



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

1st March 2024

Thank you to all the families who attended our Parents' Evenings this week. It was lovely to see so many families looking at all the amazing work produced by our children and discussing progress with staff. We know that children get the best out of education when we work together. If you haven't been able to make an appointment please see your child's teacher.

Our Book Fair was a great success - there were lots of excited children who were looking forward to reading a new book at home that night! Thank you to everyone who bought a book - due to the amazing sales reaching over £2200, we have earned **£1277 of rewards** to **spend on books for the school** with Scholastic! Well done to all!

We are celebrating World Book Day on Friday 8th March - please look out for more details.

#### Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

CR - Year 3 Cherry Class

CR - Year 5 Sycamore Class

CR - Year 6 Holly Class

RR - Year 2 Spruce Class

RR - Year 3 Larch Class



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### Curriculum Focus

#### Reception

In reception this week the children have continued to explore their core text 'Michael Recycle'. Taking inspiration from the story, the children have started their DT project of designing and making a musical instrument from recycling materials. The children



were excited about exploring a range of musical instruments, learning their names and listening to the different sounds they make.

The children have then explored different skills of joining materials and making close observations of the instruments before they start to design their own instruments.



In literacy lessons the children have been learning about sustainable actions they can make to help look after our planet. They have explored a number of ways in which they can reduce, reuse and recycle. After plenty of discussions the children have written a sustainable promise applying their phonic knowledge.

Composing numbers to 10 has been the focus of our maths learning this week where children have been using two parts to make a whole number. After exploring this concept practically with manipulatives, the children have been introduced to the abstract concept of recording this as a number sentence.

#### Year One

This week in English, the children in Year 1 have been using adjectives to describe the Arctic in preparation for writing settings in their story writing. The children also write dialogue between two characters in the story.

In maths, the children have been continuing their learning of numbers within 50 to complete missing number tracks. They have been counting in tens and estimating on a number line.

In DT, the children created amazing moving pictures using a lever mechanism. In Science, they have been thinking about their senses and what part of the body controls them. In





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computing they logged into Purple Mash and completed a task based on coding.

### Year Two

Another learning fuelled week for Year 2 this week! In English, the children have been recounting the story of the Frog Belly Rat Bone which is a creature made by a little boy who wants to save his treasure from some sneaky thieves. It has been a delight to read their recollections and witness the children apply their writing techniques, such as noun phrases and consistent past tense, to capture the key events in the story. In Maths, the children have been familiarising themselves with unit and non-unit fractions. They've built on their knowledge of equal and unequal parts and now know what numerator and denominator mean.



In the wider curriculum, the children have been learning about habitats in which living things live in science and have created their very own finger puppets as part of the DT learning journey - they had so much fun (as well as building on essential cutting skills!)



### Year Three

What a busy week for the Year 3 children! In English this week, we have been writing a persuasive letter in response to the council's proposed plans to build more houses, factories and car parks on our local green spaces. The children have drawn upon their knowledge of deforestation, persuasive and emotive language to write an incredibly detailed letter outlining why they are against their proposed plans.

In maths, the children have started their unit on fractions. The children have learnt about numerators and denominators and how to order fractions based on their size. They've built on their learning in Year 2 and will soon learn to add and subtract fractions.

Within the wider curriculum, the children carried out observations in science, learning about different types of soils. The children recorded what they noticed about each of the soil types and they will use this to carry out an investigation over the next few weeks. In history the children have gathered information about the past through looking at a range of primary and secondary sources. They





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used these sources to find out more about what life was like during the Stone Age.

The teachers would also like to thank all the parents who have attended parents evening this week. We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing the children's successes with you.

### Year Four

In maths this week, children have been developing their understanding of fractions by learning about improper fractions and mixed numbers. Additionally, they were learning to compare fractions by putting them in ascending and descending order and spotting patterns in sequences of fractions.

Children are now confident in understanding that fractions can exceed the value of 1 and that a fraction is equal to 1 whole when the numerator is the same as the denominator. Through various representations such as bar models and number lines, children were supported in understanding improper fractions lying between whole numbers such as 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



This week in writing, the children delved deeper into our core text 'Who Let the Gods Out' by focusing on analysing the characters within the book. Through engaging activities, the children sought to understand the relationship between the main character, Elliot, and his friend, Virgo. One activity involved generating a set of probing

questions aimed at the characters. The questions were then used while the children assumed the roles of these characters as well as taking on other roles, including camera person, scribe and interviewer for the interactive interviews. This activity provided valuable insights into how the characters perceived each other at different parts of the story. Later on in the week, the children used their understanding to craft internal dialogues, showcasing the evolving thoughts and feelings of the characters towards each other throughout the story's progression.



In science this week, children were continuing their learning about sound. They were recognising how vibrations from sounds travel through different mediums to the ear. They observed drum skins vibrating while the drums were being hit.

They found that the air particles near the drum also vibrate and the vibrations pass on to the next air particle until they reach the ear and that this all happens extremely



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quickly. They found that the air travels in all directions not in straight lines, that's how children all around could hear the drum beat. They then thought about what would happen if the drum was hit harder.

### Year Five

This week in writing, children have continued to explore our core text 'Kind of Spark'. They are beginning to understand the main character Addie, and her daily struggles. They have been learning a range of literary techniques to emphasise and enhance their writing to engage the reader. They have understood the relationship between Addie and her class teacher.

In science this week, children have worked hard to conduct their science experiments on forces! They understood how to conduct fair tests, and applied this knowledge to their experiments.



In DT children have learnt about Truss bridges. They explored the different types of trusses and how they all function. They then applied all of their knowledge to replicate one of the Truss designs and test the durability of the bridges.

### Year Six

What a busy week it has been for our year sixes. This week in English, our budding writers have been honing their writing skills in preparation for writing their informational leaflets on 'Surviving an Air Raid' during WW2. Through the adept use of modal verbs, imperative verbs and the passive voice, our children have not only demonstrated their linguistic prowess but also their understanding of effective communication techniques. We can't wait to read their final outcomes when they start writing their information leaflets next week.



The distance from the mirror line needs to be the same for the reflection as the original shape.

In Maths, the children began the week by securing their understanding of translation and reflection of shape. The children were able to understand that a translation is





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where every point of a shape moves the same distance in the same direction and that reflection is also a transformation, but the object is reflected across a line, creating a mirror image. The children then moved on to converting metric measurements.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the changing role of women during WW2 in History this week. Through engaging discussions and insightful analyses, the children gained a deeper understanding of the invaluable contributions made by women and how this reshaped their role.



### Secondary school outcomes

If you applied online and on time you will receive an email notification about the result of your child's application this evening. You will not be sent an outcome letter in the post, you will be able to view the result of your application online as well as accept or decline the offer made by logging into your eAdmissions account. Keep your login details safe once you have submitted your online application.

You must accept or decline the offer by 15 March 2024 to be guaranteed a place at the school offered. This local authority will not be able to keep an offer of a place open indefinitely. If you do not reply within the specified time your place will be allocated to the next child on the waiting list.

The outcome information on the eAdmissions website will give you important advice on what to do next if you have been unsuccessful in securing an offer at one of your preferred schools or have been offered an alternative school which you did not list on your online form.

### Reading for Pleasure

We will be celebrating World book day next week on Friday 8th March. To celebrate you can come to school dressed as a book character or in your Pjs. We will be doing lots of fun reading activities during the day and would love to start the day off with lots of shared reading. Parents and carers please join us by coming into class from 8.40 - 9.00 to come and share a book. Don't forget to hand in your paper plate book character competition entries. Winners will be picked on World Book Day. We have prizes for the winners!



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### Community



### Young Carers Service

A young carer is a child who has a caring role for someone with a physical disability, mental health issue, long-term illness, learning difficulty or substance dependency. This might be a parent, sibling or extended family such as grandparents.

As a Young Carer you can get extra help, support and free activities in the local community. The Young Carers Service is a free and friendly service, offering support to young people who are caring for a parent or sibling.

Even if you feel your child does not have a caring role as such, we would like to discuss the Young Carers service with you and the great offer they have for young people. Please see the link below for further information. You are welcome to self-refer, or alternatively speak to Miss Williams for further information and guidance.

<https://www.talkofftherecord.org/croydon/young-carers-service/>



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New Testament  
Assembly  
January

### 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.



### Cost of living survey

If you have not done so already, could you please complete the cost of living survey. This will help shape the support we provide. You can either scan the QR code (open up your camera and hover over until a link appears) or see the previous email sent out on 21st February.







### Phrases of the Week



**Yo tengo el pelo rubio y rizado.** - I have blonde, curly hair.

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Mateo	Sophie	Taliyah	Mark	
Hassan	Saifan	Eshal	Denis	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Chris	Ayra	Cheyavan	Halla	
Asher	David	Loreran	Arya	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Methupa	Ayesha	Nishany	Cherish	Nihar
Mercy	Eva	Rayhan	Harish	Jessica
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Persis	Tamiah	Dhanvi	Ahmed	Marcel
Cairo	Liana	Manal	Melania	Johan
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Rianna	Chu	Caleb	Hasveka	Satvic
Alex S	Michelle	Aamir	Fardusa	Srilaya
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore



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Anaya	Habinia	Dion	Ilyas	Liya
Divine	Aisha	Mohamad	Katrina	Nika
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Israel	Jordan	David	Aashir	Malleson
Aaiza	Cyrielle	Laura	Abel	Abu Bakr
Spanish	Music			
Caius Walnut				