



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

28th June 2024

It's been a warm and sunny week at West Thornton - let's hope it sticks around for a while longer.

Reception started the week with an exciting trip to Coombe Woods to inspire ideas for their upcoming writing, describing a woodland. Thank you to all parents that offered their support - it was lovely that you were able to join us.

Children have been busy in classrooms reflecting on their year and getting their Pupil Reflections ready for their end of year reports. It's been lovely to discuss their proudest achievements, learning experiences, challenges and also what their goals are for next year. We are looking forward to sharing them with you on Friday 12th July.

Next Tuesday 2nd July, children will be meeting their new teacher for the year ahead and spending some time together in the afternoon getting to know one another. Staff, including new members of staff, will then be on the playground at the end of the school day as an opportunity for you to meet them if you wish.

Attendance

Well done to those classes with over 97% attendance this week.

CR - Year 1 Lime

RR - Y1 Maple

CR - Year 2 Aspen

RR - Y2 Rowan

CR - Year 5 Hawthorn

RR - Y3 Larch

RR - Y5 Magnolia

RR - Y5 Cypress



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Just a reminder the playground gates open at **8.40am** and your child is expected to enter school no later than **8.55am**. Lessons start promptly once the children are in school, it is important that they are not late.

5 minutes late a day = 3 days lost per year

10 minutes late a day = 6 days lost per year

15 minutes late a day = 10 days lost per year

30 minutes late a day = 19 days lost per year

Curriculum Focus

Reception

The children have taken their learning outside, visiting Coombe Woods to inspire their writing about a woodland setting. The children used their senses, listening for birds, looking for squabbling squirrels high in the trees, as well as a rich variety of mini beasts hidden under logs and foliage. The children foraged for pine cones, fallen bark, sticks and moss. It was a privilege to have so many parent helpers supporting the children with their outside learning experience and joining us on our last Reception trip.



This week in literacy the children have continued learning about setting descriptions. This time they have been exploring different adjectives to describe a woodland. They have been exploring the concept of similes and describing the features of a tree. They have written similes such as 'The tree is tall like a tower.' 'The tree is hard like a rock.' The children have continued using their writer's toolkit to check their work afterwards, ensuring it has a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.

In maths, Reception have been busy understanding what is a map, describing the features of a map and describing the position of the features on a map. The children also created their own maps from familiar place.

In their topic learning this week, Reception have been exploring floating and sinking and other natural processes, such as the seasons and melting ice. They have named materials and objects



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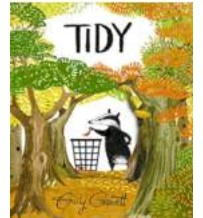
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and made a prediction whether it will float or sink and have conducted experiments to see what happens when ice is left in the sunshine! They were also bursting with excitement as they watched our butterflies emerge from their cocoons. Today, we released them into the world!



Year One

This week in English, the children have been exploring their new core text 'Tidy' by Emily Gravett. They started their learning journey by sequencing the main events of the narrative and drawing story maps. The children then generated a variety of language to describe the characters by using similes.



In maths, the children have continued their learning about money and have been identifying the correct coins to make an amount. Then the children looked at the value of notes and began to identify them and know their value.

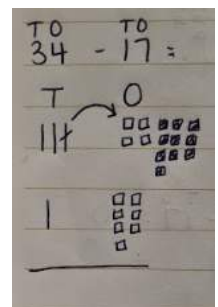
In the wider curriculum, this week in Science, the children learnt about sun safety and designed posters on how to keep safe when playing in it. In art, the children explored by turning paper from 2d into 3d by using a variety of different techniques.

Year Two

In English this week, the children began their innovation of the story of Gnomeo and Juliette. They started the week by writing a detailed character description of the gnome they designed last week. They used interesting adjectives to describe their gnome's personality. They then went on to describe the setting for their story.



In maths this week the children have been working on adding and subtraction two 2 digit numbers, crossing the tens. They had to add and subtract any two 2 digit numbers using an efficient strategy, explaining their method verbally, using pictures or using apparatus.





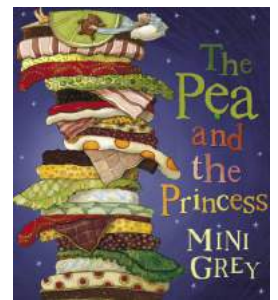
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In geography this week the children have been learning about human features of Trinidad and Tobago. They children thought of symbols to represent features such as cities, towns, landmarks and railways. They then used maps to draw these symbols on to their own map of Trinidad and Tobago.

Year Three

In English this week the children have been exploring their final core text, *The Pea and the Princess* by Mimi Grey. They begun by identifying key plot points in the story and sequencing them chronologically before generating character descriptions of the queen and prince using expanded noun phrases, similes and show not tell to convey emotions.



In maths the children have been continuing their learning on geometry, with a focus on 2d and 3d shapes. They have taken great care to draw polygons and make a range of 3d shapes using nets, cubes as well as spaghetti and marshmallows.



In the wider curriculum, this week in science the children looked at how our muscles help to move our body. They learnt how muscles work in pairs to contract and relax before making their own model of a hand to show how this concept works by pulling the string to contract the muscles.



Year Four

This week in maths, students explored symmetry and how to find lines of symmetry. They used mirrors to determine whether an object was symmetrical and to see how many lines of symmetry the shape or object can have. Students learnt how to identify lines of symmetry on regular polygons and how to make a symmetrical figure and pattern.

In English, students finished off their narratives based on our core text by writing up their resolution and ending paragraphs. Students worked on using dictionaries to correct misspelt on unknown words and explored synonyms using a thesaurus.





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In Geography, students have been looking at volcanoes and how they are formed. They explored what earth is made up of and how that contributes to volcanoes and volcanic eruptions. Students looked at the three different stages of volcanoes, the different parts of a volcano and why they erupt.

Year Five

Year 5 have been enjoying the sun this week! In English, we have been thinking ahead to the end of the year and have been writing our memories and reflections of the past year. We have been focused on our presentation as these reflections will join our end of year reports in the very near future!



In maths, we have been continuing to look at decimals and have moved on to multiplying decimals by 10, 100 and 1000. We have used our knowledge of place value and our understanding of decimals to understand how we can solve these types of questions.

In history, we are learning about the Anglo Saxons and looked specifically at the concept of primary and secondary sources. We looked at a variety of artefacts and tried to decide whether they were primary sources or secondary sources based on our understanding of the definitions. We then had a discussion about the reliability of sources and which type we thought were more trustworthy and why.

Art has been very interesting so far and this week we were able to play about with a variety of techniques for printing. Despite getting a bit messy, we feel very prepared to make our own designs based on the incredible work of Esther Mahlangu. Her geometric designs are so eye catching and colourful but also take a lot of focus and technical drawing skills to accomplish.



In both RE and science, we have been looking at our learning over the past year and are creating presentations to show all that we have learned as well as being able to consolidate our learning. These presentations have been saved on our google drives so we can share them at home too.

Year Six

This week has been yet another busy week for year 6. The children have really been enjoying their curriculum lessons and have been sharing insightful ideas and opinions on a wide range of subjects. In history, the children have been building their knowledge of Early Islamic Civilisation by becoming



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historical detectives. They explored a range of clues which described the ancient city of Baghdad and turned these clues into drawings. The children worked well collaboratively to piece together the clues and create accurate drawings of the ancient city.

In Science, children have been continuing their learning about evolution and inheritance through an analysis of the adaptations of living things and how they are suited to their environment to ensure survival.

We have also been hard at work coding for computing which the children have loved- they are now experts at making their own games with timers and different elements by adding in and varying lines of coding.

The children have been collaborating so well and are really demonstrating our values of responsibility and integrity as they reach the end of year 6!

Community

West Thornton Summer Fair - Thursday 18th July - Save the date!

Venue: Rosecourt Road

Get ready for an afternoon of fun, food and community at our annual summer fair, taking place on **Thursday 18th July this year from 3.15 - 5.15. We are thrilled to invite all children and families from Canterbury Road and Rosecourt Road to attend this year's event.** There will be a range of activities and refreshments available on the day. If you would like to run a stall or volunteer your time in the build up to the event or on the actual day then please inform the office or your child's class teacher.



If you are a business owner or know of somebody who is and would like to be involved in this year's summer fair then please contact the school office.



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NEED HELP HEATING YOUR HOME AND MANAGING YOUR ENERGY BILLS?

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CROYDON CENTRAL LIBRARY
KATHARINE STREET
CR9 1ET**

**1ST AND 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EVERY
MONTH
10AM-1PM
&
2ND SATURDAY OF EVERY
MONTH
10AM-2PM**

www.croydon.gov.uk/energyadvice

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Enrichment



Rock Steady Summer Concert!!

Wednesday 3rd July - 9:15 at Rosecourt Road site
sees the final performance of the year for all our young rock stars from Canterbury Road and Rosecourt Road who have been learning to play a range of instruments in their bands. Please come

along and show your support even if your child is not performing! There will be letters on hand so you can sign your child up for September. See you there!

Phrases of the Week



¿Qué te gusta? - What do you like?

Me gusta el helado de chocolate. - I like chocolate ice cream.

Stars of the Week

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| YR Ash | YR Oak | YR Pine | YR Willow |
| The Whole class | The Whole class | The Whole class | The Whole class |
| Y1 Elm | Y1 Fir | Y1 Lime | Y1 Maple |
| Alice | Emelia | Eraj | Jakepaul |



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| | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Fatima | Aaron | Thanushik | Safiyah | |
| Y2 Aspen | Y2 Palm | Y2 Poplar | Y2 Rowan | Y2 Spruce |
| Leo | Olamiposi | Shahid | Parvina | Elena |
| Kirlore | Florjan | Adhithii | Rayya | Nihar |
| Y3 Cedar | Y3 Cherry | Y3 Larch | Y3 Walnut | Y3 Chestnut |
| Kyron | Aiden | Nevaeh | Subhan | Farzan |
| Dolcie-Bleu | Nadiya | Joshua | Precious B | Layla |
| Y4 Acacia | Y4 Beech | Y4 Hornbeam | Y4 Olive | Y4 Yew |
| Aarush | Naila | Aamir | Isabel | Harini |
| Pusti | Anaaya | Aayan | Piratheesh | Faiz |
| Y5 Cypress | Y5 Hawthorn | Y5 Magnolia | Y5 Silver Birch | Y5 Sycamore |
| Varnikhasree | Minal | Shaniya D | Alishba | Janelle |
| Kajinan | Ahmad | Aila | Zohaib | Sas |
| Y6 Blackthorn | Y6 Eucalyptus | Y6 Juniper | Y6 Holly | Y6 Acer |
| Kavinila, Noorjahan | Jaathuri | Maaz | Branesh | Aziah |
| Sara, Samara | Nicholas | Matthew | Ifeanyi | Farzeen |
| Spanish | Music | | | |
| Tanisha Yew | | | | |