.

Phrases of the Week



¡Bienvenidos a todos! - Welcome back everyone!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
George	Ayra	Athwin	Reece	
Trey	Preet	Musa	Victoria	
Y1 Elm	Y1Fir	Y1Lime	Y1 Maple	
Megan	Maya	Thanushik	Aiza	
Hamza	Ohm	Jaafina	Jakepaul	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Whole	Arham	Zion	Diyone	Michael
Class	Emily	Marianna	Mia	Georgina
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Amelio	Whole	Areej	Aiden	Yaqub
Rym	Class	Milan	Zuzia	Nandini



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Aarush	Josiah	Charlie	Isabel	Rozia
Sophia	Narayan	Giovanni	Aleala	Faiz
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Lishana	Houssamatou	Umar	Niyah	Maliyah
Heba	Noble	Priscilla	Rebeca. C	Jayden
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Aryan	Ayanna	Carole-Ann	Nyah	Delilah
Michael	Adar	Raza	Naziah	Riyan
Spanish	Music			
Jordan Eucalyptus	Ifeanyi			