



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

22nd March 2024

With Easter just around the corner, the children have been very busy this week building on outcomes from last week's assessments as well as showcasing what they have learnt from the topics they have focussed on this half term. Year 2 visited London Zoo this week; Reception children have been making composters and many classes have been working on the end product of their DT projects.



Thank you to all the children who performed in the Rocksteady Concert that took place this week. The performers have come on leaps and bounds and have made great progress with their musical talents. Staff and parents were mightily impressed.

Do make sure that you try your best to come into school next week. There is still a lot more to look forward to. We will be finishing off the term with an International Maths Day celebration. See below for more information about how you can get involved.

Last of all, can we also take this opportunity to thank all members of our community who model our school values to our children when in or near the school and at home. We could not instil these traits in our children without your support and you also showing the children what Kindness, Respect, Tolerance, Responsibility, Collaboration and Excellence look like. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend!

Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

CR - Y4 Hornbeam

RR - Y3 Larch

CR - Y4 Olive

CR - Y5 Sycamore



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Curriculum Focus

Reception

This week in reception, the children have continued to learn about ways to be sustainable. In literacy they learnt that using a composter for their old fruit peel would be a great way to make special soil for the garden areas outside. They learnt how to make a composter and wrote each step as an instruction. They needed to remember to use numbered steps or time adverbials as well as 'bossy' imperative verbs.



In maths, the children have been learning about 3D shapes. They have learnt that 3D shapes are ones you can pick up and use to build with and have learnt the names of a cube, cuboid, cone, pyramid and sphere. In the first lesson they went on a shape hunt to find different 3D shapes in their classrooms. They had a practical lesson where they had to build towers and see which shapes could stack on top of each other. They learnt pretty quickly that shapes such as cones, pyramids and spheres were not good at the bottom of the towers as they couldn't stack anything on top!



In topic this week, reception have been learning about different religions and their celebrations. They have learnt about Easter, Eid and Holi and have compared the similarities and differences between the three festivals. When learning about Easter, the children even had a chance to exchange a small chocolate egg with their friend and try hot cross buns!

Year One

We've been working very hard in Year One this week!

In maths, the children have been diving into the fascinating world of mass and weight! They've been learning how to measure objects and understand the concepts of heavy and light. Through practical activities and fun exercises, they're honing their



of



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

measurement skills which are fundamental in their mathematical journey.

In English, the children have been busy expanding their vocabulary and practising essential skills to enhance their independent writing. This will be based on the lovely storybook *Beegu*, a story about an alien who became lost on Earth. The children will write a diary entry from the perspective of Beegu and use their writing skills to write the best diary entry ever!

In RE, the children took part in an engaging activity where they acted out the parable of the prodigal son. This helped them to understand the moral lessons embedded in the story and reflect on their own lives.



Finally, in PSHE the children let their imaginations soar as they envisioned their dream jobs! They enthusiastically drew what they aspire to be in the future and identified the skills they would need to succeed in those roles. This activity encouraged them to think about their ambitions and the steps they can take to achieve them, promoting a sense of purpose and motivation.

Year Two

What an exciting week it has been for the Year Twos this week! The children got the chance to visit the London Zoo on Tuesday. This trip is linked to their writing in English and also to their learning in science; living things and their habitats. The children got to meet a variety of animals like penguins, tigers, monkeys, giraffes, zebras and many more. They learnt so many facts about animals and the importance of keeping their habitats safe.



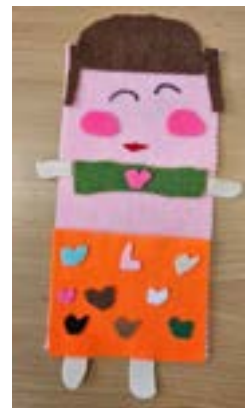


WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

After their trip to the zoo, in English, the children started looking at positives and negatives of keeping animals in zoos. This was to prepare the children for their writing of a balanced argument on whether animals should be kept in zoos. The children have found the definition of some very tricky words: conservation, extinction, habitats, endangered and enclosure.

In maths, the children started the week by solving worded problems on length and height. Then they started learning about mass as the weight of an object. On the arithmetic day the focus was on finding multiplication facts.



In DT the children used their designs from last week to add facial features and other details like arms, tails and ears to their hand puppets. In science, the children enjoyed learning about three different microhabitats: rockpool, under a log and lump of grass. They learnt the different types of animals that lived in each of these habitats.

Year Three

An exciting week in Year 3 this week, the children began to innovate their version of our core text 'The Hunter'. The children used a story map to support their innovation before writing their own narrative using a range of literature devices including expanded noun phrases, similes and verbs, focusing on the ending as they were writing in the third person. The children have also worked hard to include dialogue between characters in their narrative, ensuring that they use speech marks and punctuation correctly.

In maths, the children have been measuring the mass of objects using grams (g) and kilograms (kg). The children had to make sure they were able to identify the value of the intervals on the scale before recognising equivalent masses.

In history, the children have continued to look at how changes occurred over The Stone Age. This week they looked at how farming





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

and agriculture has changed from the Palaeolithic era to the Neolithic era. They were able to make links to their learning over the past few weeks to see how all changes interlink.

Year Four

Year 4 has had another exciting week. In maths, the children began a new topic, moving from fractions to decimals. They learnt to count forwards and backwards in tenths on a numberline and to divide a 2 digit number by 10, initially using place value counters to recognise that 10 groups of 1 tenth is equivalent to 1 whole. In writing, the children wrote their recount of a chapter from our core text 'Who Let The Gods Out' by collating a bank of expanded noun phrases, and impactful figurative language to create an eerie setting description for the beginning of their narrative. They included reported speech, using engaging adverbials. In Design Technology, the children have been developing their skills to build a model of the Greek Parthenon. They worked collaboratively in groups, learning how to overcome challenges together and assess their progress for their next steps. In science the children have continued their learning about sound, testing the effectiveness of different types of material to absorb sound.



Year Five

Another busy week! In English we have started looking at information texts and we are using the knowledge gained in science and history, plus some extra research, to create our own. This week has been dedicated to further research and planning the layout and structure of text with next week seeing us writing it.

Maths has been a continuation of looking at the relationship between fractions and decimals and exploring how to convert between the two types of numbers using our knowledge of place value and equivalent fractions.



In DT, we have started the construction of our final bridges. After weeks of researching, exploring and designing, we have finally reached a conclusion as to what we believe is the strongest shape to make a bridge. The proof will come next week when we finish construction and test how much weight our bridges can hold!

We finished the week with our Windrush afternoon. Children took part in 10 different activities connected to the Caribbean and the people of the Windrush generation. Everyone had a great time and a special thank you goes to the parents and family members who were able to join us to enjoy the afternoon.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL



Year Six

It has been yet another busy week in year 6 preparing for SATS. With only a few school weeks to go, the children have been working harder than ever to learn new concepts within Maths. Our focus this week has been calculating angles on a straight line; angles around a point; angles in triangles and angles in quadrilaterals. We are so impressed and so proud of all the children's determination and positive mindsets as we 'whizz' through the curriculum!

Additionally, the children have been working hard in Writing to incorporate dialogue into a narrative in order to develop characters and advance the plot. They have had to think carefully about the interactions between characters, how they have said the speech and the actions/reactions that the character would have.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Well done Year 6 for another successful week! There is not long to go and you are doing so well! It has been great to see so many children accessing their Century to complete tasks and do revision but please make sure that **all** of you are doing this!

Parental Engagement

Yoga Parent and Child Workshop



This week at Canterbury Road, our school hall was filled with calmness and positive energy as parents and children from Reception to Year 5 came together for a Yoga Parent and Child Workshop. The event had great enthusiasm and participation which showed a strong sense of community within our school.

Families took part in yoga, exploring various poses and techniques to promote physical and mental well-being. It was lovely to see parents and children working on the poses and supporting each other.

The support by our dedicated Sports Leaders played an important role in the success of the workshop. From assisting with the organisation of the hall and equipment setup to ensuring a seamless flow of activities, their confidence and commitment were commendable.

As the session drew to a close, parents and children were able to come together to talk while sharing the healthy refreshments of fresh fruit and water.



We would like to thank parents and children for attending the session and being so actively involved. Your enthusiasm and engagement made sure that it was a fun and relaxing experience for all!

Parents have requested further sessions so keep an eye out for future dates coming up next term.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

World Maths Day

On Thursday the **28th of March** we will be **celebrating World Maths Day**. To mark this exciting event, we would like the children to **wear something linked to Maths** and make a **donation of £1**. This could be a football shirt with their favourite player's number on it, a shirt or jumper with geometric shapes, a pair of stripy trousers or they could use an old t-shirt and make their own Maths themed creation!



As part of our day celebrating Maths, we would like to **invite parents along at 2.30pm** to join their child in class to design and create a Maths themed board game which they will be able to take home to enjoy.

Design your own Maths T-Shirt Competition

On Thursday the 28th of March, children will be given a blank t-shirt template to take home and design their very own Maths t-shirt. Three will be picked and will receive a prize! **The deadline for all designs will be the first Wednesday after the Easter break.**

Community

Save Broad Green Library from Closure by Croydon Council

We need your help!

Croydon Council have planned to close our neighbour **Broad Green Library**. This library, which lies at the heart of the community, is used not only for book lending, but also as a meeting place for community groups, for access to computers and for adult education.

Access to Croydon Council's Consultation on the the Broad Green Library Closure is here:

<https://www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/libraries-services-consultation>

The consultation closes on Friday 19th April.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

You can also email libraries consultation direct:

librariesconsultation@croydon.gov.uk

Enrichment

Thank you to parents who have already responded to the survey around after school clubs. We have already had some wonderful feedback and next steps to help us improve our after school activities for the Summer term.

Parent feedback is important to us. We appreciate hearing from as many parents as possible. If you haven't completed the short survey then please take 5 minutes to do so by following the link:



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uybXbzBuoVJXiqS_V46lyJRjE1R3VtE-YyF0JnGhLcc/edit?ts=65f81525

Phrases of the Week



El valor del mes de West Thornton es la RESPONSABILIDAD. - West Thornton's value is RESPONSIBILITY.

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Zohal	Mehrab	Jesse	Carter
Rithvish	Jessica	Amani	Abinaya
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kiyara	Kaiara	Mahir	Hareem	
Eesa	Bilal	Dhanvi	Yusuf	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Whole Class	Whole Class	Lucas	Rayya	Whole Class
		Alfie	Sierra	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Kuba	Zanneyah	Dhanvi	Aarohan	Yaqub
Amelia	Sophia	Anaya	Jennifer	Anabiah
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Yasmine	Charmi	Areha	Agyeiwaa	Meeran
Rianna	Izza	Alicia	Alvina	Eliza
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Varnikhasree	Mubashir	Ava	Mimi	Sianna
Vithushan	Iara	Saran	Alishba	Nika
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Kavinila	Jordan	Hena	Ifeanyi	Maryan
Jathanan	Amarah	Ryan	Abdi	Eesa Jacob
Spanish	Music			
All classes in Year 6 - RR	Akshitha Hashir Holly class			