



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

8th March 2024



Red Nose Day - Friday 15th March

Wear something red or create a crazy hair style. £1 donation welcomed.

What a wonderful week it has been at West Thornton! We celebrated World Book Day on Friday and it was great to see so many children dressed up as their favourite book characters. Teachers were also able to celebrate their favourite books by inviting each class from their key stage to try out a different book based activity. We saw poetry, book mark making and design your own character activities as well as many others. The teachers even swapped classes at the end of the day to read their favourite book to a different class. Reading continues to be our main school priority at West Thornton so it was lovely to see such great engagement from our community. We look forward to celebrating World Maths Day in a few weeks time, so keep an eye out for more information that will be shared soon.

Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

RR Year 2 Rowan

RR Year 3 Larch

RR Year 3 Cedar

RR Year 3 Walnut

RR Year 4 Yew

RR Year 6 Blackthorn

RR Year 6 Eucalyptus

CR Year 3 Cherry

CR Year 5 Sycamore

CR Year Holly



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Curriculum Focus

Reception

In literacy this week, the children have been writing instructions. They started by following instructions on how to plant cress seeds. They then looked at how time adverbials and imperative (bossy) verbs are used in instructions to tell the person when and how to do something. Finally they wrote their own set of instructions on how to plant cress seeds.



For maths, Reception started learning about number bonds to 10. They explored different ways to make 10 using both cubes and numicon and wrote addition number sentences using the number bonds.

Topic this week was continuing to explore musical instruments and sustainability by creating instruments out of recycled materials. The children designed and labelled their own version of a music instrument, learned how to take a 2D picture and make it into a 3D object, and joined together various recycled materials to make a musical instrument. At the end of the week we used the musical instruments to create a reception band and put on a performance for our friends!



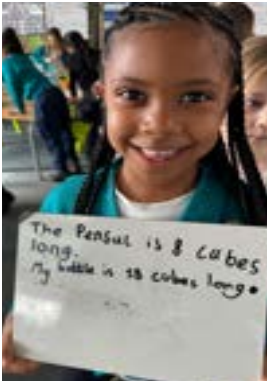


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Year One

In English this week the children have completed writing their setting description independently. This was inspired by our core text 'Grandads island' however the children changed the setting to the antarctic! They used a range of adjectives, verbs, emotive language and also a dialogue between Grandad and Syd.



In maths this week the children started a new topic - measuring. They learnt about measuring non standard units and worked practically to measure objects with cubes.

The children have had a very exciting science lesson this week! They used their investigation skills by using their senses to feel, taste and smell different foods. They then made a prediction on whether the food will be sweet, sour/bitter or salty.



Year Two

This week in year 2 the children have been working hard to complete assessments in reading, writing and maths. This gives the children a change to bring together everything they have learned and show us what they can do!

In writing we finished up with our core text Frog Belly Rat Bone by adapting the story to write our own narrative.

We have also finished our fractions unit this week, the children solved word problems using their knowledge of fractions. We are excited to be moving onto measurement next week.

In design technology the children learned how to do a running stitch and an over stitch. They learnt this skill so that they can effectively create their own puppets at the end of the term.



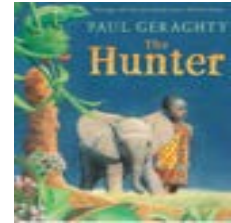
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Year Three

The children have worked really hard this week in Year 3, bringing together all of their learning to complete assessments in Reading, Maths and Punctuation, Spelling and Grammar.

We began to look at our new core text 'The Hunter', in particular the main character Jamina. The children generated adjectives to describe Jamina's appearance and her personality traits to create a character description.



In maths the children have continued their work on fractions and used our prior knowledge to compare and order non-unit fractions. They began to look at fractions and scales.

In history the children looked at how tools changed throughout the Stone Age periods. They were able to recognise and talk about the transition from hammer stone to arrow head.



Year Four

In English this week, the children have been working hard to write their setting description based on our core text 'Who Let The Gods Out?'. Their setting description was based on the farm that the main character and his mother owned. They have thought really hard about how they could paint a vivid picture for the reader by including features such as figurative language and imagery in their writing. They collaborated with their peers to edit and uplevel their work.

In maths, the children have been learning about equivalent fractions and exploring fractions greater than 1. They have also been learning how to add and subtract fractions as well as looking closely at the relationship between a mixed fraction and an improper fraction. They have then applied this knowledge to solve reasoning problems on fractions.

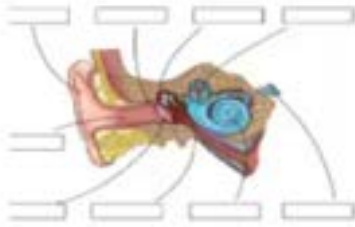
In science, the children have continued their learning on sound. They have been learning about the different parts of the ear and about their functions. The children collaborated with their partners to label the different parts of the ear which they really enjoyed. They were surprised to



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learn that it is possible to hear without the outer ear, and that the outer ear acts as a funnel which enables them to hear better.



Year Five

Year 5 have had a very hands-on week this week! In between finishing our first person monologues in English and extending our fraction knowledge in maths, we have been investigating friction in science and creating bridges with arches in DT.

English has been an interesting challenge for us over the last two weeks as we have been creating first person monologues, writing as if we were the main character of our core text, Addie from A Kind of Spark. The biggest challenge has been to write in the present tense- we are so used to writing narrative style texts in the past tense! This week we have focused on using semicolons, including subordinate clauses in our sentences and looking for ways to include a variety of figurative language to create clear images for the readers.



In science this week, we have continued our investigation of forces by looking closely at friction. We had an excellent experiment where we tried to pick up jelly cubes using pencils as chopsticks.

One cube was the normal, wobbly jelly whilst the other had been covered in oil. Hilarity resulting in scientific discovery- a great way to learn about friction and how much we need it!

DT is also connected to forces with our ongoing pursuit to discover which shape is the strongest. This week we focused on the idea of arches and have attempted to create our own. We have had varying levels of success but have all had a great time constructing them!

Finally, ending the week with World Book Day has been so much fun. The array of costumes were incredible and everyone had a great time completing six different activities with all of the teachers in Years 5 and 6.





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Year Six

Year 6 has been particularly impressive this week and have been diligently applying their knowledge to prepare for their SATS exams.

In their writing lessons, children have continued to develop their persuasive writing skills by crafting leaflets on surviving an air raid. They effectively used techniques such as repetition, imperative verbs (commands), and a range of cohesive devices to link their ideas clearly.

In history, we delved into the impact of rationing on the everyday lives of civilians in Britain during World War II. Children explored both the reasons why rationing was brought in and the ways people coped with these wartime limitations.

World book day

We had a fantastic time today celebrating World Book Day. Thank you to everyone who came in to share a book this morning to help us really start the day with some great books. We did lots of fun activities today and it was great to see everyone so excited to talk about their favourite books and characters.





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Thank you for all the amazing entries for the paper plate competition. Well done to all the winners who have a £10 book voucher to now go and buy some exciting books.



Community

Rosecourt Road Book Swap



Thank you to everyone who joined in our first book swap, it was a great success! Don't forget this will take place every other Wednesday (same day as the food stall). This is a completely free initiative. We just ask that you return the book that you've borrowed, ready to swap it for a new one.

Food stall



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What: Our food stall is a combination of foods and flowers from local supermarkets who have surplus stock. This can be because its 'best before' date is due or they have large quantities which are not needed.

Where: Our food stall takes place on the school playground fortnightly. This is so both school sites are able to run

When: 3:15pm - or as soon as the gates open Every other Wednesday

Why: Why not! You can save money and help reduce food waste at the same time. The best bit is all donations made, are used to support those most in need with everyday essentials.



Parental Feedback

At West Thornton, we are committed to working with our parents and carers. To demonstrate this, we want to share how your invaluable feedback has led to positive changes in the school. Thank you.

YOU SAID

That you'd like more opportunities to interact with leaders, so ...



WE DID

... we now have a schedule of 'meet the leader' sessions so you have more opportunities to meet with senior, phase and subject leaders in the school.

That we could provide more educational visits to bring our curriculum to life, so...



...leaders across our 3 Croydon schools are working together to create a document that highlights the trips and enrichment activities from Reception to Year 6!



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Enrichment

This week, canvas painting after school club at Canterbury Road are finally able to take home their fantastic masterpieces! Every single child has worked hard and has had so much fun creating a sunset / sunrise painting.

Our first step was to create a canvas painting journal where they could record each step. We then researched different types of canvas paintings, the children chose the final outcome they wanted to reproduce and then chose their colour pallets. The week after, the children sketched out exactly what they wanted to create and then we explored how to mix colours in order to create unique and specific colours. The children worked hard to create the perfect colours for their sunset canvas paintings and have become experts at the skill of blending paint with a paintbrush. Well done Canvas painting club! We shall now begin a new journey for our next canvas painting project... stay tuned!





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3-0 win to West Thornton boy's football team



We are extremely proud of the boy's team, following their 3-0 win against Regina Coeli Catholic Primary School. The win brought the team into the quarter finals where they will go up against St Thomas Becket Catholic Primary School. If they win their next game it will take us into the semi finals!

Phrases of the Week



¡Feliz Día Mundial del Libro! - Happy World Book Day!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Liam	Ryan	Zayaan	Darcie
Evelin	Jayce	Avah	Kaiden
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Ellis	Aryan	Maryam	Thishaan
Maya	Fatima	Noah	Chloe



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Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Olamilekan	Olamiposi	Riaab	Romelle	Khaliyah
Serena	Romero	Keevah	Dev	Adil
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Rutmi	Idrees	Azma	Jennifer	Ashylah
Sanuthi	Faaiz	Ali	Subhan	Nathan
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Aarush	Naila	Melaine	Isaac	Elijah B
Nusaibah	Avaneesh	Aayan	Dylan	Mohammad
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Ritish	Madushen	Nisha	Joshua	Skye
Affan	Ahmad	Patrick	Shreyas	Keisy-Anne
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Muhammad	Teon	Whole Class	Joel	Farzeen
Zayan	Steve		Chris	Prayush
Spanish	Music			
Sajoori Beech	Aisha Hawthorn			