



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

3rd May 2024

It's been another very busy week this week at West Thornton as the weather has started to brighten up and the sun has begun to shine. Our after school clubs are in full swing and the children are enjoying the range of activities that are on offer. There are still a limited number of spaces available so there is still time to sign up. Please speak with the school office if you would like your child to join.

In other news, our dates for sports day have been confirmed and we warmly invite you to come and support your children on the following dates:

Monday 20th May 9.30am 2.00pm	AM - Year 5 and 6 PM - Reception (CR)
Tuesday 21st May 9.30am 2.00pm	AM - Year 3 and 4 PM - Reception (RR)
Thursday 23rd May 9.30am	year 1 and 2

This year, the event will take place at **Archbishop Lanfranc Secondary School** (parking is available in the Lanfranc car park) for **years 1 to 6**. **Reception** sports day will be held on the **West Thornton Rosecourt Road and Canterbury Road sites**.

Sessions will consist of a variety of different sports and events.

Each class will be split into colour teams (white, blue, red, yellow and green), teachers will tell each child which team they are in. Children will be required to wear their PE Kit as well as an item of clothing, such as socks or a T-shirt, to represent their team colour.

***P.E Kit Reminder – Plain White T-shirt and plain navy blue shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms, trainers.**

Whilst there will be water stations, please ensure that your child brings a FULL bottle of water, labelled with their name and class, to school on their sports day.

Please ensure your child has sun protection including a hat and that sun cream has been applied in the morning before school. Unfortunately, mobile phones are not allowed to be used while on school premises, therefore taking photos on your own mobile phone device is prohibited.



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The Parents' Fun Race will take place last at all sessions, so bring your running trainers!!

Finally, we'd like to reiterate some of our end of day of day procedures and the reasons behind them. We've noticed that sometimes parents wave across the playgrounds asking for their children to be sent to them. Whilst we understand that parents and carers are busy and may occasionally be in a rush, it's important that you do walk up to the adults dismissing your children. They may have important messages - which we would always rather share in person - and of course most importantly teachers may want to celebrate achievements from your children or give updates on their progress. As we regularly receive feedback that you'd like more of this information, please do give us this opportunity to provide it to you.

Attendance

Well done to these classes with over 97% attendance

RR - Reception Oak Class	CR - Year 2 Palm
RR - Year 3 Cedar Class	CR - Year 5 Hawthorn
RR - Year 4 Beech Class	CR - Year 5 Sycamore
RR - Year 5 Cypress Class	CR - Year 6 Holly

Just a reminder please make all non urgent dentist, eye appointments during the school holidays.

Curriculum Focus

Reception

What an exciting week in Reception! In literacy, the children have continued to look at the core text 'It's Okay to be Different' with a focus on their friends. They have been using their knowledge of descriptive vocabulary to write sentences describing who their friends are, what they look like, and what makes them a good friend.

In maths, the Reception classes continued investigating addition and subtraction with double and single digit numbers. They were introduced





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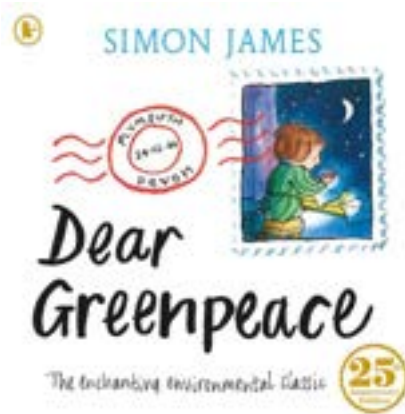
to a new maths resource - the number line! They explored the different features of the number line and how they could use the number line to solve problems. They then used a number line to help them create and solve addition and subtraction sentences.



For Topic, the children revisited their understanding of friendship. They discussed the different traits that make a good friend, how to behave like a good friend, and what it means to have a friend. This was related back to our character skill of relationships as we looked at what showing kindness, sharing, and having empathy looked like. All the children promised to be good friends to their peers, which was evident through various actions as the week went on.

Year One

This week in English, we've been writing letters to our friend based on the book 'Dear Greenpeace' written and illustrated by Simon James. We've taken this opportunity to share fascinating facts about gorillas and highlight the important role of organisations like Greenpeace in protecting these wonderful creatures and their habitats. Through our letters, we're not only developing our writing skills but also raising awareness about important environmental issues.



In Maths, we've been exploring the concepts of equal groups and sharing. We used a variety of manipulatives such as cubes, dienes and numicons to help us with making equal groups and sharing them fairly.

Make groups of 2





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Our science investigations have been filled with wonder as we delved into the life cycle of plants. We've observed the fascinating journey from seed to plant, nurturing seeds of our own in class and comparing their growth to the stages we've studied. Some of the seeds have already sprouted shoots!



In Design and Technology, we've been unleashing our creativity through investigations into different weaving techniques using paper. Exploring various methods of weaving has allowed us to develop our fine motor skills while also encouraging innovation and problem-solving. From simple patterns to more intricate designs, we're discovering the endless possibilities of design.

Year Two

This week in English, year two have been writing a diary in the role of the character Floella Benjamin OBE in her autobiographical story book 'Coming to England'. A book about her journey from Trinidad to England as a child. In their diary entries the children had to write in the first person (I, my) and include written features such as writing in chronological order, past tense, emotive language, interesting adjectives and noun phrases and finally conjunctions. When the children had finished their written outcome for each lesson they were encouraged to check their work using a writing tool kit for these features as well as to check that they had used punctuation such as capital letters for the start of a sentence and for proper nouns or names, as well as fullstops, commas and exclamation marks.



In maths this week, the children have been learning to tell the time on analogue clocks. They had fun using teaching clocks to recognise o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to the hour. The children then went on to learn to tell the time in five minute



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intervals past the hour.

It has been an exciting week for science learning, as the children got their hands dirty while planting seeds. They have been investigating the best environment for a seed to grow. To do this they conducted an experiment where they planted seeds in pots of sand and compost as well as left seeds on a cotton ball and left some seeds with nothing but air. The children learnt that the changes to the environment in which the seeds were planted or left in were called independent variables. They also learnt that there are controlled variables, these are variables that should not be changed such as amount of sunlight or water in order for this experiment to be a fair test.

Year Three

This week in English the children have completed their story maps of Oliver Twist by adding detail to the main events that happen in the story. The children then looked closely at dialogue between two characters, making sure that the conversation was punctuated correctly using inverted commas to show speech.

In maths this week, the children have been learning how to convert pounds and pence when working with money. They looked at adding and subtracting using money and applying this to different scenarios. They learnt how to exchange 100p for £1 and estimate if they have enough money to work out costs quickly.

It was exciting in science this week as the children looked at how water is transported through flowering plants. They conducted an experiment to show that if a plant is placed in a liquid the plant will absorb the liquid and if it is a coloured liquid this will change the colour of the petals!



Year Four

This week in English, the children have worked really hard to develop their prequel based on our core text, 'The Boy at the back of the class'. The children began the week by looking at the language and structural features of a prequel. Using their new found knowledge, the children created a plan in order to write their own prequels. They were able to demonstrate skills learnt in year 4 such as: generating effective expanded noun phrases; selecting appropriate fronted adverbials as well as using ambitious vocabulary and phrases to express mood of the text.



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Maths has been just as brilliant. The children have begun to look at money, focusing closely on the different values of money and converting and comparing money. They have all shown incredible resilience and collaboration in many different tasks around the topic, and it has been wonderful to see their knowledge and understanding of the whole area grow so strongly, and so quickly!

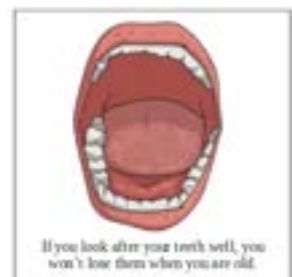
In DT, the children have continued research into different types of catapults to help them to decide which one they will create themselves. They watched videos on different types of catapults and took notes on the materials they would need for their creations. They considered how the catapult would be held together and what would hold the load.. Following this, they drew the design of the catapult they would be creating in the coming weeks.



Year Five

This week year 5 has been working very hard in maths. At the start of the week we were estimating the area of shapes. Then we moved onto classifying and estimating angles. It has been great to see them recapping and making connections to this with previous learning from year 4! They have shown fantastic progress and resilience in their maths work.

In science, the children have identified changes that occur as we get older. They have enjoyed learning what they can do when they are younger to benefit them, when they are older. Did you know? If you look after your teeth well, by brushing them, going to the dentist frequently and not eating too much sugar, your teeth are less likely to fall out when you're older.





Year Six

This week, the children in Year 6 have been working relentlessly to ensure that they are confident in their upcoming SATS. It has been fantastic to see their confidence growing each week and for scores in their practice tests to increase every time. They are really showing our values of excellence and resilience towards their revision, which in turn is proving they are getting ready for Year 7!



They have also had an exciting week where the children have learnt how batteries work and conducted an investigation to see if they could make a battery out of a lemon. They used lemons to act as the electrolyte; zinc plates to act as the anode; copper plates to act as the cathode and then wires to create a closed circuit. They were so impressed when their light bulbs worked!

In Geography, the children have continued to study Brazil and their focus this week was comparing the different climates across the country. They chose different cities in Brazil and presented their findings within a graph. The children applied their geographical skills to find out how many different climates Brazil has in comparison to the UK.

Phrases of the Week



Para tener una buena salud como pollo y vegetales. - **To have a healthy lifestyle I eat chicken and vegetables.**

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Elektra	Jessica	Patricia	Alexcya
Ahyaan	Saifan	Kymirah	Ritaj



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Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Ali	Powell	Shayan	Jahnai	
Mustafa	Szymon	Jaafina	Keira	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Poplar	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Jensi	Abdul	Mariya	Heavenly	Hoorain
Arayan	Romero	Marianna	Younus	Musa
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Dharaa	Faaiz	Khaleesi	Kavel	Stanka
Emily	Zanneyah	Areej	Ava	Midhun
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Swarnika	Charmi	Alicia	Zayne	Kayan
Kaira-Leigh	Anaaya	Yahya	Dzani	Jonathan
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Akeem	Habinia	Ava	Daisy	Triston
Smriti	Mubashir	Kayden	Joshua	Lilia
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Aaranan	Jacob	Valerie	Nana	Rama
Ada & Adu	Jaathuri	Carole-Anne	Afya	Najib
Spanish	Music	Music		
Arsheen Acer				



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FAITHS
TOGETHER
IN CROYDON

BIG PICNIC

Park Hill Park
Monday 6th May
2pm to 5pm

Come and enjoy the day, see
the Police and Fire Brigade,
enjoy fun and games and
some lovely food.



For further information contact FTiCroydon@gmail.com



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PARENT NEWSLETTER ISSUE 03 | SPRING 2024

SPRING = NEW MENU

YOUR NEW MENU IS NOW LIVE! WE'RE SO EXCITED TO BE SERVING UP SOME SPRING/SUMMER FUN FOR EVERYONE!

We've got some lighter bites for the brighter days, brand new dessert deliciousness, and of course we will continue to offer the crowd-pleasing classics we know children love. You can always expect our meals to be nutritious as well as tasty, to support children's growth and development.

DOUBLE THE FUN!

SPRING/SUMMER FUN DOESN'T JUST COME FROM OUR NEW MENU – WE HAVE A WHOLE TERM OF THEME DAYS FOR YOU TO LOOK FORWARD TO AS WELL!

There's **Fiesta Fun** in Mexican themed May, a quintessential **Picnic Party** in June delivering truly traditional treats, and we will end the school year on a foodie high with **Class of '24**.

[See theme day menus](#)



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

WE THRIVE ON CHILDREN AND PARENT FEEDBACK

Everything we do is driven by our mission to offer delicious, nutritious food that schoolchildren want to eat, that ensures they get the most out of their day. Please spare a few minutes to share your feedback with us.



[Complete survey](#)