



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

19th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a great Spring Break; it was lovely to gather in our assemblies and hear all the wonderful things that the children got up to in the holidays. We also hope that you've enjoyed this week, perhaps having a rest again while your children are back at West Thornton, learning new things, developing their friendships and reading, reading, reading!!

On that note. As you know, Reading is our number one priority this year. We've had such lovely feedback on our reading mornings, that we were thinking about how we can create even more opportunities for members of our community to read with the children. So, if you're interested in volunteering, please do speak to the office staff. We'd love to welcome you in even more often.

This term we will also be giving you a little bit more information about a different subject at West Thornton each week. Today - Geography. Did you know that your children learn about 5 main areas of Geography, helpfully demonstrated with these useful images?



Locational Knowledge



Place Knowledge



Physical Geography



Geographical Skills and Fieldwork



Human Geography

In every class there is also a world map, with key vocabulary and reminders of all the places we've learned about. Please talk to your children and see what they've remembered. What facts and figures do they know? How would they say places they studied are similar or different? If they could visit anywhere in the world, where would they like to go and why!



So, even if you're not jetting off to a far flung and exotic destination - all children can tell you about human and physical features in the local area as well - have a lovely weekend. Hopefully the sun will shine.



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Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

Extra well done to CR - Y4 Hornbeam with 99.58%

CR - Y1 Elm

RR - Reception Pine Class

CR - Y2 Aspen

RR - Y3 Cedar Class

CR - Y3 Cherry

RR - Y4 Yew Class

CR - Y4 Hornbeam

RR - Y6 Eucalyptus Class

CR - Y5 Sycamore

Curriculum Focus

Reception

Reception have had a lovely start to the Summer term! They have been introduced to their new core text 'It's Okay to be Different' and this has hooked them in to lots of exciting learning this week!



In literacy, the children have been writing all about themselves. They have been learning about adjectives and how they describe something. To write their sentences they have been focusing on using their sentence toolkit to ensure they have written a good sentence. They have been checking they have used capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In phonics this week they have been introduced to the tricky word 'have' which has featured heavily in their writing.



In maths, reception have begun learning about 'teen' numbers. They have used numicon and dienes to make teen numbers and understand that each teen number needs one ten and some ones.

Children have been learning about portraits this week. They are extremely excited to learn that they are putting together an art exhibition for family and friends at the end of the term which will feature their own self portraits!





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This week, the children used pencils to sketch their portraits and understood that they needed to look closely at the shape and colour of their face, eyes and hair. It has been a great start to their project!

Year One

Year 1 has had a fantastic first week back! They have been excited to start their new topics!

In English this week the children have started their new coretext 'Dear Greenpeace'. They learnt about the organisation Greenpeace and how they help the world become a better place by finding ways to save animals from becoming extinct and to cut down plastic pollution around the world. So far this week they have learnt about the features and how to structure letters. They are able to distinguish the difference between a formal and informal letter. By the end of week pupils in Year 1 wrote their own letter including the features.



In maths the children have developed their fluency in skip counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. They have been learning how to add equal groups together and moved their learning on by problem solving.



Furthermore, in DT Year 1 children have begun their weaving projects. They learnt about various weaving techniques and weaved their own prototype pattern using a variety of colourful paper strips. We can't wait for the finished projects!

Year Two

Year 2 has returned to school eager to learn and full of excitement for the new term. In English they have been really enjoying their new core text 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin. The children received a package full of information about Trinidad and Tobago. They have been writing letters in response explaining about life here in Croydon.



In maths they have been counting their learning about measure applying their knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to read intervals on a scale. They have also been using this to solve word problems.



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In science the children began their new unit learning about plants. They carefully made observations about seeds and bulbs. Then they drew them including their different characteristics then they compared them.

Year Three

Year 3 had a great start to the term and are ready to make every day count as we head towards the finish line! We started our new book 'Oliver Twist' and the children were fascinated by how different life was for children in the Victorian times. We explored the characters of Oliver and The Artful Dodger and compared their personality traits. We also used our senses to generate a setting description of the workhouse.



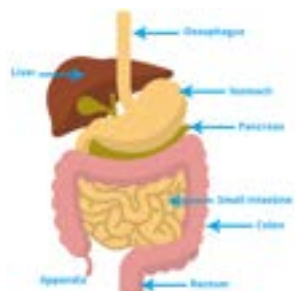
In science the children developed their knowledge of plants and learnt about the different parts of the plant. They were able to find out about and discuss the different functions of each part.

The children really enjoyed their history lesson this week as we moved from the Stone Age to the Bronze Age, exploring how technology changed over the two time periods. The children explored why bronze was a useful material, creating their own arrowheads using two materials, flint and foil (to simulate bronze) and deciding which one was the best.



Year Four

Year 4 has had a fantastic start to the term. We started our new book 'The Boy at the Back of the Class,' and were intrigued by where Ahmet had arrived from. We've explored his emotions on the first day of school and the impressions that others have of his behaviour, and discussed what impression we give to others with the way we act as well.



Science has been our favourite lesson this week - we've started our new topic on digestion and found it very funny to discuss what happens to food after we put it into our mouths!

In history we are exploring the question: What did the Romans contribute to Britain? We put events into chronological order on a timeline and are excited to find out more - especially who Julius Caesar and

Boudicca are! We've also started to develop our knowledge in DT so we can design and make a working Roman catapult.





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Year Five

Another fantastic start for Summer One half term: children have returned ready and excited to take a six week journey through their new learning. What have you done to them?!

In writing we have started developing our new biography skills and we are particularly focusing on Sir David Attenborough. We have identified the key features of the text type and explored the impact these



features have on the reader.

1a. Match the equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages.	
60%	50%
$\frac{4}{10}$	$\frac{6}{10}$
0.5	0.4

Maths has seen the start converting between percentages, decimals and fractions. We developed our understanding of the key methods in order to complete the conversions.

We've also made a start on our new DT topic, Sustainable Energy -Wind Turbine. We researched what is meant by renewable energy and how one energy (input) is transferred into another energy (energy) to give desired effect. An invaluable learning journey given the current climate.



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Year Six

This week, Year 6 have been working hard to revise key concepts taught across the curriculum and applying their knowledge to different contexts. We have been so proud of the progress the children have made and the amount of effort they have put into their learning.

In writing, children have continued writing their narratives on the great El Caminante and the famous wobble using a variety of punctuation and language for the effect of the reader.





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Children have also had the opportunity to reflect on their feelings around SATS and how to manage time effectively. They produced a wonderful jar of advice filled notes to support anyone finding it challenging to manage their emotions.

World Maths Day - Update

What a fantastic day we all had! It was great to see the children engaging in a variety of investigations and having fun. There were also some awesome maths inspired outfits! Check out the Reception team who all dressed up as Numberblocks! Were able to raise almost £260 which will be used to buy maths resources for our children. The entries for the 'design a maths t-shirt' have been coming in with Year 5 topping all expectations. In the coming week, the winning designs will be finalised and prizes will be awarded. Thank you to all the parents and guardians who came to the engagement session, it was lovely to see children collaborating with adults and taking home the maths themed board games.



Phrases of the Week



¡Bienvenidos a todos! - Welcome back everyone!



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Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Simeon	Hanfa	Goncalo	Khalil	
Emma	Khemyra	Elikem	Athalia	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Skyler	Arhaan	Julia	Kaliyah	
Chris	Seth	Yusuf	Chloe	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Serena	Amirah	Keyaan	Anass	AJ
Methupa	Ayesha	Elizabeth	Riian	Patrick
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Cairo	Joel	Rayan	Jarren	Stanka
Sanuthi	Jahmeil	Whole Class	Emily	Aasiyah
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Arianna	Tayo	Samuel V	Daniel	Romarie
Levi	Chu	Raphael	Pahal	Panth
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Kishiwaleh	Archie	Roshihan	Adlyn	Josiah
Samesha	Iara	Mia-rose	Tamera	Maliyah
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Aaiza	Dhivyan	Joel	Branesh	Esther
David	Emily	Hena	Khalid	Marvin
Spanish	Music			



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Mikhaail-Ibrahim
Hawthorn

Celine
Blackthorn

Community

We've been enjoying some special themed lunches, which have been a big hit!

This week's menu celebrated Eid with Chicken Biryani, delighting both children and staff.



Please see the next page for our St George's Day themed Menu.



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ST. GEORGE'S DAY

23 APRIL 2024

MAINS

Shepherd's Pie or
Vegetable Pie

SIDES

Mini Yorkshire Pudding
Carrots and Peas

Gravy

DESSERT

Victoria Sponge with Custard

**Menus may be subject to change*